

The International Lebanese Medical Association USA National Conference 2026



USA

ILMAUSA Association



Healthcare Policy & System
Transformation



AI Innovation in Medicine



Global Health & Access to Care



Diaspora to Impact



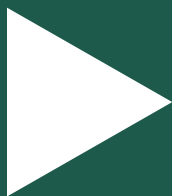
CME
Conference &
Evening Gala



Saturday,
September
26, 2026



Four Seasons
Hotel
Washington, DC



Agenda at a Glance *

As of August 15, 2026. Subject to change.

The International Lebanese
Medical Association USA
National Conference **2026**



Healthcare Without Borders: Innovation, Policy & Global Leadership

7:45 – 8:30 AM	Registration & Networking Breakfast
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Welcome & Opening Remarks
8:45 – 10:00 AM	Session I – Healthcare Policy & System Transformation
10:00 – 10:15 AM	Networking Break
10:15 – 11:30 AM	Session II – Innovation & AI in Medicine
11:30 – 12:30 PM	Presidential Keynote Address
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Networking Lunch • Posters • Sponsor Exhibits
1:30 – 3:00 PM	Session III – Global Health & Access to Care
3:00 – 3:15 PM	Networking Break
3:15 – 4:50 PM	Session IV – Medical Diaspora to Impact Healthcare in Lebanon
4:50 – 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks
5:00 – 5:30 PM	Networking Reception
6:30 PM	ILMAUSA Foundation Gala

CME Accreditation

CME accreditation is being coordinated by:

Victor Yazbeck, MD, MS
Conference Chair

Nayef Chahine, MD
CME Accreditation Lead

In partnership with: Sound Physicians CME

A Message from the President

Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends of ILMAUSA,

On October 12, 2020, a dedicated group of Lebanese healthcare providers came together for our inaugural board meeting. Though we came from different regions of Lebanon and practiced across the United States, we were united by our shared heritage and our commitment to medicine.

Soon after our founding, Lebanon faced one crisis after another. Driven by our love for our homeland, our members came together to help wherever they could.

Today, while Lebanon remains close to our hearts, we are also strengthening our community in the United States. It is with great pride that I welcome you to a historic milestone for our organization—our first annual CME Conference, followed by a celebratory Gala hosted by the ILMAUSA Foundation.

Your support and presence will make this event a success. Together, we will strengthen our community and raise vital funds to support scholarships, research grants, and educational initiatives for the next generation.

I look forward to welcoming you all in person at this historic event.

With warm regards and deep gratitude,

Dr. Georgina Aoun Nouaime

President, ILMAUSA



**Dr. Georgina Aoun
Nouaime**

Meet the Conference Chair

Victor Yazbeck, MD, MS

Associate Professor of Hematology-Oncology at Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Yazbeck completed his fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh and a postdoctoral fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center. His research focuses on lymphoid malignancies and B-cell biology. As Conference Chair, he led the development of the conference's scientific program.



Welcome & Opening 8:30–8:45 AM

Victor Yazbeck, MD, MS . Conference Chair
Conference welcome, overview, and objectives.

September 26, 2026

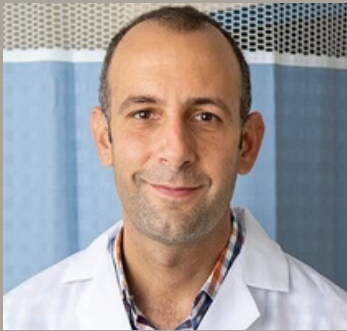
WASHINGTON D.C.

Session I . 8:45 - 10:00AM

Healthcare Policy & System Transformation

Exploring healthcare reform, policy innovation, and physician leadership strategies that strengthen health systems and improve patient outcomes.

Moderator



Khalil Diab, MD

Pulmonary and Critical Care Physician at The George Washington University. Former faculty member at Indiana University and LAU. Founder of a podcast featuring Lebanese physicians worldwide.

8:45 – 9:15 AM . Speaker I *Bechara Choucair, MD*



Executive Vice President & Chief Health Officer, Kaiser Permanente. Former White House COVID-19 Vaccinations Coordinator and Chicago Health Commissioner.

LECTURE TITLE

The Future of U.S. Healthcare Policy: Challenges & Opportunities

9:15 – 9:45 AM . Speaker II *George E. Kikano, MD, CPE, FAAFP*



Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean, Central Michigan University College of Medicine. Leader in academic medicine and healthcare education.

LECTURE TITLE

Value-Based Care and Health System Sustainability

Panel Discussion

9:45–10:00 AM · All Speakers · Moderator: Khalil Diab, MD

Session II . 10:15 - 11:30AM

Innovation & AI in Medicine

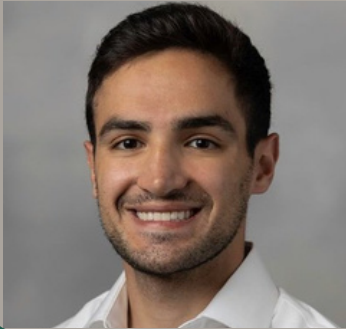
Explore how artificial intelligence is transforming healthcare through cancer diagnosis, point-of-care applications, and AI-powered health systems, driving innovation and shaping the future of medicine.



Moderator *Ibrahim G. Eid, MD, FACS*

Chief of Vascular Surgery at Kent Memorial Hospital and CharterCare Health Partners. Founder of the Primacare Center for Vascular Diseases and leader in vascular innovation.

10:15 – 10:40AM . Speaker I *Cyril Zakka, MD*



Founder & CEO of Almanac Health. Physician-scientist and AI leader who founded the Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (AIM) program at AUBMC and conducted AI research at Stanford University.

LECTURE TITLE

Agentic AI at the Point of Care

10:40 – 11:05 AM . Speaker II *Leila Mureebe, MD, MPH, MMCI, FACS, DFSVS, FAMIA*



Executive Director for Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology, Veterans Health Administration, and Professor at Duke University. Vascular surgeon and leader in AI, digital health, and healthcare innovation.

LECTURE TITLE

The AI-Powered Health System: Promise, Peril and Possibility

Panel Discussion & Q&A

11:05–11:30 AM · All Speakers · Moderator: Ibrahim G. Eid, MD

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Presidential Keynote Address

Personal Perspectives on Leadership and Medicine: An Oath to Apollo

Fadlo R. Khuri, MD | President, American University of Beirut



Fadlo R. Khuri, MD, is the 16th President of the American University of Beirut (AUB), a position he has held since 2015. An internationally accomplished molecular and translational oncologist, Dr. Khuri previously served as Chair of Hematology and Medical Oncology at Emory University School of Medicine and Deputy Director of the Winship Cancer Institute.

A distinguished physician-scientist and academic leader, he has authored more than 750 publications and has made major contributions to cancer research, academic medicine, and higher education.

Overview

A personal reflection on leadership, medicine, and the enduring values that inspire physicians to advance patient care, science, and society.

12:15 – 12:30 PM | Leadership Conversation & Audience Q&A
Moderator: Victor Yazbeck, MD, MS

12:30 – 1:30 PM | Networking Lunch & Sponsor Showcase

Sponsor-Supported Innovation Showcase

Lead: Eliane Abou-Jaoude, MD

Trainee Poster Session

Moderators: Ahmad Kassem, MD & Lama Nazzal, MD

September 26, 2026

WASHINGTON D.C.

Session III. 1:30 - 3:00PM

Global Health & Access to Care

Explore sustainable healthcare models, institutional partnerships, and diaspora-driven strategies to expand access to care worldwide.

1:30 – 1:35 PM . Moderator *Fadi W. Abdul-Karim, MD MEd*



Professor Emeritus, Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic, Assistant Dean for Balamand-USA Academic Affairs

1:35 – 1:50 PM . Speaker I *Usama Hamdan, MD, FICS*



President & Co-Founder of Global Smile Foundation. Humanitarian surgeon with over 38 years of leadership in global cleft care and sustainable healthcare outreach.

LECTURE TITLE

Designing Sustainable Health Programs in LMICs: The Role of Public-Private Partnerships

1:50 – 2:05 PM . Speaker II *Beyhan Annan, MPH,*



Director of Operations, Global Smile Foundation, and Research Scholar at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Global health leader advancing sustainable healthcare, education, and international partnerships.

LECTURE TITLE

Building Trust Across Borders: Sustainable Healthcare Networks Through Care, Education, & Partnership

Session III. Continued

Global Health & Access to Care

2:05 – 2:25 PM . Speaker III *Basim A. Dubaybo, MD*



Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs & Professional Development at Wayne State University School of Medicine. Pulmonary and Critical Care Physician and leader in academic medicine and global health.

LECTURE TITLE

Advancing Global Health Through Collaborative Institutional Models

2:25 – 2:45 PM . Speaker IV *Elie Bou Younes, PharmD*



CEO of Bou Younes Pharmaceuticals and Advisor to the René Mouawad Foundation. Pharmaceutical executive and healthcare strategist focused on sustainable health systems and diaspora-driven initiatives.

LECTURE TITLE

Policy and Diaspora-Driven Recovery Strategies

Panel Discussion & Audience Q&A

2:45 – 3:00 PM · Moderated by Fadi W. Abdul-Karim, MD, MEd

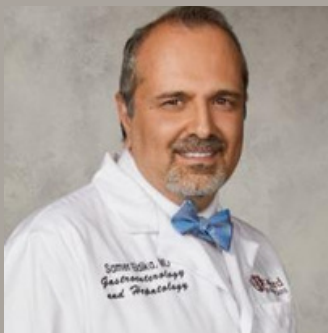
Following Session III: Networking & Refreshment Break (3:00 – 3:15 PM)

Session IV · 3:15 – 4:50 PM

Academic Bridges for Lebanese Medical Students and Residents

Exploring academic partnerships, mentorship, research, and diaspora engagement to support Lebanese medical students and residents.

Moderator Samer Eldika, MD, FASGE



Clinical Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine. Advanced endoscopist specializing in pancreatic cystic lesions and pancreaticobiliary disorders, with expertise in minimally invasive therapies.

INTRODUCTION: Influencing Without Interfering

3:15 – 3:35 PM . Speaker I Alissar Rady, MD, MSc, MPH



Policy and Health Systems Advisor & Team Lead, WHO Lebanon. Public health leader advancing health systems recovery, reform, and resilience through government, humanitarian, and international partnerships.

LECTURE TITLE

Bridging Crisis Recovery and Long-Term Transformation of the Health System in Lebanon: Diaspora's Role

3:35 – 3:55 PM . SPEAKER II Marc Ayoub, MD, MBA



Neurocritical Care Physician, New York. Healthcare innovator focused on artificial intelligence, telemedicine, and physician advocacy, advancing healthcare through emerging technologies.

LECTURE TITLE

Telemedicine & Cross-Border Care Models

Session IV · Continued

Academic Bridges for Lebanese Medical Students and Residents

3:55 – 4:15 PM · SPEAKERS III & IV . JOINT PRESENTATION

LECTURE TITLE

Academic Bridges for Lebanese Medical Students and Residents

The ILMA Experience . SPEAKER III



Chady Sarraf, MD, MHCL, SFHM

Vice Chair, Department of Medicine · Co-Founder and Past President, ILMA USA · President, Medical Society of Sedgwick County. Hospital medicine leader advancing physician leadership and healthcare improvement.

The University of Balamand Experience . SPEAKER IV



Fadi W. Abdul-Karim, MD MEd

Professor Emeritus, Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic. Assistant Dean for Balamand-USA Academic Affairs. Board-certified pathologist with expertise in gynecologic pathology and cytopathology.

4:15 – 4:35 PM . Speaker V Steve Olweean, MA



Founding Director of Common Bond Institute. International expert in trauma recovery, conflict transformation, and community resilience with over 40 years of global experience.

LECTURE TITLE

The Needed Shift into Coalition and Synergy vs. Silos and Go-It-Alone Efforts

Closing Round Table & Q&A

4:35–4:50 PM · All Speakers · Moderator: Samer Eldika, MD

Closing Remarks

4:50 – 5:00 PM . ILMAUSA President



Georgina Aoun Nouaime, MD, MBA, MPH

Current President, ILMA-USA · Fellow in Disaster Medicine · Virtual Hospitalist, UMass. Board-Certified Internal Medicine physician and graduate of Saint Joseph University, with interests in global health and disaster medicine.

5:00 – 5:30 PM | Networking Reception

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Together, we are more than physicians – we are bridges between nations, healers across borders, and architects of a healthier Lebanon.

6:30 PM ILMA-USA Foundation Gala



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