



22nd Emirates Critical Care Conference

"From Evidence to Excellence: The Future of Critical Care"

Brain Death Determination Workshop

7 May 2026

Dubai, UAE



Conference Chairman:
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hussain Al Rahma



Workshop Director
David Greer



Co-Director
Panayiotis Varelas

Workshop Faculty



Rita Jebrin



Matthew Kirschen



Emma Mazzio



Matthias Klein



Marco Pallavidino



Lori Shutter



Haamid Siddique

Summary

Published guidelines provide straightforward guidance for the declaration of death by neurological criteria (brain death, BD), but policies and practices continue to vary significantly worldwide, increasing the risk for false brain death declarations and erosion of the public trust on our ability to pronounce death reliably.

The refore, there is a great need for health care providers to improve practices surrounding the declaration of BD.

This Workshop will include 4 consecutive or concurrent sessions addressing these issues: didactics including videos, simulation of BD in mannequins (or difficult cases-vignettes with questions and answers regarding BD controversies) and simulated presentation of BD results to families.

Objectives

- Learn about the history and process of declaring death by neurological criteria
- Conduct a full BD exam including apnea test and ordering the right ancillary tests
- Avoid pitfalls and complete a declaration in special situations (posterior fossa injuries, ECMO etc)
- Learn how to deliver the news to the families

Target Participants

Healthcare workers who can certify patients brain dead by neurological criteria in their country of practice, e.g. medical and surgical Intensive Care Unit (ICU) physicians, anesthesiologists, neurologists and neurosurgeons. ICU nurses caring for brain dead patients are encouraged to attend to gain knowledge on brain death declaration.

Workshop Outcomes

Upon completion, participants will become familiar with the process of conducting a complete BD evaluation; they will be able to address difficult cases and avoid pitfalls; and they will be able to conduct a thorough and compassionate discussion with the relatives of the patient to improve their understanding of BD and their subsequent options. These outcomes will be assessed by asking the participants to complete a post-Workshop multiple choice questionnaire.

Course Registration Fees

Physicians	1,000 AED	Non-Physicians	500 AED
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Brain Death Determination Workshop

07 May 2026, Thursday

08:30 - 09:00 Registration and Breakfast

08:30 - 11:45 Session 1

08:30 - 08:50 Introduction and Pre-test

08:50 - 09:50 Didactic session on Brain Death

David Greer &
Haamid Siddique

09:50 - 10:50 Half - Group 1.1: The Brain Death Exam - simulation session

09:50 - 10:50 Half - Group 1.2: Difficult cases - vignettes - panel discussion

10:55 - 11:55 Half - Group 2.1: The Brain Death Exam - simulation session

10:55 - 11:55 Half - Group 2.2: Difficult cases - vignettes - panel discussion

12:00 - 12:15 Coffee Break

12:15 - 13:30 Session 2

12:15 - 13:00 Brain Death and family discussion - difficult and pediatric scenarios

Panel from faculty

13:00 - 13:30 Post Test and Q&A

Entire Panel

13:00 - 14:00 Registration and lunch

14:00 - 17:25 Session 1

14:00 - 14:20 Introduction and Pre-test

14:20 - 15:20 Didactic session on Brain Death

David Greer &
Haamid Siddique

15:20 - 16:20 Half - Group 1.1: The Brain Death Exam - simulation session

15:20 - 16:20 Half - Group 1.2: Difficult cases - vignettes - panel discussion

16:25 - 17:25 Half - Group 2.1: The Brain Death Exam - simulation session

16:25 - 17:25 Half - Group 2.2: Difficult cases - vignettes - panel discussion

17:30 - 17:45 Coffee Break

17:45 - 19:00 Session 2

17:45 - 18:30 Brain Death and family discussion - difficult and pediatric scenarios

Panel from faculty

18:30 - 19:00 Post Test and Q&A

Entire Panel

19:00 End of Workshop