2026

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

MAY 27, 2026

ITRn

Israeli Translational Research Network

5TH ANNUAL MEETING

Hosted By Hadassah University Medical Center

8:30 - 9:00 Registration & Gathering

9:00-9:30

OPENING REMARKS AND GREETINGS

Prof. Yoram Weiss, MD
Director General of Hadassah Medical Organization
Associate Professor in Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Hadassah - Hebrew University School of Medicine, Jerusalem, Israel

Prof. Eyal Mishani, PhD
Director General, Research Fund,
Director General, S.R.Y LTD
Head of R&D and the innovation Division,
Hadassah Medical Organization

Prof. Aron Popovtzer, MD
Head, Sharett Institute of Oncology
ENT, Medical and Radiation
Oncologist Specialist, Hadassah Medical Organization

Dr. Shlomit Yehudai-Reshef, PhD
Director, Clinical Research Institute at Rambam,
Rambam Health Care Campus
Rappaport Faculty of Medicine, Technion.
Founder and Head of ITRn

Ms. Ayala Londner
Director of Business Development
The Jerusalem Development Authority

09:30-10:30

MENTAL HEALTH: PREVENTION, TREATMENT & REHABILITATION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS INNOVATIVE THERAPEUTICS

Session Chair:

Prof. Michal Braun, PhD
Director of Psychosocial Care at the Breast Unit, Hadassah Medical Organization
The Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo

Speakers:

Dr. Daniel Trotzky, MD
Deputy Director, Medicine, Tel Aviv Sourasky University Medical Center (Ichilov)
The Establishment of a Novel Protocol for Hostages Returning From Captivity

Prof. Talma Hendler, MD, PhD
Departments of Physiology and Pharmacology and Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Sagol School Neuroscience, Tel Aviv University.
Harnessing the Brain to Heal the Mind and Body

Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Michal Lifshitz, MD
Head of the "Taatsumot" Branch, Mental Health Division, Israel Defense Forces (IDF)
Holding the Lines: Clinical Insights From the PTSD Military Clinic

10:30-11:00
Coffee Break and Mingling

11:00-12:00

KEYNOTE LECTURES

Session Chair:

Prof. Michal Lotem, MD
Head of the Hadassah Cancer Research Institute (HCRI) and the Center for Melanoma and Cancer Immunotherapy at Hadassah Medical Organization
The Next Generation of Anti-Cancer Immunotherapies

Dr. Ofrat Beyar-Katz, MD, PhD
Director, Cellular Immunotherapy Unit, Institute of Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplantation at Rambam Health Care Campus
The Next Frontier: How CAR-T Cell Combos Are Revolutionizing Cancer Treatment

12:00-13:30

PANEL
BETWEEN INNOVATION AND POLICY: THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH IN HOSPITALS IN ISRAEL

Moderator:

Prof. Benjamin Geiger, PhD
The Weizmann Institute of Science, and Head of the MAVRI Program of the ISF

Panelists:

Mr. Zachi Schnarch
Deputy CEO and Head of the Technology Division at the Innovation Authority

Dr. Shai Melcer, PhD
National Bio-Convergence (BC) Program Director, at the Innovation Authority

Prof. Dror Harats, PhD
Executive VP of R&D and Chairman of the Research Authority at the Sheba Medical Center

Ms. Libi Zik
Health Cluster Manager, The National Program for Economic Growth

Prof. Miri Yemini, PhD
Chief Scientist, Ministry of Innovation Science and Technology

Dr. Irit Allon,DMD, PhD
Director of Medical Research Department, Chief Scientist Office, Ministry of Health

Prof. Dina Ben Yehuda, MD
Head of the Hematology Department at Hadassah Medical Organization

13:30-14:15
Light Lunch

14:15-15:15

"RETURNING MINDS" – A YOUTH SESSION

Session Chair:

Mr. Nadav Douani
CEO of Science Abroad

Dr. Michal Mauda-Havakuk, MD, PhD
Head of the Interventional Oncology Service, Interventional Radiology Unit, Tel Aviv Sourasky University Medical Center (Ichilov).
Integrating Clinic and Lab: An OMICS-Driven Approach to Understanding Neuropathic Pain Mechanisms and Targeting Therapy

Dr. Ariel Hirschhorn, DMD
Surgeon and Investigator at Sheba Tel HaShomer
Can We Regenerate a Face?

Dr. Shadi Safuri, MD, PhD
Attending Physician in the Ophthalmology Department, Rambam Health Care Campus
Decoding Macular Degeneration: From Clinical Observation to Mechanistic Insight

Dr. Naomi Pode Shakked
Pediatric Nephrology and PI, Tel Aviv-Soraski University Medical Center (Ichilov)
Leveraging Human Based Organoid Models to Decipher Disorders of Kidney Development and Disease

Dr. Oded Volovelsky, MD, PhD
Pediatric Nephrology Unit and MD PhD program Director, Hadassah Medical Organization
Insights From Renal Development and TSC Pathobiology

Discussion
THE PATH TO ESTABLISHING A TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN ISRAEL

15:15-16:15

BEYOND THE BABY BOOM: REIMAGINING WOMEN'S HEALTH FOR A NEW ERA

Session Chair:

Prof. Ido Solt, MD
Acting Director, Obstetrics & Gynecology Rambam Health Care Campus
Rappaport Faculty of Medicine, Technion

Prof. Jacob Bornstein, MD, MPA
Obstetrics & Gynecology, Colposcopy
Head, GMC Gynecology Pain Research Laboratory,
Member, Israeli National Academy of Science in Medicine.
Chairman, Israel Society for the Study and Prevention of STDs.
Chairman, International Colposcopy Nomenclature Committee, IFCPC. Co-President, International EUROGIN 2026 Congress,
Chairman Emeritus, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Galilee Medical Center
Past Vice-Dean, Azrieli Faculty of Medicine, Bar-Ilan University
Past President, International Society for the Study of Vulvovaginal Disease (ISSVD)
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, Journal of Lower Genital Tract Disease
The Enigma of Vulvodynia: A Neuroinflammatory Condition – Insights From Animal Model Studies

Dr. Einav Yefet, MD, PhD
Director of maternal and fetal medicine unit, Tzafon medical center
Translating Clinical Challenges Into Research in Gestational Diabetes

Prof. Eran Hadar, MD
Chief of Maternal-Fetal Medicine Unit, Rabin Medical Center; Director of the Home-Ultrasound Service, Clalit HMO.
Home Ultrasound for Pregnancy

16:15-16:30
Coffee break

16:30-17:30

CLINICAL DATA AND TISSUE REPOSITORIES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MEDICAL INNOVATION

Session Chair:

Prof. Avi Peretz, PhD, MHM
Director of Academic Innovation and Research (AIR) Tzafon Medical Center
And Bar-Ilan University Azrieli Faculty of Medicine

Prof. Keren Agay-Shay, PhD
Environmental Eepidemiologist, Head of the HER lab (Health & Environment Research), Azrieli Faculty of Medicine, Bar-Ilan University
What's Missing in Our Databases? The Crucial Role of Environmental Exposure in Health Research

Prof Yishai Ofran, MD
Director of Hematology and Stem cell Transplantation Department, Faculty of medicine Hebrew University, Shaare Zedek medical center. Jerusalem Israel.
Karyotype Versus OGM: How a New Technology and the Creation of Novel Databases Shift the Clinical Role of Genetics in AML Therapy

Dr. Adelina Ovcharenko, PhD, M.H.A
Scientific Director and Acting Head of the MIDGAM Administration
MIDGAM – A National Platform for Research and Precision Medicine

Ms. Hadar Kapach
Head of research data – Kineret project
Kineret Data Lake: Where Health Innovation Finds Data

17:30
Summary and Closing

SIGN UP TODAY!
FREE REGISTRATION

Lectures will be conducted in Hebrew, presentation slides will be provided in English

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