

International Symposium on *Pediatric Organ Donation and Transplantation,*

6-7 March, 2024 | Ankara, Turkey



The Turkish Transplantation Society (TOND)
The Turkic World Transplantation Society (TDTD)
The Middle East Society for Organ Transplantation (MESOT)



Professor Haberal during the Opening Ceremony

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM:

PAEDIATRIC ORGAN DONATION & TRANSPLANTATION



The practice of transplant in the pediatric population has revolutionized the life of children with end-stage organ failure. Pediatric transplantation is growing around the world with the establishment of new transplant programs and prioritization of organs for children. Although pediatric organ transplantation is active in some countries, it is still inactive in many others and mostly relying on living donors. The lacking deceased programs in most of these countries is one of the main issues to be addressed to adequately respond to organ shortage.

International Symposium on *Pediatric Organ Donation and Transplantation* organized by Professor Mehmet Haberal as the Founder and President of the Turkish Transplantation Society (TOND), the Turkic World Transplantation Society (TDTD), and the Founding President of the Middle East Society for Organ Transplantation (MESOT) on March 6-7, 2024 at the Kizilcahamam Thermal Resort Hotel in Ankara, Turkey as a hybrid meeting.

The Symposium addressed challenges, recent advances in clinical and basic science including pediatric domino transplantation, and ways to promote organ donation and practice of transplantation in children worldwide. The program embraced keynote lectures by world-renowned professionals as well as oral and poster presentations from the world.

The Opening Ceremony drew a large number of participants and started with the welcome speeches of Prof. Mehmet Haberal, the Symposium Chair, Prof. Mohammad Ghnaimat, MESOT President, and Prof. Marcelo Cantarovich, Immediate Past-President of the Transplantation Society (TTS). This was followed with the presentations of the invited speakers and with a panel discussion on “*Why is Pediatric Transplantation Inactive and Mostly Relying on Living Donors in any Region of the World?*” moderated by Dr. Andrea Herrera-Gayol from Canada.

The scientific program continued on the second day with the lectures of the invited speakers and oral presentations with the participation of pediatric transplant patients and their families from Baskent University where participants had a chance to exchange ideas around the latest developments and the current practices interactively.

During the Symposium 13 keynote lectures, 31 oral presentations and poster presentations were scheduled. Around 250 guests from 20 countries including Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, Iran, Jordan, KSA, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Spain, Syria, Turkey, Uzbekistan, and Russian Federation attended the symposium physically and virtually. Discussions took place at the highest level and attendees had a chance to share and learn from each other.

Professor Mehmet Haberal closed the meeting with a final word of thanks to all attendees and everyone involved in the organization. He has also highlighted the **30th International Congress of The Transplantation Society (TTS 2024)** that will take place in Istanbul on September 22-25, 2024 and reminded the abstract submission deadline. As MESOT is the official partner of the TTS 2024, he has requested support of all countries in the region in promoting the Congress.

The International Symposium on *Pediatric Organ Donation and Transplantation* was a fruitful meeting with high positive feedback from all who were in attendance realizing that education and public awareness is essential for increasing pediatric deceased organ donation worldwide.



Professor Haberal with pediatric transplant patients and with their families



Photos taken at the Closing Ceremony

