Post-Event Report
The 44th World Hospital Congress, the first hybrid Congress of the IHF, was co-hosted by La Unió Catalana d'Hospitals (Catalan Hospital, Health and Social Services Association) on 9-11 November 2021 in Barcelona with the overarching theme “People on board: Transforming healthcare by blending agility, responsiveness, and resilience”. It was a success with around 1500 participants from 74 countries joining the discussions. More than 300 speakers shared their insights, expertise, and experiences across 70+ sessions and panel discussions. There were also more than 200 posters featured that showcased good practices and innovations from around the world. In addition, 50 outstanding projects and programmes were recognized during the IHF Awards ceremony. In-person attendees enjoyed opportunities to interact again face-to-face with peers during the breaks and social events such as the Welcome Reception, After Work Social Dinner at Museu Nacional d’Art de Catalunya, and Solidarity Concert at Palau de la Música Catalana. There were also hospital visits to Hospital Universitari Vall d’Hebron, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, and Hospital Sant Joan de Déu.

About the Congress

The World Hospital Congress is an annual forum that brings together leaders and decision-makers of hospitals, health services, and healthcare organizations for multidisciplinary exchange of knowledge, expertise and experiences and dialogue on best practices in leadership, management and service delivery.

It is a one-stop shop for the healthcare executives and professional seeking the opportunity to engage in a 360-degree learning and knowledge-sharing experience among peers.

People on board: Transforming healthcare by blending agility, responsiveness, and resilience

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The International Hospital Federation (IHF) is an international not-for-profit, non-governmental membership organization. Its members are worldwide hospitals and healthcare organizations having a distinct relationship with the provision of healthcare. It provides them with a platform for the exchange of knowledge and strategic experience as well as opportunities for international collaborations with different actors in the health sector.

Established in 1929 after the first International Hospital Congress in Atlantic City, USA as the International Hospital Association, it was re-named after the Second World War in 1947. With its Headquarters in Geneva, the IHF is constituted under the Civil Code of Switzerland. The IHF recognizes the essential role of hospitals and health care organizations in providing health care, supporting health services and offering education.

Its role is to help hospitals work towards improving the level of the services they deliver to the population with the primary goal of improving the health of society.

La Unió Catalana d’Hospitals is a membership association of health and social care services providers, gathering more than 100 healthcare organizations, integrating mostly health providers of the public Catalan healthcare system, but also private healthcare organizations. It was created in 1975 as a healthcare providers’ association, to work together and promote a quality healthcare and social model to benefit the Catalan society. Its key strategic areas are the defense of its members’ legitimate interests, and strengthening the Catalan healthcare and social model.

As a health and social services providers association, La Unió defends a public healthcare system, build with the contribution of civil society, on the basis of an autonomous management of the health providers, a strict ethical performance, and promoting excellence in healthcare management through professionalization and supporting innovation for its members.
Scientific Committee

**CHAIR:** Prof. Antoni Trilla, MD, PhD, MSc. Dean, University of Barcelona Medical and Health Sciences School (Spain)

**Prof. Omar Awadh Al-Rawas, PhD, MBChB, FRCP**
Secretary General, Arab Board of Health Specializations (Jordan)

**Robyn Begley, DNP, RN, NEA-BC**
Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer, American Hospital Association; CEO, American Organization for Nursing Leadership (USA)

**Prof. Hong-I Chen, MD, PhD, MA**
Honorary Dean, College of Health Sciences, Chang Jung Christian University (Taiwan)

**Dr. Jaume Duran, MD, PhD, MBA**
CEO, Fundació Sanitaria of Mollet; Board Secretary, Catalan Hospital, Health and Social Services Association (Spain)

**Dr. Anna García-Altés, PhD, MPH, MSc**
Director, Catalan Health System Observatory, Agency for Health Quality and Assessment of Catalonia (AQuAS) (Spain)

**Prof. Helmut Kern, MA**
Advisor and Non Executive Director in multiple organizations and governmental bodies (Austria)

**Prof. Luís Velez Lapão, PhD, MSc**
Professor of Digital Health, Global Health and Tropical Medicine, Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Portugal)

**Ronald Lavater, MPA, FACHE**
Chief Executive Officer, International Hospital Federation

**Kyung Eun Lee, MSW, MHM**
Chairman and CEO, Keyo Medical Foundation (South Korea)
Event Highlights

300+ Speakers
70+ Sessions and Panel Discussions
≈1500 Attendees
71 Countries Represented

220+ Posters
50 IHF Awards Winners
80+ Sponsors, Partners and Exhibitors
5 Hospital Visits
Scientific Sessions

In four jampacked days, attendees learned from more than 300 global experts about healthcare transformations in over 70 sessions.

Keynote Address

Dr. Hans Kluge, Regional Director for Europe at the World Health Organization (WHO)

Ceremonial Handover

(from Barcelona to Dubai)

On this photo: Enric Mangas and Roser Fernández, President and the CEO of La Unió Catalana d’Hospitals, H.E. Awadh Seghayer Al Ketbi, Director General of the Dubai Health Authority, H.E. Majid Hassan Mohamed Al Suwaidi, Ambassador of the UAE to the Kingdom of Spain and H.E. Dr. Yousef Mohammad Al Serkal, Director General of Emirates Health Services.
Awards Ceremony

50 hospitals and health service providers were recognized at a special awarding ceremony on 10 November 2021 for their outstanding projects, programmes, and services.

Poster Display

Over 220 posters showcasing the good practices and innovations of healthcare organizations were displayed at the Congress venue.
Invitational Events

YEL young executive leaders

Women in Leadership Forum

ALC association leaders circle

INTERNATIONAL GENEVA in Barcelona
Attendee Demographics

Around 1,500 delegates representing 71 countries/territories attended the Congress.

Local Delegates (from Spain) 53%

International Delegates 47%

Country/territory breakdown of international delegates

- United States 12.5%
- United Kingdom 3.9%
- United Arab Emirates 8.7%
- Taiwan 3.8%
- Switzerland 3.3%
- Singapore 1.1%
- Qatar 1.6%
- Portugal 11.8%
- Philippines 3.1%
- Belgium 2.8%
- Zimbabwe 0.3%
- Egypt 1.8%
- France 3.3%
- Germany 2.5%
- Hong Kong 4.3%
- Iran, Islamic Rep. 1.6%
- Korea, Rep. 1.3%
- Netherlands 1.3%
- Zimbabwe 0.3%
- Hong Kong 4.3%
- Iran, Islamic Rep. 1.6%
- Korea, Rep. 1.3%
- Netherlands 1.3%
- Zimbabwe 0.3%
- Hong Kong 4.3%
- Iran, Islamic Rep. 1.6%
- Korea, Rep. 1.3%
- Netherlands 1.3%
The top 5 countries where virtual registrations were from are Spain, United States, UAE, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

In-person versus virtual attendance

The top 5 countries where virtual registrations were from are Spain, United States, UAE, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Virtual 29%

In-person 71%
Social Events

Welcome Reception

After Work Social Dinner at Museu Nacional d’Art de Catalunya

Solidarity Concert at Palau de la Música Catalana
Speakers who were unable to travel to Barcelona joined their sessions via teleconferencing and presented to the audience either live or through pre-recorded video. Discussions and networking between in-person and virtual attendees were also made possible through the event's online platform and mobile app.
44th World Hospital Congress Kicks Off with Healthcare Leaders Coming Together for Four-Day Event

By Hospital and Healthcare Industry News
Posted on 30 Nov 2021

The 44th World Hospital Congress (WHC), organized by the International Hospital Federation (IHF), commenced in Barcelona, Spain, a year later than originally planned due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The WHC is a unique global forum connecting leaders and decision-makers of hospital services and healthcare organizations to share knowledge and good practices, exchange new ideas and innovations, and network with other similar executives from across the international healthcare community. The WHC is the premier event in the IHF calendar and their organizing partner and host for the 44th WHC is La UAB Catalana de Hospitalitat (Catalan Hospitalitat). For the first time, the WHC is newly hybrid, facilitating the participation of more than 1,200 delegates from over 70 countries in the entire program whether they attend in-person or virtually over a period of four days from 8-11 November.

The theme for the 44th WHC is "People at heart: Transforming healthcare by blending agility, responsiveness, and resilience." For four days, leaders and decision-makers in the healthcare community will share knowledge and good practices, exchange new ideas and innovations, and network with other similar executives.

The event aims to provide insights into the latest trends and challenges in healthcare management, offering opportunities for professional development and networking among international healthcare leaders.

El Congreso Mundial de Hospitales formará un comité centrado en sostenibilidad y salud
Partners and Sponsors

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