

**CANDIDATE PROFILE****Yacine Hadjiat (United Arab Emirates)**

Pain Researcher, Educator and Innovator

Please provide a brief description of your work and interest in the pain field.

Pain has been the constant thread of my professional life for more than 15 years, across clinical care, research, education, global health, and innovation. I trained in pain medicine in France and Canada, including medical specialization in pain management (adults and pediatric) and multidisciplinary pain management training, and developed clinical experience in pain and cancer-care management before expanding my work into public health research, medical education, and health-system innovation.

My interest in pain is driven by two complementary commitments. The first is equity: improving access to pain education, essential medicines, and evidence-based care in settings where pain remains under-recognized and undertreated. This has included NGO work with Pain Without Borders in Africa and Asia, research and advocacy on essential analgesic access in low- and middle-income countries, and current efforts to support sustainable pain education capacity, including work moving toward an African diploma in pain.

The second is the responsible use of technology to advance pain science. Through academic, industry, and health-system leadership roles, I have worked on digital health, AI, digital biomarkers, patient support tools, and precision medicine approaches. My current work at Dubai Health focuses on health innovation within an integrated academic health system, with a specific interest in applying new technologies to improve pain measurement, treatment selection, education, and access.

My goal is to help pain medicine become more equitable, scientifically advanced, globally connected, and responsive to the needs of patients and professionals across diverse healthcare systems.

Please provide a brief statement of why you are interested in running for Councilor—why would someone want to vote for you?

I am running for Councilor after a decade of IASP membership and progressively deeper involvement in its mission, including service in membership and chapter leadership. I feel this is the right time to contribute at Council level and help IASP achieve broader impact globally. For more than 15 years, my work has focused on pain care, research, education, access, and innovation across Europe, North America, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. I would bring a strong commitment to equity in pain education and treatment, together with expertise in digital health, AI, and precision medicine for pain science.

Collaborative Leadership and Teamwork: Collaboration is key to the success of IASP's initiatives and programs. Can you share examples of your experience working collaboratively within diverse teams or committees to achieve common goals? How do you plan to foster collaboration among Council members and committees to drive impactful outcomes?

Collaboration has been central to my work in pain, research, and innovation. Within IASP, I have been a Regular Member for nearly a decade, previously served as Chair of the Membership and Chapters Committee for a two-year mandate, and currently continue as Co-Chair. This role has required working across regions, disciplines, chapters, and professional backgrounds to support member engagement, strengthen communication with chapters, and contribute to a more connected international pain community.

Beyond IASP, I have led and contributed to international research groups and publication efforts involving institutions across several continents, including recent Lancet Global Health work focused on pain, access, and capacity-building in Africa. These collaborations required aligning diverse academic, clinical, public health, and policy perspectives toward common scientific and educational goals. My work with Pain Without Borders in Africa and Asia also required adapting pain education and clinical priorities to local needs and resources.

In my academic and health-system roles, including collaborations with INSERM, Paris Cité, Dubai Health, and Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences, I work across multidisciplinary teams of clinicians, researchers, educators, engineers, entrepreneurs, and policy stakeholders. In global digital health leadership roles, I also managed cross-functional teams across multiple countries.

As Councilor, I would foster collaboration by listening actively, respecting regional and disciplinary diversity, and helping translate strategic priorities into practical workstreams. I would support stronger connections between Council, committees, SIGs, chapters, early-career members, and underrepresented regions, particularly around global pain education, equitable access to care, and responsible innovation in pain science.

Experience in Financial Oversight and Governance: The Council plays a crucial role in overseeing the financial management and governance of IASP. Can you describe your experience in financial oversight and governance, particularly in reviewing budgets, financial reports, and implementing financial policies? How will you contribute to ensuring the fiscal health and accountability of the association?

My governance and financial oversight experience comes from executive, academic, health-system, entrepreneurial, and non-executive roles across public and private healthcare environments. I currently lead Dubai Health Innovations and founded the Centre of Innovation & Technology within an integrated academic health system, where responsible resource allocation, strategic prioritization, risk assessment, institutional alignment, and accountability are essential to sustainable programs.

Previously, as Global Head of Digital Health Solutions and in Chief Medical Officer roles, I oversaw complex international portfolios involving multiple programs, teams, countries, and stakeholders. This required reviewing business cases, prioritizing investments, monitoring performance, managing risk, and ensuring that scientific, medical, regulatory, operational, and financial decisions were aligned. As an entrepreneur myself and board/advisory member in health innovation ecosystems, I also understand directly what it means to raise funds, manage limited resources, maintain financial discipline, and build credible, sustainable value propositions.

Within IASP, I contributed with leadership and committee members to the recent revision of membership dues, with the objective of improving financial efficiency, fairness, and long-term sustainability. This experience reinforced the importance of transparent governance, member value, and responsible stewardship of association resources.

For IASP Council, I would contribute by reviewing budgets and financial reports carefully, asking clear questions, supporting transparent decision-making, and ensuring that resources are aligned with strategic priorities. I would be attentive to balancing scientific excellence, global representation, member value, education, congress activities, and support for underserved regions, while helping IASP remain financially healthy, accountable, and mission-driven.

Global Engagement and Representation: Pain is a universal experience, and IASP's reach extends across diverse regions and communities worldwide. As a Councilor, how do you plan to engage with and represent the interests of the global pain community as a Councilor, ensuring inclusivity, diversity, and responsiveness to the needs of various stakeholders?

My career has been built across regions and systems, and this has shaped my view that global engagement must be practical, inclusive, and bidirectional. I have worked across Europe, North America, Asia, Africa, and now the Middle East, in clinical pain care, NGO work, public health research, medical education, life sciences, and health-system innovation. These experiences have shown me that the global pain community does not have one single need: priorities differ between researchers, clinicians, patients, trainees, chapters, high-resource systems, and underserved settings.

As Councilor, I would aim to represent this diversity by strengthening the connection between IASP Council, chapters, SIGs, committees, early-career members, and regions that remain underrepresented in global pain science. My IASP service, including prior Chair and current Co-Chair roles in the Membership and Chapters Committee, has given me direct experience listening to member and chapter needs and working to improve engagement. As a regular contributor, speaker, and collaborator at local chapter and regional pain conferences, I have also built a solid network across the global pain community.

I would particularly advocate for three priorities: equitable access to pain education, improved access to essential analgesics and evidence-based care, and responsible innovation that benefits diverse healthcare systems rather than only well-resourced environments. My work with Pain Without Borders in Africa and Asia, research and advocacy on treatment access in low- and middle-income countries, and current efforts toward sustainable pain education capacity in Africa reflect this commitment.

I would bring to Council a global, multidisciplinary, and implementation-oriented perspective.

IASP Involvement

- IASP Regular Member since 2016
- Former Chair, IASP Membership and Chapters Committee, two-year mandate.
- Current Co-Chair, IASP Membership and Chapters Committee.
- Contributed with IASP leadership and committee members to the recent revision of IASP membership dues, supporting financial efficiency, fairness, member value, and long-term sustainability.
- Contributor to IASP educational and advocacy work on access to essential analgesics in low- and middle-income countries, including the IASP fact sheet on opioid analgesic access in LMICs.
- Regular contributor, speaker, and collaborator with local IASP chapters and regional pain conferences, building networks across Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and other global pain communities.
- Long-standing engagement with IASP mission through membership, chapter engagement, committee leadership, global pain education, and work to improve representation of diverse regions and disciplines.

Pr Yacine HADJIAT, MD, PhD, MBA

Candidate CV - IASP Councilor | Pain Medicine, Global Health Equity, Education and Responsible Innovation

CANDIDATE PROFILE FOR IASP COUNCIL

Pain physician-scientist, public health researcher, medical educator, and global health innovation leader with more than 15 years dedicated to pain medicine and pain science. Career spans clinical pain and cancer-care management, NGO work, IASP service, international research, pain education, access to essential analgesics, and technology-enabled pain measurement and precision medicine. Currently Head of Dubai Health Innovations and Tenured Faculty at Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences within Dubai Health, an integrated academic healthcare system. Former global digital health and chief medical/innovation executive with experience leading large international teams, innovation portfolios, governance, and cross-sector partnerships. Committed to helping IASP strengthen global pain education, equitable access, chapter engagement, scientific excellence, and responsible adoption of AI, digital biomarkers, and precision medicine for the benefit of patients worldwide.

IASP MEMBERSHIP, SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

- IASP Regular Member since 09/02/2016; Member ID 82520; active status; paid through 31/03/2028.
- Former Chair, IASP Membership and Chapters Committee, two-year mandate.
- Current Co-Chair, IASP Membership and Chapters Committee.
- Contributed with IASP leadership and committee members to the recent revision of IASP membership dues, supporting financial efficiency, fairness, member value, and long-term sustainability.
- Contributor to IASP educational and advocacy work on access to essential analgesics in low- and middle-income countries, including the IASP fact sheet on opioid analgesic access in LMICs.
- Regular contributor, speaker, and collaborator with local IASP chapters and regional pain conferences, building networks across Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and other global pain communities.
- Long-standing engagement with IASP mission through membership, chapter engagement, committee leadership, global pain education, and work to improve representation of diverse regions and disciplines.

PAIN MEDICINE, GLOBAL EQUITY AND ACCESS

- More than 15 years of sustained work in pain medicine, including clinical pain and cancer-care management, pain education, public health research, global access initiatives, and innovation in pain science.
- Medical specialization in Pain Management, Paris VII Medical University, France; Multidisciplinary Pain Management training, McGill University Faculty of Medicine, Canada.
- Research affiliation with INSERM U987, Physiology of Pain and Therapeutics, France; PhD in Health Sciences and Public Health, Paris Saclay University / French Health Research Institute.
- Lecturer in Pain and Digital Health, Paris Cite Faculty of Medicine; lecturer in health innovation and digital health in executive and MBA/MSM programs at ESCP and ESM business schools.
- NGO work with Pain Without Borders, especially in Africa and Asia, focused on pain education, capacity-building, and support for underserved settings.
- Led and contributed to international research groups and key publication efforts across institutions and continents, including recent Lancet Global Health collaborative work focused on pain, access, and capacity-building in Africa.
- Current efforts include building sustainable pain education capacity, including work moving toward an African diploma in pain.
- Core commitment to equity in pain education, access to essential analgesics, and implementation of evidence-based multidisciplinary pain care in diverse healthcare systems.

TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND FUTURE PAIN SCIENCE

- Leads health innovation at Dubai Health and founded the Centre of Innovation & Technology at Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences / Dubai Health.
- Former global industry leader in digital health solutions in the neuroscience space, managing portfolios of digital health assets and pipeline solutions across patient support apps, VR, telehealth, AI/machine learning, digital biomarkers, and medical-device pathways.
- Former Chief Medical Officer and Head of Innovation in the life-sciences industry, with global executive responsibility after prior medical affairs, research, and innovation leadership roles across France, Europe, and Asia.
- Pain innovation portfolio includes work in pain measurement such as PainDetect-related projects, AI-enabled drug selection and dosing, precision digital medicine in pain, digital biomarkers, and patient-centered digital tools.
- Advocates for IASP to be an active part of the global technological transformation of healthcare, ensuring that AI, digital measurement, data science, and connected care are clinically meaningful, ethically governed, scientifically validated, and beneficial to patients.

CURRENT AND SELECTED LEADERSHIP ROLES

- Head of Dubai Health Innovations, Dubai Health, governmental integrated academic healthcare system, Dubai, UAE.
- Tenured Faculty, College of Medicine, and Managing Director / Founder, Centre of Innovation & Technology, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences - College of Medicine, Dubai Health.
- Independent Board Director, Clouds of Care, Belgium/EU.
- Healthcare Investment Advisor, SpeedInvest VC, UK/EU.
- Advisor and collaborator with governmental innovation agencies, incubators, MedTech/HealthTech ecosystems, and digital health start-ups.
- Chief Editor, Digital Health in Pain Management Journal.

GOVERNANCE, FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND PORTFOLIO LEADERSHIP

- Experience in public, academic, private-sector, entrepreneurial, advisory, and non-executive governance roles requiring budget discipline, resource allocation, risk assessment, strategic prioritization, and accountability.
- Managed large international digital health and innovation portfolios with multi-country teams, multiple assets, and cross-functional scientific, medical, regulatory, technology, operational, and financial stakeholders.
- As an entrepreneur and advisor, experienced in fundraising, sustainability planning, investment cases, value propositions, and disciplined use of limited resources.
- Governance approach for IASP: careful budget and financial-report review, transparent decision-making, alignment of resources with mission, and balance across scientific excellence, global representation, member value, education, congress activities, and underserved regions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Dubai Health / MBRU, Dubai, UAE - Head of Dubai Health Innovations; Tenured Faculty, College of Medicine; Managing Director and Founder, Centre of Innovation & Technology.
- Global industry leadership in neuroscience digital health - Global Head of Digital Health Solutions and Chief Medical Officer responsibilities, 2020-2023; led global health-tech teams and digital health portfolios across multiple countries.
- Global industry leadership in medical affairs, innovation, and pain-related therapeutics - Chief Medical Officer and Head of Innovation responsibilities, 2016-2020; European and national medical affairs leadership roles, 2012-2016.
- National Institutes of Health, Washington DC, USA - Guest Researcher, 2011.
- Grunenthal, Paris - Medical Affairs Manager, 2008-2011.
- Sanofi, Paris - Strategy and Public Affairs, 2007-2008.

EDUCATION AND CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- MD, Medical Doctorate, Medical University Algiers - Paris, 2000-2007.
- MBA in Health Management, High School of Management, Paris, 2007-2009.
- Graduate Diploma in Clinical Research, Paris VI Medical University, 2010-2011.
- Medical Specialization in Pain Management, Paris VII Medical University, 2012-2014.
- Multidisciplinary Pain Management, McGill University Faculty of Medicine, Canada, 2014-2016.
- PhD in Health Sciences and Public Health, Paris Saclay University / French Health Research Institute, 2021-2024.
- Executive education and certificates: Oxford system leadership; Harvard addiction management; King's College London drugs and addiction; MIT artificial intelligence; Duke-NUS healthcare innovation and health economics.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS, OUTPUTS AND RECOGNITION RELEVANT TO COUNCILOR ROLE

- Author/co-author of scientific publications across fundamental research, clinical research, public health, digital health, health economics, and pain-related access and education.
- Contributor to IASP fact sheet on access to opioid analgesics in low- and middle-income countries; broader work emphasizes access to essential analgesics and evidence-based pain treatment.
- Contributor/leader in recent Lancet Global Health collaborative effort focused on Africa, pain, access, education, and capacity-building.
- UNESCO Innovation Gold Award 2024 for pioneering solutions leveraging technology and creativity to address global challenges.
- MedTech World 2025 Investment Ecosystem Builder Award.
- Recognized in 2018 as Top 50 Healthcare Leaders at Smart Health International Conference for engagement in global equity in health, access, and education.
- Association of Pharmaceutical Medicine Singapore Excellence in Medical Affairs Award, 2019.