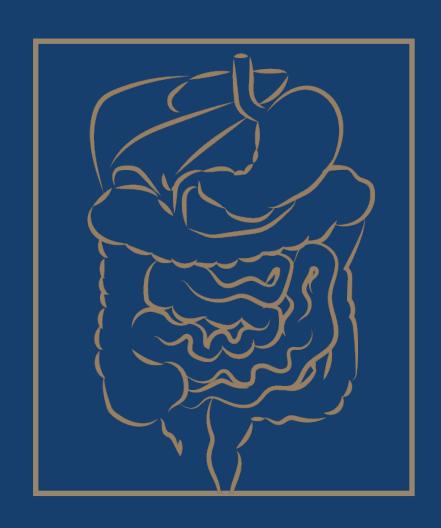




# MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY 25th ANNIVERSARY



### **PREFACE**

#### Editor-in-Chief: Dr Alex Leow



**Editor-in-Chief:**Alex Hwong-Ruey Leow

#### **Co-Editors:**

KL Goh Molly Kong

#### **Contributors:**

P Kandasami Madhav Kudva Sanjiv Mahadeva Jayaram Menon Raman Muthukaruppan Nazri Mustaffa Philip Gisan It has been a pleasure to be appointed as the Editor-in-Chief for the compilation and publication of this Commemorative Book celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. No words could describe the effort and time spent by the Editorial Board into the creation of this book. This is not an easy task considering that photos in the old days were not readily available and history begins fading away.

The idea of having this commemorative book came about at the end of 2018 when the Executive Committee of MSGH felt the needs to compile the history of our Society. Being a younger generation among the fraternity of gastroenterologists and hepatologists in this country, this commemorative book serves as a great reflection on the 25 years of journey of our Society and its contribution to the development of this speciality in Malaysia.

Quoting from the chapter on personal reflections by KL Goh "We need to know where we came from before we know where we are going". This truly signifies the importance of knowing our past, and strengthening our future. My sincere thanks to all those who have made this publication possible, especially those who have contributed. A special thank you to my co-editors, Molly Kong and KL Goh, for their relentless support and assistance. I hope all of you will enjoy reading this book, just like how much I had enjoyed putting the pieces together in creating this wonderful book. Take some time to read this book whilst sipping a cup of aromatic coffee to reflect, embrace and be inspired by our society's 25 years of remarkable journey.

### **FOREWORD**

President MSGH: Dr Tan Soek Siam

The Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology established since 1994 is celebrating its 25th anniversary. It is a tremendous honour for me as the President to pen a few lines in this book which documents our twenty-five years' history.

In this relatively short time, the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology has garnered numerous local as well as international recognitions and grown to be the largest society in the country representing and nurturing the professions related to diseases of both the gastrointestinal tract and liver systems.

"History never looks like history when you are living through it. It always looks confusing and messy, and it always feels uncomfortable" by John W.

Gardner, may ring a bell in many of us. Nevertheless I am sure this history of ours will be enlightening and inspirational to both the senior members who competently steered the early formative years of the Society and the juniors who will shape our future.

Reflection of our past trials and tribulations together with our greatest moments and achievements will serve as guide for our next generations of gastroenterologists, hepatologists, GIA and surgeons. I am confident that the Society will continue to play a



significant role in the advancement of the fraternity in our country and beyond.

I would like to thank and congratulate all the members involved, especially Emeritus Professor Dato Dr Goh Khean Lee, for his dedication, time and passion in his leadership for this effort and the society. I would also like to commend Ms Molly Kong and Dr Alex Leow who have contributed enormously in the preparation of this book.

On this very special occasion, let's join hands to wish the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology together with its members the continued path to success in the future.

# MSGH Executive Committee (2017 - 2019)

#### **President**

Dr Tan Soek Siam

#### **President-Elect**

Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

#### Immediate Past President

Dr Akhtar Qureshi

#### **Honorary Secretary**

Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh

#### **Honorary Treasurer**

Dr Tee Hoi Poh

#### **Committee Members**

Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong
Dr Alex Hwong-Ruey Leow
Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva
Dato' Dr Raman Muthukaruppan
Dr Nazri Mustaffa
Emeritus Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee
Dato' Dr Tan Huck Joo



### THE MSGH WAS REGISTERED AS A SOCIETY UNDER THE REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES MALAYSIA ON 24th MAY 1994



No. Migrasi: WKL1600/93

#### **Objectives of the Society**

- i) To promote the art and science of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.
- ii) To implement regular training programme for doctors and paramedical staff in the various fields of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.
- iii) To disseminate knowledge and educate doctors, paramedical staff and the public on common Gastroenterological and Hepatobiliary problems in the country.
- iv) To encourage and co-ordinate scientific research, teaching and publication for the improvement and upgrading of diagnosis and management of Gastro-intestinal and Hepatobiliary diseases.
- v) To seek affiliation with International bodies to ensure best possible exchange of information in the field of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

Tarikh migrasi: 22 haribulan Oktober 2013

The Society was administered by an executive committee chaired by the president of the Society and assisted by vice president, secretary, treasurer and five elected committee members. The immediate past president remains in the executive committee. All office bearers were elected on a yearly basis at the annual general meeting.

Changes to the memorandum and articles of the society were proposed and agreed unanimously by the annual general meeting held on 24th August 2013 in Penang. The amendments were approved by the Registrar of Societies Malaysia on 18th November 2013. The major change was that term of the office of office bearers was extended to two years and with the change of title of the vice-president to president-elect.

Since 1994, the Society has been ably served by Ms YM Kong as executive secretary and her staff. The registered address of the society has been at the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, firstly in 19, Jalan Folly Barat, Kuala Lumpur and then at the Medical Academies building at Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur and most recently at the Technology Park Malaysia, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur.





## MSGH PAST PRESIDENTS AND OFFICE BEARERS

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Yin Thing PheeMohd Ismail MericanGoh Khean LeeAnand J Bhupalan

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Goh Khean LeeP KandasamiJason Chin Kuet TzeMazlam Zawawi

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer S Mahendra RajMazlam ZawawiTan Soon SengOng Kee Thiam

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Jayaram MenonJason Chin Kuet TzeTan Soon Seng

**Treasurer** - Mohamad Nazim Salleh

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Andrew Chua Seng BoonRobert Ding Pooi HuatRosmawati Mohamed

- R Krishnan

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer

Mohd Ismail MericanGoh Khean LeeJason Chin Kuet Tze

- Anand J Bhupalan

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer

P KandasamiS Mahendra RajJason Chin Kuet Tze

- Mazlam Zawawi

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer

Mazlam ZawawiJayaram Menon

Tan Soon SengOng Kee Thiam

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Jason Chin Kuet TzeAndrew Chua Seng Boon

- Rosmawati Mohamed

- John Cheng Lung Seng

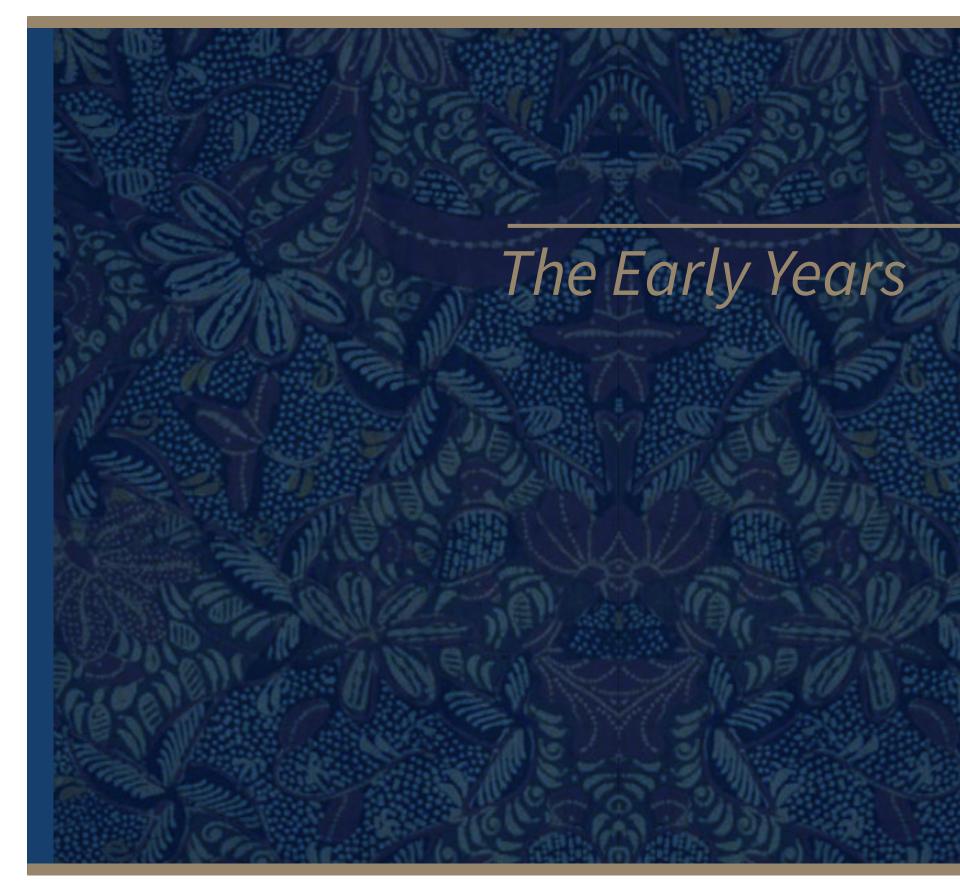
President Vice President Secretary Treasurer	<ul><li>Rosmawati Mohamed</li><li>Mohamad Nazim Salleh</li><li>John Cheng Lung Seng</li><li>Ryan Ponnudurai</li></ul>
President Vice President Secretary Treasurer	<ul><li>Ryan Ponnudurai</li><li>Yunus Gul</li><li>Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan</li><li>Tan Huck Joo</li></ul>
President Vice President Secretary Treasurer	<ul> <li>Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan</li> <li>Tan Huck Joo</li> <li>L Sanker V</li> <li>Sanjiv Mahadeva</li> </ul>
President Vice President Secretary Treasurer	<ul><li>L Sanker V</li><li>Ramesh Gurunathan</li><li>Sanjiv Mahadev</li><li>Ong Tze Zen</li></ul>
President President-Elect Secretary Treasurer	<ul><li>Sanjiv Mahadeva</li><li>Akhtar Qureshi</li><li>Tan Soek Siam</li><li>Raja Affendi Raja Ali</li></ul>
President President-Elect Secretary Treasurer	<ul><li>Tan Soek Siam</li><li>Raja Affendi Raja Ali</li><li>Lee Yeong Yeh</li><li>Tee Hoi Poh</li></ul>

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President - Robert Ding Pooi Huat - Rosmawati Mohamed **Vice President** Secretary - Sharmila Sachithanandan Treasurer - Ryan Ponnudurai President - Mohamad Nazim Salleh **Vice President** - Ryan Ponnudurai Secretary - Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan Treasurer - Tan Huck Joo President - Yunus Gul **Vice President** - Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan Secretary - Tan Huck Joo Treasurer - L Sanker V President - Tan Huck Joo **Vice President** - L Sanker V - Sanjiv Mahadeva Secretary Treasurer - Ooi Eng Keat President - Ramesh Gurunathan **Vice President** - Sanjiv Mahadeva Secretary - Ong Tze Zen - Sheikh Anwar Abdullah Treasurer President - Akhtar Qureshi **Vice President** - Tan Soek Siam Secretary - Raja Affendi Raja Ali Treasurer - Tee Hoi Poh







## ASIAN PACIFIC ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE LIVER (APASL)

KUALA LUMPUR 16th - 18th JANUARY 1994



Although not officially involved, the Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Malaysia (forerunner of the MSGH) was invited to support this meeting and several members of the executive committee joined the organising committee of this meeting on an individual basis.

The APASL Meeting 1994 in Kuala Lumpur is important as it marks the entry of the Malaysian gastrointestinal and liver fraternity into the organization of international scientific meetings.

The Asian Pacific Association for the Study of Liver has a different way of membership which is based on individuals rather than national associations or societies. Dr M Balasegaram was a founder member of the APASL with Dr Kunio Okuda (Japan) and Dr Seah Cheng Siang (Singapore) amongst others in 1978. Dr M Balasegaram was the sole member of the APASL from Malaysia for many years.

Being a very senior member of the medical fraternity and an eminent liver surgeon, Dr Balasegaram hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> APASL Annual Scientific Meeting at the Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> January 1994. The Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, officiated at the opening of the meeting. The meeting was essentially organized by Dr Balasegaram and ably assisted Dr M Devanand as the Secretary-General of the

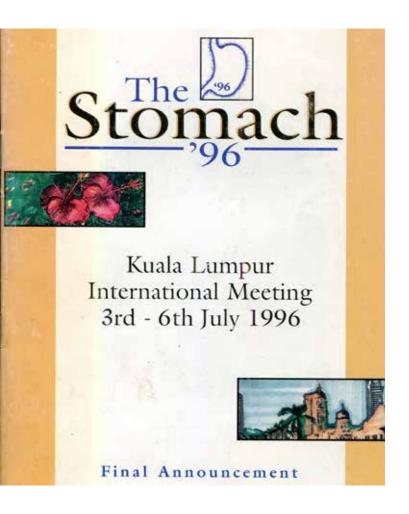
meeting. Dr Mohd Ismail Merican helped with planning the scientific programme.

Amongst the invited speakers, were Drs John
Terblanche (South Africa), Didier Lebrec (France)
Geoffrey Dusheiko (UK), Howard Thomas
(UK) and Russell Strong (Australia). Many
were personal friends of Dr Balasegaram. The
meeting was very successful which attracted an
audience of more than 500 delegates.

## KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON DISEASES OF THE STOMACH (THE STOMACH '96)

KUALA LUMPUR 3rd - 6th JULY 1996

by KL GOH & P KANDASAMI



The first international meeting organized by the MSGH was in collaboration with the College of Surgeons of Malaysia. It was a meeting that was dedicated to diseases of the stomach and was aptly named "THE STOMACH 96" (Figure 1). It was held at the old Hilton Hotel in Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> July 1996.

The meeting was the brainchild of Dato' Dr P Kandasami who was then the Chief of Surgery, Ipoh Hospital. Dr Kandasami who has a lifelong interest in surgery of the stomach had spent a very fruitful one year sabbatical in Leeds General Infirmary in 1993. Dr Kandasami provided very able leadership as the Organising Chairman of the meeting.

In 1994 we were then working together in the Executive Committee of the MSGH and he had mooted the idea of holding such a meeting. He asked me to take charge of the scientific programme. Dr Andrew Chua who had just returned from Dublin and had started working as a gastroenterologist at Ipoh Hospital was appointed as Secretary of the meeting. We formed the nucleus of the committee who then planned this meeting.

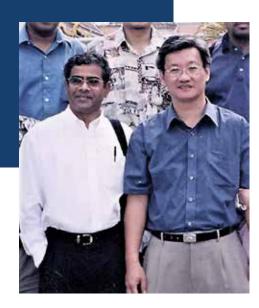
We had 14 international faculty, all top names in their field: Professors SK Lam (University of Hong Kong), Sydney Chung (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Teuyuki Hirota (Tokyo Medical College, Japan), Richard Hunt (McMaster University, Canada), David Johnson (University of Leeds, UK), JY Kang, (National University of Singapore), Adrian Lee (University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia), Roy Pounder (Royal Free Hospital London, UK), Robert Riddell (McMaster University, Canada), Henry M Sue-Ling (Leeds General Infirmary, UK), Nicholas Talley (Sydney, Australia), Guido Tytgat (Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) and Cornelius van de Velde (University of Leiden, The Netherlands).

The scientific programme proved to be very attractive with three plenary lectures: "Helicobacter pylori- The Critical Factor in Diseases of the Stomach" by Guido Tytgat, "Gastric Mucosal Defence and Injury" by Richard Hunt and "Cancer of the Stomach - Changing Patterns and Practices" by David Johnson, seven symposia, seven special lectures, two video demonstration sessions in laparoscopy and Endoscopy of the Upper GI Tract by Sydney Chung and three special workshops in Pathology, Microbiology and Surgery. The latter was held in Ipoh Hospital.

STOMACH '96 was the first meeting which Ms Molly YM Kong started to be involved in the activities of our Society. Her experience, diligence and her attention-to-detail proved to be invaluable.

The STOMACH '96 was a ground breaking meeting for the MSGH. It brought, for the first time, international recognition to the MSGH as a Society.

P Kandasami (Organising Chairman) and KL Goh (Scientific Chairman)



#### UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE



Shiu Kum LAM 林兆鑫 MD. FRCP. FRCPIGI, FRCP. FACG, FRACP. FHKAM(Med), FHKCP

Professor and Head of Medicine Chief of Gastroenterology & Hepatology



OUEEN MARY HOSPITAL

July 10, 1996

Prof P Kandasami and Prof KL Goh 19 Jalan Folly Barat 50480 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

Dear Prof Kandasami and KL,

Once again, let me congratulate you and your colleagues for mounting the first meeting of its kind in the Asian-Pacific region. It is a mile-stone meeting and is immensely successful. I have learned a great deal and have certainly come home with new research ideas.

I have no doubt that the participants have benefitted from the voluminous amount of information generated. I salute to you for not only elevating the academic standing of your societies in Malaysia, but also brightening the image of Asian-Pacific gastroentrology in the international arena outside the region by putting out an outstanding program and by distributing the research results in the international Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

I have been very well taken care of, and have enjoyed not only the science but also the overwhelming hospitality of your colleagues and your good selves. Thank you once again.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Prof SK Lam

410, Professorial Blo

Andrew Chua (Organising Secretary)



## PENANG INTERNATIONAL TEACHING COURSE IN GASTROENTEROLOGY

PENANG 23th - 26th JULY 1997



From the Right: Robert Ding (Organising Chairman), Honourable Chief Minister of Penang, Dr Koh Tsu Koon, and Mrs Ding

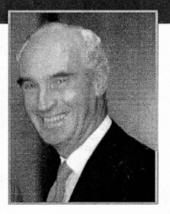
Following the success of "The Stomach '96", the MSGH in collaboration with the Penang Medical Practitioners' Society and the British Society of Gastroenterology organized the Penang International Teaching Course in Gastroenterology from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 1997. The venue of the hotel was the beautiful Rasa Sayang Resort Hotel in Batu Ferringhi, Penang.

The course served as our Annual Scientific
Meeting with Dr KL Goh as President of the
MSGH. The meeting was ably helmed by the
Dr P Kandasmi and Robert Ding as Organising
Chairpersons. Robert contributed immensely
to the meeting which incorporated a oneday Endoscopy workshop with live cases
demonstrations at the Island Hospital, Penang
with Kees Huibregtse, Nib Soehendra and
Tony Axon as guest faculty and KL Goh and
Robert Ding as Course Directors. Andrew Chua
was Scientific Chairman and he organized the
meeting with 17 international guest faculty
including the President of the British Society of
Gastroenterology, Professor Herman Dowling.

It was a wonderful meeting with a five plenary lectures, seven special lectures, five symposia, four satellite symposia and ten meet the expert breakfast sessions. The social programme was superbly organized by Robert Ding! The participation of the BSG made this a landmark meeting!

International Faculty: Anthony Axon (Leeds, UK),
Jonathan Rhodes (Liverpool, UK), Greg Holdstock
(Middlesex, UK), John Dent (Adelaide, Australia), Kees
Huibregtse (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), James
Neuberger (Birmingham, UK), Dermot Kelleher (Dublin,
Ireland), PWN Keeling (Dublin, Ireland), Lim Seng Gee
(Singapore), JJ Misiewicz (London, UK), Hermon Dowling
(London, UK), Nib Soehendra (Hamburg, Germany),
Michael Larvin (Leeds, UK), Christopher Liddle (Sydney,
Australia), John Lambert (Melbourne, Australia), Fumio
Konishi (Tochigi, Japan), Thierry Poynard (Paris, France).

### Message from the President of British Society of Gastroenterology



he British Society of Gastroenterology is proud to be associated with the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and the Penang Medical Practitioners' Society in organising the 1997 Penang International Teaching Course in Gastroenterology. Links between the British Isles, Malaysia in general and Penang in particular are strong and many distinguished members of the Organising Committee have worked in Britain and Ireland, over the years. In turn, those members of the British Society of Gastroenterology who have been invited to join the Faculty of this postgraduate course, are privileged to visit Penang and to consolidate links between East and West. We, your guests, look forward to learning from you and to exchanging ideas and information at what we hope will become a regular feature in the International world of Gastroenterology.

R. HERMON DOWLING

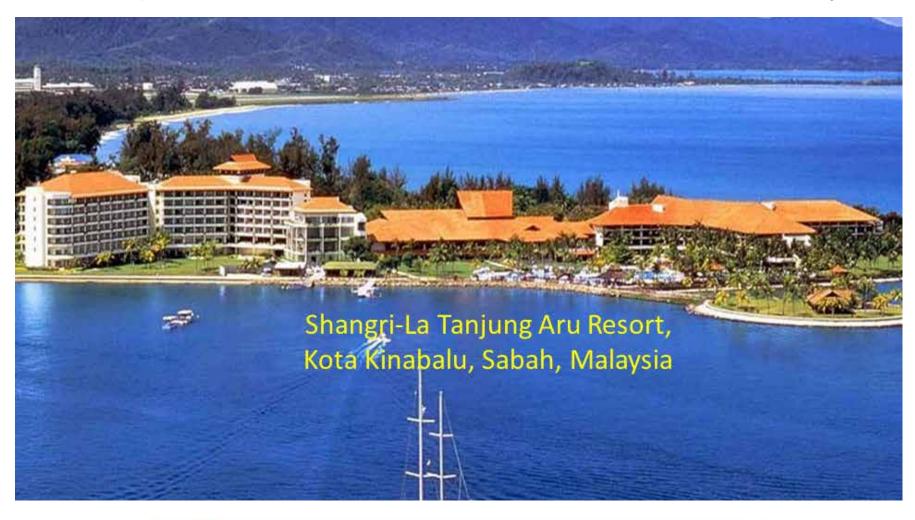
President,

British Society of Gastroenterology 1996/97

### THE 2ND WESTERN PACIFIC HELICOBACTER CONGRESS

KOTA KINABALU, SABAH 25th - 27th JUNE 1998

by KL GOH





### THE SECOND WESTERN PACIFIC HELICOBACTER CONGRESS

KOTA KINABALU, SABAH, MALAYSIA

JUNE 25-27, 1998

#### ORGANISING COMMITTEE

KL GOH A CHUA P KANDASAMI S MAHENDRA RAJ ST KEW N PARASAKTHI (CHAIRMAN) (SECRETARY) (TREASURER) (SCIENTIFIC CHAIRMAN) (BUSINESS MANAGER) (PUBLICATIONS)

JAYARAM MENON N RAJKUMAR J CHENG MAZLAM ZAWAWI YM KONG (SOCIAL & PROTOCOL) (SOCIAL & PROTOCOL) (CONGRESS FACILITIES) (SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE) (EXECUTIVE SECRETARY) SECRETARIAT
THE SECOND WESTERN PACIFIC
HELICOBACTER CONGRESS
19 Jalan Folly Barat, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 603-2530100, 603-2530200 Fax: 603-2530900
email: acadmod @ pojaring.my

http://www.rqnet.com.my/acadmed

In 1996, Professors Stuart Hazell and Hazel Mitchell from the University of New South Wales (UNSW) Sydney, Australia initiated the Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress in Guangzhou, China.

Stuart and Hazel had been actively conducting research on Helicobacter pylori in Southern China at that time with Professor PJ Hu and Dr YY Li. In my research work with H. pylori, I had become acquainted with Stuart and Hazel who were both microbiologists at the UNSW and were already well known for their publications in the field.

In December 1996, Start and Hazel wrote to me about the organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress for 1998. I was then the President of the MSGH. In March 1997, the Executive Committee of the MSGH made the decision to host and organize this important meeting. In May 1997, I had gone over to Kota Kinabalu, Sabah to give some lectures at the invitation of my good friend, Dr Jayaram Menon, who was the gastroenterologist in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kota Kinabalu. In our informal chatting, we felt it would be a good idea to organize a big scientific meeting in Kota Kinabalu. I was impressed by the beautiful ambience and facilities of the Shangri-La Tanjung Aru Resort in Kota Kinabalu.

The MSGH Executive Committee met on 5<sup>th</sup> March 1997 and agreed to organize the meeting. I was appointed as Organising Chairman with Dr S Mahendra Raj as Scientific Chairman and Drs Jayaram Menon and John Cheng in charge of local organization and facilities. Organization of this meeting came fresh on the heels of "The Stomach '96" and the Penang International Teaching Course in 1997 and we were all quite enthusiastic at "having a second bite of the cherry" in organising international scientific meetings.

The Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress proved to be a huge success. But three months before the meeting, Sabah was enveloped by a dense smog from forest fires. It was a big hiccup and the Organising Committee was on "tenterhooks". We had to look for possible alternate sites and Ms Kong and I made visit to Langkawi, to see if there were any suitable alternate site for the meeting. All's well that ends well.

The smog cleared and we had an excellent top class meeting in the most beautiful congress venue in the world!!

#### THE SECOND WESTERN PACIFIC HELICOBACTER CONGRESS KOTA KINABALU, SABAH, MALAYSIA

25th - 27th June 1998



(L to R): SK Lam, S Hazell, M Varocha, H Mitchell, KL Goh P Kandasami, GNJ Tytgat. Second Row (L to R): Mahendra Raj, J Menon, N Parasakthi, ST Kew, KE McColl, P Malfertheiner.

(L to R): YY Li, JJY Sung, DY Graham, R Tandon, D Forman, P Sipponnen Fourth Row (L to R): KG Yeoh, SD Xiao, PJ Hu, A Lee, RH Hunt, J Kolars, M Asaka.

(L to R): A Chua, YM Kong, SS Tan, J Cheng.

The meeting had a three-day programme with more than 20 international speakers (Figure 1). We managed to invite all the key opinion leaders in the field of H. pylori at that time and were treated to excellent "state-of-the-art" lectures and symposia. More than 600 delegates attended the meeting from across the world - Europe, North America and even Africa. We were delighted with the overwhelming response. Our delegates enjoyed themselves very much as well as the impeccable local hospitality organised so tirelessly by Jayaram Menon and John Cheng. We received almost 200 abstracts for the

meeting which were published in a supplement of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. Pharmaceutical support was very strong for the meeting and we had participation from Astra, BYK-Gulden, Takeda Chemical Company, Glaxo Smith Kline and many others.

The Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology also decided to hold their annual Editors meeting during the period of the congress with Professor Kunio Okuda, Editor-in Chief, taking a day off after the meeting to go fishing as well. Those were indeed heady days for us! But more importantly, we learnt a lot about organising international meetings.

Ms Molly YM Kong had by then joined us full time as executive secretary of the MSGH; a position she holds up to this day. Her ever so pleasant demeanour, unflappable personality and experience proved to be such an asset to the organization of the meeting as it continues to be so up to this day.

#### List of invited International Speakers:

Adrian Lee	Sydney, Australia
Stuart Hazell	Sydney, Australia
Hazel Mitchell	Sydney, Australia
John Lambert	Melbourne, Australia
Douglas Berg	Missouri, USA
David Graham	Houston, USA
Guido NJ Tytgat	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Penti Sipponnen	Helsinki, Finland
Peter Malferthenier	Magdeburg, Germany
Joseph Sung	Hong Kong, China
SK Lam	Hong Kong, China
Sydney CS Chung	Hong Kong, China
Masahiro Asaka	Sapporo, Japan
David Forman	Leeds, United Kingdom
Kenneth McColl	Glasgow, United Kingdom
Shu-Dong Xiao	Shanghai, China
Richand H Hunt	Hamilton, Canada

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES



DR STUART HAZELL

SENIOR LECTURER School of Microbiology and Immunology

Dear Dr/Prof Goh, We are writing to you in regards to the organisation of The Second Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress. As you are aware, The First Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress was an outstanding success, both from the perspective of the science presented and the attendance. Although there are now numerous meetings in the region where gastroenterologists can present new data regarding Helicobacter pylori infection, there is a need for us to foster international collaboration and bring together research workers of different disciplines. It is our intention that the biennial Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress will become a focal point for the presentation of state of the art Helicobacter research from both scientists and clinicians within the region, as well as a forum for the development

Over the last few months we have been holding discussions with the principal sponsor of the first congress, Astra Pharmaceutical, regarding support for a second meeting in 1998. We have obtained from Astra in principal support for a second congress. Including yourself, individuals or organisations from four countries have expressed interest in playing host to The Second Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress.

of specific recommendations regarding the management of Helicobacter pylori associated disease in

Our task is to select the place and an appropriate time for the next congress. In this regard we would like to obtain written confirmation that you remain willing and able to fulfil the role of the primary host for The Second Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress. This will require of you and your organisation willingness to undertake the following tasks:

- Assemble an organising committee willing to take major responsibility for the planning and organisation of the meeting.
- Book and organise an appropriate quality venue that can cater for 800 to 1000 people. Organise a range of differently priced accommodation for delegates.
- Organise appropriate social programs for the congress.
- Organise local post-congress tours for delegates.
- Assist in the publication of the congress.
- Assist in the organisation of the Scientific program. Receive and collate abstracts for publication.
- Assist in the planning of the scientific program.
- Assist in the selection of invited speakers.
- Assist in the organisation of sponsorship for the meeting

Following written confirmation of your willingness to act as host for the congress, we will consult with a number of colleagues and organisations in the region and reach a decision as to which country will act as host for The Second Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress. We undertake to advise you no later than February if you have been selected to host The Second Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress. Once this decision has been formally reached we will then undertake advance planning for the congress with the successful country. We look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Please advise your response by facsimile if possible.

Yours sincerely

Stuart L Hazell

13th December, 1996

University of Malaya 59100 Kuala Lumpur

ine western Pacific.

Dr Khean Goh Dept of Medicine

Malaysia

Hazel M Mitchell

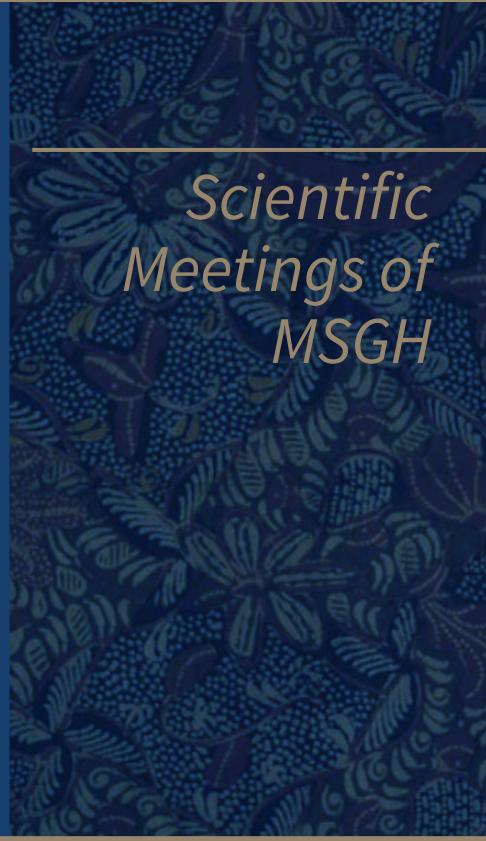
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Hayery Mithell

Note new facsimile number: +61 2 9385 1591







### ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS OF THE MSGH - GUT



MSGH President Robert Ding with organising committee and Faculty. MSGH Orator- SK Lam (Hong Kong, China) and Mohd Ismail Merican (Panir Chelvam Lecturer)

Following the establishment of the MSGH, we started to expand the scope and quality of our annual scientific meetings which were held yearly together with our annual general meetings. In 1996 the annual scientific meeting was incorporated into The Stomach '96 meeting. In 1997, the annual scientific meeting was held in Penang in collaboration with the British Society of Gastroenterology and the Penang Medical Practitioners Society. It was called the Penang International Teaching Course (PITC) and was held at the Island Hospital and the Rasa Sayang Hotel. In 1998, the annual scientific meeting was incorporated into the last day of the Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress.

The successes of The Stomach 96, the PITC and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress gave us the impetus to embark on organising larger annual scientific meetings with a sizeable international faculty. In 1999, we organized our annual scientific meeting in Awana Kijal, Trengganu and called the meeting Gastroenterology 1999.



Barry Marshall - Nobel Laureate for Medicine or Physiology 2005 at GUT 2002. (MSGH Orator 2002)



# Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Orations

NO	YEAR	ТОРІС	ORATOR
1st	2001	Gastroenterology in Malaysia	P Kandasami   Malaysia
2nd	2002	Helicobacter pylon: How it all came about and where do we go from here?	Barry J Marshall   Perth, Australia
3rd	2003	Future Developments in Gastroenterology	Guido J Tytgat   Amsterdam, The Netherlands
4th	2004	Pathogenesis of Gastric Cancer - A Unifying Concept	Lam Shiu-Kum   Hong Kong, China
5th	2005	GI Cancer - The Global Burden in the New Millennium	Meinhard Classen   Munich, Germany
6th	2006	Multi-Disciplinary Treatment in Esophageal Cancer: The Price of Failure	John Wong   Hong Kong, China
7th	2007	New Optical Technologies for Early Detection of Dyslasia	Norman Marcon   Toronto, Canada
8th	2008	Ulcer Bleeding: What you really want to know	Sydney Chung   Hong Kong, China
9th	2009	Battling the Bulge in Asia - Implication for Gastroenterologists	Geoffrey Farrel   Canberra, Australia
10th	2010	New Insight into Aetiopathogenesis Cancer in the 21st Century	Nicholas J Talley   Newcastle, Australia
11th	2011	Colorectal Cancer - The Emerging Cancer in the 21st Century	Colm O'Moran   Dublin, Ireland
12th	2012	Minimally Invasive Therapy in Gastroenterology. Where have we been? Where are we now? Where are we going?	Richard Kozarek   Seattle, USA
13th	2013	Asia at the Crossroads - Changing Patterns and Emerging Diseases	KL Goh   Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
14th	2014	Insights into Optimal Management of End Stage Liver Disease - A Continuing Challenge	Patrick Karnath   Rochester, USA
15th	2015	Helicobacter pylori and Gastric Cancer - A Balanced View	Kentaro Sugano   Tokyo, Japan
16th	2016	H.pylori and the Pathophysiology of Gastroduodenal and Oesophageal Disease	Kenneth McColl   Glasgow, Scotland
17th	2017	Population Screening and H.pylori Eradication to Reduce the Incidence of Gastric Cancer	Paul Moayyedi   Ontario, Canada
18th	2018	Hepatitis E in Asia	Rakesh Aggarwal   Lucknow, India



### Panir Chelvam Memorial Lectures

NO	YEAR	TOPIC	ORATOR
1st	2004	Treatment of Chronic Viral Hepatitis in the Asia Pacific Region: Realities and Practical	Mohd Ismail Merican   Malaysia
2nd	2005	Diagnosis and Management of Pancreatic Cancer	Peter Malfertheiner   Magdeburg, Germany
3rd	2006	Gl Endoscopy in India - Development and Lessons for the Future	Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India
4th	2007	Evidence Based Medicine in the Real World	Richard Hunt   Hamilton, Canada
5th	2008	Plausible Solutions for Impossible Problems	Pali Hungin   Durham, UK
6th	2009	Lover Gl Bleeding - Epidemiology and Management	Fock Kwong-Ming   Singapore
7th	2010	The Future Role of the Gastroenterologist in Digestive Oncology	Joseph JY Sung   Hong Kong, China
8th	2011	East-West Difference in Upper Gastrointestinal Disease	JY Kang   London, UK
9th	2012	Role of Chronic Inflammation in Gl Cancer	Emad El-Omar   Aberdeen, UK
10th	2013	Achieving the Balance between Drug Therapy and Surgery in Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Michael Kamm   Melbourne, Australia
11th	2014	Progress with Acute Pancreatitis - Millstones and Milestones	John Windsor   Auckland, New Zealand
12th	2015	Non-Cirrhotic Portal Hypertension	Yogesh Chawla   Jabalpur, India
13th	2016	Colorectal Surgery - Less Invasive, More Effective?	John Monson   Florida, USA
14th	2017	Latest Progress in Endoscopic Robot	Lawrence KY Ho   Singapore
15th	2018	My Journey in FODMAPs	Peter Gibson   Melbourne, Australia
16th	2019	Current and Future Directions in Hepatitis B Management	Anna Lok Suk Fong   Michigan, USA

#### ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE MSGH - GUT



MSGH President-Ramesh Gurunathan with organising committee and Faculty - MSGH Orator 2012- Richard Kozarek (Seattle, USA) (WGO President 2011-2013), seated far right.

From 2000, the MSGH Committee decided to call our Annual Scientific Meeting as "GUT". We continued to invite many international speakers and in 2001, we started our MSGH Oration. In 2004, Dr Panir Chelvam met an untimely demise following our Endoscopy workshop dinner on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2004. From GUT 2004 onwards, the Society decided to create an eponymous lecture in his memory - The Panir Chelvam Memorial lecture.

The meetings have grown from strength to strength and have been held in many different cities in both West and East Malaysia. From 1999 until 2010, Professor KL Goh was given the responsibility of being Scientifc Chairman and to organize the scientifc programme. With his international linkages he has managed to invite each successive year, a whole group of international speakers

who had continuously enriched our GUT meetings. From 2010 onwards, Dato' Dr Tan Huck Joo took over the responsibility and was the Scientific Chairman until 2017 when the chairmanship was rotated to Professor Y Y Lee. (Table 1 List of GUT meetings with faculty and Invited faculty). Our scientific chairpersons have worked tirelessly with great thought and planning to ensure a successful meeting every year for the past 25 years and have carried out a truly admirable job.

Editor's footnote: The GUT meetings have been highly successful and over the years have attracted many delegates. We have been honoured by the participation of numerous world renowned icons in the field of gastroenterology, liver disease, endoscopy and surgery

#### Table 1

### Annual Scientific Meetings – GUT Overseas Invited Faculty

#### THE STOMACH '96

(held in conjunction with MSGH Annual Scientific Meeting) (Co-organised with the College of Surgeons)

#### 3rd - 6th July 1996, Kuala Lumpur

Stephen G Bown **United Kingdom** Adrian Lee Australia Sydney C S Chung Hong Kong, China Rov E Pounder **United Kingdom** Teruyuki Hirota Japan Robert H Riddell Canada **United Kingdom** Richard H Hunt Canada Henry M Sue-Ling **David Johnston United Kingdom** Nicholas J Talley Australia The Netherlands Kang Jin-Yong **United Kingdom** Guido N J Tytgat Cornelis J H Van De Velde Lam Shiu-Kum Hong Kong, China The Netherlands

#### PENANG INTERNATIONAL TEACHING COURSE IN GASTROENTEROLOGY

(held in conjunction with MSGH Annual Scientific Meeting)

(Co-organised with the Penang Medical Practitioners' Society with the participation of the British Society of Gastroenterology)

#### 23rd - 26th July 1997, Penang

**Anthony Axon United Kingdom** Michael Larvin **United Kingdom** Christopher Liddle John Dent Australia Australia R Hermon Dowling **United Kingdom** Lim Seng-Gee Singapore **Greg Holdstock United Kingdom** J J Misiewicz **United Kingdom** The Netherlands **Kees Huibregtse** James Neuberger **United Kingdom** Ireland P W N Keeling **Thierry Poynard** France Dermot Kelleher Jonathan Rhodes **United Kingdom** Ireland Fumio Konishi Nib Soehendra Germany Japan John Lambert Australia

#### THE 2ND WESTERN PACIFIC HELICOBACTER CONGRESS

(held in conjunction with MSGH Annual Scientific Meeting)

#### 25th - 27th July 1998, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Masahiro Asaka Japan Peter Malfertheiner Germany USA Douglas E Berg Kenneth E L McColl Scotland Fock Kwong-Ming Singapore Hazel M Mitchell Australia **David Forman United Kingdom** Pentti Sipponen Finland David Y Graham USA Joseph J Y Sung Hong Kong, China Stuart L Hazell Australia **Rakesh Tandon** India **Richard Hunt** Canada Guido N J Tytgat The Netherlands Lam Shiu-Kum Hong Kong, China Xiao Shu-Dong China

Adrian Lee

Australia

#### **GASTROENTEROLOGY 1999**

23rd - 25th July 1999, Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

Francis K L Chan	Hong Kong, China	Peter Malfertheiner	Germany
Sydney S C Chung	Hong Kong, China	Colm O'Morain	Ireland
John Dent	Australia	Quak Seng-Hock	Singapore
Rikiya Fujita	Japan	Nicholas J Talley	Australia
Mohammed Al Karawi	Saudi Arabia	Neville D Yeomans	Australia
Mohammad Sultan Khuroo	Saudi Arabia		

#### **GUT 2000**

24th - 26th August 2000, Melaka

Anthony Axon	United Kingdom	David Mutimer	<b>United Kingdom</b>
Geoffrey C Farrell	Australia	Ng Han-Seong	Singapore
Vay Liang W Go	USA	Thierry Poynard	France
Humphrey J F Hodgson	United Kingdom	Francis Seow-Choen	Singapore
Peter Katelaris	Australia	Jose D Sollano	Philippines
Lim Seng-Gee	Singapore	Guido N J Tytgat	The Netherlands
Anthony I Morris	United Kingdom	Michael Wolfe	USA

#### **GASTRO 2001**

(With the participation of the American Gastroenterological Association) **5th - 8th April 2001, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah** 

Aziz Rani	Indonesia	Pinit Kullavanijaya	Thailand
Chung Owyang	USA	Lam Shiu-Kum	Hong Kong, China
Sydney S C Chung	Hong Kong, China	Peter Malfertheiner	Germany
Andrew Clouston	Australia	James M Scheiman	USA
John Dent	Australia	Mahesh P Sharma	India
Fock Kwong-Ming	Singapore	Gurkirpal Singh	USA
Robert N Gibson	Australia	Jose D Sollano	Philippines
Richard Hunt	Canada	J L Sweeney	Australia
Y K Joshi	India	Rakesh Tandon	India
Joseph Kolars	USA	Benjamin C Y Wong	Hong Kong, China
Koo Wen-Hsin	Singapore	Xiao Shu-Dong	China
Edward Krawitt	USA		

#### **GUT 2002**

**27th - 30th June 2002, Penang** 

Chow Wan-Cheng	Singapore	Tore Lind	Sweden
Anuchit Chutaputti	Thailand	Barry James Marshall	Australia
David Forman	United Kingdom	Ng Han-Seong	Singapore
Lawrence Ho Khek-Yu	Singapore	C S Pitchumoni	USA
Peter Katelaris	Australia	Herbert J Tilg	Austria
James Y W Lau	Hong Kong, China	John Wong	Hong Kong, China

#### **GUT 2003**

#### 28th - 31st August 2003, Kuching, Sarawak

Francis K L Chan	Hong Kong, China	Teerha Piratvisuth	Thailand
Chang Mei-Hwei	Taiwan	Roy Pounder	United Kingdom
W G E Cooksley	Australia	Eamonn M M Quigley	Ireland
Gwee Kok-Ann	Singapore	Jose D Sollano	Philippines
Humphrey J O'Connor	Ireland	Joseph Sung	Hong Kong, China
Colm O'Morain	Ireland	Yeoh Khay-Guan	Singapore

#### **GUT 2004**

#### 24th - 27th June 2004, Penang

Sydney C S Chung	Hong Kong, China	Peter W R Lee	United Kingdom
Geoffrey C Farrell	Australia	Masao Omata	Japan
Ronnie Fass	USA	Teerha Piratvisuth	Thailand
David Fleischer	USA	Mario Rizzetto	Italy
Fock Kwong-Ming	Singapore	Russell W Strong	Australia
Huang Jia-Qing	China	Benjamin C Y Wong	Hong Kong, China
Lam Shiu-Kum	Hong Kong, China		

#### **GUT 2005**

#### 23rd - 25th June 2005, Pulau Langkawi, Kedah

Raymond Chan Tsz-Tong	Hong Kong, China	Peter Malfertheiner	Germany
Meinhard Classen	Germany	Kenneth McColl	Ireland
Anthony Goh	Singapore	Graeme Young	Australia
Gerald Johannes Holtmann	Australia	Yuen Man-Fung	Hong Kong, China

#### **GUT 2006**

#### 20th - 23rd June 2006, Kuala Lumpur

Peter Gibson	Australia	Ng Han-Seong	Singapore
Lawrence Ho Khek-Yu	Singapore	Ooi Choon-Jin	Singapore
Gerald Johannes Holtmann	Germany	Fred Poordad	USA
Lim Seng-Gee	Singapore	Francis Seow-Choen	Singapore
Irvin Modlin	USA	Nimish Vakil	USA
Anthony Morris	United Kingdom	John Wong	Hong Kong, China
Nageshwar Reddy	India		

#### **GUT 2007**

#### 29th August - 1st September 2007, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Ronnie Fass	USA	Charlie Millson	England
Marc Giovannini	France	G V Rao	India
Robert Hawes	USA	Marcelo Silva	Argentina
Richard Hunt	Canada	Nib Soehendra	Germany
Finlay Macrae	Australia	Daniel Wong	Singapore
Norman Marcon	USA	Hironori Yamamoto	Japan
Amit Maydeo	India	Yeoh Khay-Guan	Singapore

#### **GUT 2008**

#### 21st - 24th August 2008, Kuala Lumpur

Anuchit Chutaputti	Thailand	Lui Hock-Foong	Singapore
Peter Bytzer	Sweden	Govind K Makharia	India
Henry Chan Lik-Yuen	Hong Kong, China	Prateek Sharma	USA
Sydney C S Chung	Hong Kong, China	Rajvinder Singh	Australia
David Y Graham	USA	Mitchell Shiffman	USA
Lawrence Ho Khek-Yu	Singapore	Sundeep Punamiya	Singapore
Pali Hungin	United Kingdom	Jose D Sollano Jr	Philippines
Rupert Leong	Australia	Joseph aJY Sung	Hong Kong, China
Davide Lomanto	Singapore	Yeoh Khay-Guan	Singapore

#### **GUT 2009**

#### 14th - 16th August 2009, Pulau Langkawi, Kedah

Geoffrey Farrell	Australia	Irvin Modlin	USA
Fock Kwong-Ming	Singapore	Fabio Pace	Italy
Peter R Galle	Germany	Rungsun Rerknimitr	Thailand
Christopher Khor	Singapore	Joseph JY Sung	Hong Kong, China
George K K Lau	Hong Kong, China	Daniel Wong Wai-Yan	<b>United Kingdom</b>
Lim Seng-Gee	Singapore	Yeoh Khay-Guan	Singapore
Lo Chung-Mau	Hong Kong, China		

#### **APDW 2010**

(Incorporating GUT 2010 & Endoscopy 2010)

#### 19th - 22nd September 2010, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur

Subrat Kumar Acharya Deepak Amarapurkar Ang Tiing-Leong	India India Singapore	Yang Chen Chen Min-Hu Philip Chiu	USA China Hong Kong, China
John Atherton Anthony Axon	United Kingdom United Kingdom	Pierce Chow Chow Wan-Cheng	Singapore Singapore
Deepak Bhasin	India	Sylvia Crutchet	Chile
Henry J Binder	USA	Christophe DuPont	France
Mary Bong	Australia	Anders Ekbom	Sweden
Michael Bourke	Australia	Geoffrey Farrell	Australia
Marco Bruno	The Netherlands	Ronnie Fass	USA
David Carr-Locke	USA	Fock Kwong-Ming	Singapore
Ashok Chacko	India	Ruggiero Francavilla	Italy
Henry Chan Lik-Yuen	Hong Kong, China	Mitsuhiro Fujishiro	Japan
Francis Chan Ka-Leung	Hong Kong, China	Peter Galle	Germany
Adarsh Chaudhary	India	Edward Gane	New Zealand
Yogesh Chawla	India	Uday Ghoshal	India

Peter Gibson Australia Marc Giovannini France Takuji Gotoda Japan Gwee Kok-Ann Singapore **Robert Heading United Kingdom** Janaki Hewavisenthi Sri Lanka Lawrence Ho Khek-Yu Singapore Bing Hu China Pali Hungin **United Kingdom** 

Richard Hunt

Richard Hunt

Canada

Hiroyuki Isayama

Takao Itoi

Derek Jewell

Jia Ji-Dong

China

**Utom Kachintorn Thailand** Hiroshi Kashida Japan **Peter Katelaris** Australia Takashi Kawai Japan J Enrique Dominguez-Muñoz Spain **Greg Dore** Australia Singapore **Christopher Khor Nayoung Kim** Korea Seigo Kitano Japan Sriram Krishnan USA Shin-ei Kudo Japan

Ashish Kumar India
George Lau Hong Kong, China
James Lau Yun-Wong Hong Kong, China

Rupert Leong Australia
Leung Wai-Keung Hong Kong, China
Lim Seng-Gee Singapore
Lin Jaw-Town Taiwan
Liu Chen-Hua Taiwan

Lo Chung-Mau Hong Kong, China Lo Gin-Ho Taiwan

Anna Lok Suk-Fong USA

Kaushal Madan India
Varocha Mahachai Thailand
Govind Makharia India
Peter Malfertheiner Germany
Takahisa Matsuda Japan
Amit Maydeo India

Kenneth McColl United Kingdom

Canada Paul Moayyedi Irvin Modlin USA Moon Jong-Ho Korea Ibrahim Mostafa Egypt **Horst Neuhaus** Germany Masao Omata Japan **Philippines Evan Ong** Ooi Choon-Jin Singapore Park Hyo-Jin Korea Teerha Piratvisuth **Thailand** 

Ronnie Poon Hong Kong, China Sundeep Punnamiya Singapore Qian Jia-Ming China

Joseph JY Sung Hong Kong, China Daniel Wong Wai-Yan **United Kingdom** Yeoh Khay-Guan Singapore Ireland **Eamonn Quigley** Australia Shanmugarajah Rajendra Gurudu Venkat Rao India India Nageshwar Reddy Rungsun Rerknimitr **Thailand** Jean Francois Rey France Shomei Ryozawa Japan Yutaka Saito Japan **Shiv Sarin** India Wolff Schmiegel Germany Juergen Schoelmerich Germany

#### **GUT 2011**

#### 27th - 29th May 2011, Kuala Lumpur

Chan See-Ching	Hong Kong, China	George K K Lau	Hong Kong, China
Philip Chiu Wai-Yan	Hong Kong, China	Hiroto Miwa	Japan
Kang Jin-Yong	United Kingdom	Sybille Mazurek	Germany
Kao Jia-Horng	Taiwan	Colm O'Morain	Ireland
Ling Khoon-Lin	Singapore	Ooi Choon-Jin	Singapore
Luigi Bolondi	Italy	See Teik-Choon	United Kingdom
Lui Hock-Foong	Singapore	Yeoh Khay-Guan	Singapore

#### **GUT 2012**

#### 29th June - 1st July 2012, Melaka

Henry Chan Lik-Yuen	Hong Kong, China	D Nageshwar Reddy	India
Emad El-Omar	USA	Jinsil Seong	Japan
Han Kwang-Hyub	Korea	Morris Sherman	Canada
Lawrence Ho Khek-Yu	Singapore	Shaw Somers	United Kingdom
Richard Kozarek	USA	Jose Decena Sollano	Philippines
James Y W Lau	Hong Kong, China	Jan Tack	Belgium
Francesco Marotta	Italy	Wong Ka-Tak	Hong Kong, China
Ravi Mohanka	India		

#### **GUT 2013**

#### 23rd - 25th August 2013, Penang

Alan Barkun	Canada	Ng Siew-Chien	Hong Kong, China
Francis Chan	Hong Kong, China	David Peura	USA
Chien Rong-Nan	Taiwan	Bjorn Rembacken	United Kingdom
Pierce Chow	Singapore	Takeshi Sano	Japan
Michael A Kamm	Australia	Francis Seow-Choen	Singapore
David Kwon	Korea	Vijay Shah	USA
Kenneth EL McColl	United Kingdom	Justin Wu Che-Yuen	Hong Kong, China

#### **GUT 2014 & ECCO EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP**

#### 22nd - 24th August 2014, Kuala Lumpur

Adarsh Chaudhary	India	Jong-Ho Moon	Korea
Janaka De Silva	Sri Lanka	Nam Quoc Nguyen	Australia
Laurence Egan	Ireland	Nimish Vakil	USA
Alexander Ford	United Kingdom	Stephan Vavricka	Switzerland
Patrick Kamath	USA	John A Windsor	New Zealand
Nancy Leung	Hong Kong	Grace Wong Lai Hung	Hong Kong, China
Michael Manns	Germany		

#### **GUT 2015**

#### 21st - 23rd August 2015, Johor Bahru, Johor

Francis Chan Ka-Leung	Hong Kong, China	K K Madhavan	Singapore
Yogesh Chawla	India	Rajender Reddy	USA
Uday Ghoshal	India	Rajesh Sainani	India
Ujjala Ghoshal	India	Teik-Choon See	United Kingdom
Lawrence Ho Khek-Yu	Singapore	Kentaro Sugano	Japan
Leung Wai Keung	Hong Kong, China	Simon Travis	United Kingdom
Lim Jit Fong	Singapore	Yeoh Khay Guan	Singapore
Lim Seng-Gee	Singapore		

#### **GUT 2016**

#### 22nd - 24th July 2016, Kuala Lumpur

Anil Arora	India	G V Rao	<b>United Kingdom</b>
Ashley Brown	United Kingdom	John Monson	USA
Oksana M Drapkina	Russia	Ng Siew Chien	Hong Kong, China
James Fung Yan Yue	Hong Kong, China	London Lucien Ooi Peng-Jin	Singapore
Huang Yi-Hsiang	Taiwan	Sombat Treeprasertsuk	Thailand
Peter Katelaris	Australia	Vincent Wong Wai Sun	Hong Kong, China
Lai Ching-Lung	Hong Kong, China	Justin Wu Che Yuan	Hong Kong, China
Charlie Millson	Canada		

#### **GUT 2017**

#### 11th - 13th August 2018, Penang

Roger Barton	Australia	Govind K Makharia	India
Ajay Duseja	India	Paul Moayyedi	Canada
Lawrence Ho Khek Yu	Singapore	Simon Ng	Hong Kong, China
George Hopkins	Australia	Ooi Choon-Jin	Singapore
Rupert Leong	Australia	Gerhard Rogler	Switzerland
Leung Wai Keung	Hong Kong, China	Samir Shah	India
Lim Seng-Gee	Singapore	Reuben Wong	Singapore

#### **GUT 2018**

#### 15th - 17th July 2018, Penang

India	Gwee Kok Ann	Singapore
Hong Kong	Jia Jidong	China
Singapore	Alfred Kow Wei Chieh	Singapore
Singapore	Rupert Leong	Australia
USA	Ooi Choon Jin	Singapore
Hong Kong	Keijiro Sunada	Japan
Australia	Hidekazu Suzuki	Japan
	Hong Kong Singapore Singapore USA Hong Kong	Hong Kong Singapore Singapore Singapore USA Hong Kong Singapore Rupert Leong Ooi Choon Jin Keijiro Sunada

#### **GUT 2019**

#### 16th - 18th August 2018, Kuala Lumpur

Ajay Kumar Duseja	India	Nilay Mehta	India
Shin Fukudo	Japan	Akihito Nagahara	Japan
Sundeep Lakhtakia	India	Park Hyojin	South Korea
Lee Yuan Kun	Singapore	Tan Kok Yang	Singapore
Jaw-Town Lin	Taiwan	Simon Travis	<b>United Kingdom</b>
Ling Khoon Lin	Singapore	Grace Wong Lai Hung	Hong Kong, China
Anna Lok Suk Fong	USA		

## MSGH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL THERAPEUTIC LIVE ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOPS

by KL GOH

### Excerpted from the Centre of Excellence Magazine - University of Malaya Medical Centre

https://www.umendoscopy.wordpress.com

### ENDOSCOPY - Annual International Therapeutic Endoscopy Workshop @ UMMC

Therapeutic endoscopy developed rapidly at the turn of the 1980s. Basic endoscopy procedures were by then well established and ERCPs were considered the pinnacle of therapeutic endoscopic procedures. What started to be in vogue then were endoscopy workshops where live procedures were performed and transmitted to a lecture hall.

Live endoscopy workshops were highly sought after at that time but there were not many centres in the world which could organise such workshops. The University of Malaya in collaboration with the MSGH organised a whole series of workshops starting in 1993.

Together with Dr Damian Wong, I had organised our first live workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1993. It was a one-day workshop and was run by Professor Kees Huibregtse from Amsterdam. Procedures were

carried out from the fluoroscopy room on the second floor of Menara Utama and transmitted by CCTV cables to the new lecture hall of the Primary Care Unit. We had 120 participants including nurses and it was a most absorbing workshop as live workshops were a novelty at that time.

We organised several other live workshops in the subsequent years. In 1999, at the new Endoscopy Unit in Menara Timur, we organised our first live workshop for nurses only. From the year 2000, on the insistence of Dr Mazlam Zawawi who was the then President of the MSGH, we started to organise annual endoscopy workshops at the University of Malaya Medical Centre and called it ENDOSCOPY Annual Live International Therapeutic Endoscopy Workshop.

At the same time we begun to hold the series of Distinguished Lectures to honor outstanding leading



Anthony Axon (Leeds, UK), President WEO and ENDOSCOPY 2006 Distinguished Lecturer



GIAs at work ENDOSCOPY 2004

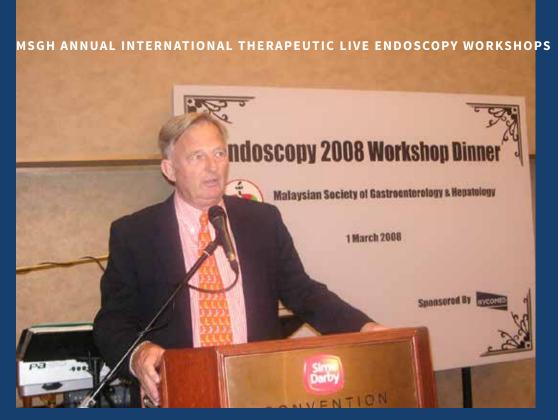
endoscopists in the world.

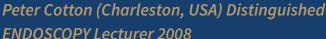
From 1999 to 2002, the live demonstrations were transmitted by CCTV lines to the Lecture Hall at the 5th Floor of Menara Timur. From 2003, live procedures were transmitted from the Endoscopy Unit in Menara Timur over a long distance to Dewan Jermerlang and Bidar at the Faculty of Medicine. This was our "home" until 2013 when we commenced to use the auditorium at Menara Selatan. In February 2014, the Endoscopy Unit shifted to the 6th Floor of Menara Selatan where, through internet lines, we were able to now stream very high quality live endoscopy images.

With technological advances especially the introduction of live streaming via internet lines, live transmission of cases had become easier and of superior quality. At the same time, we had also

been able to transmit remotely through the APAN network to several overseas centres during the workshop from 2013 onwards. In the 2009 workshop, we received a whole afternoon of live transmission session on Natural Orifice Transendoscopic Surgery (NOTES) from the Asian Institute of Gastroenterology, Hyderabad, India performed by Drs Nageshwar Reddy and GV Rao. Telemedicine would take the forefront of transmission of live cases for workshops in the future.

In addition to the live demonstrations, a special video presentation session entitled "Endoscopy with the Champions" has been held since the 2008 workshop. In 2013, we inaugurated the first Young Consultants–GI Fellows Forum on Friday afternoon. The GI Assistants have had their independent workshop since 2000. In addition







Nageshwar Reddy (Hyderabad, India) Distinguished ENDOSCOPY Lecturer 2007. Live transmission from AIG, Hyderabad, India at ENDOSCOPY 2008

to lectures, the GIAs have hands-on sessions with new products and accessories with the biomedical companies. Special hands-on workshops have been organized for small groups of doctors postevent on the Sunday afternoon since 2005 and have covered basic techniques in colonoscopy, endoscopic ultrasonography (EUS), enhanced imaging, endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) and per oral endoscopic myotomy (POEM).

ENDOSCOPY has grown from strength to strength.

Over the years, we have been able to invite almost all the top endoscopists and teachers in endoscopy throughout the world. Our international faculty has included pioneer endoscopists and teachers par

excellence like Nib Soehendra (Hamburg, Germany), Kees Huibregtse (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Peter Cotton (South Carolina, USA), Christopher Williams (London, UK) and Jerome Waye (New York, USA). Through the years, we have been fortunate to have outstanding endoscopists who have accepted our invitation to be faculty - Nageshwar Reddy, Haru Inoue, Guido Costamagna, Jacques Deviere, Horst Neuhaus, to name a few. ENDOSCOPY - the annual international therapeutic live endoscopy workshops have truly been the pride of our activities here at the Endoscopy Unit of the UMMC as well as the MSGH and it is now a constant feature in our scientific calendar for the year.



Young Consultants and GI Fellows programme with Roy Soetikno and Chris Khor, ENDOSCOPY 2015



Gala Dinner with Faculty dancing, ENDOSCOPY 2014

Editor's footnote: Being a skilled endoscopist himself, particularly in ERCPs, Professor KL Goh has been instrumental in organising the highly successful Live Endoscopy Workshops at the University of Malaya Medical Centre from the early 1990s, which continues until the present time. He has managed over the years to invite all the top GI endoscopists - "legends" in their own right, from across the world to the workshops. He has also been invited on numerous occasions to perform in live endoscopy workshops in many places overseas including India, Hong Kong, China, Philippines, USA, Brazil, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. More than anyone else he has put Malaysia and the MSGH on the international roadmap for therapeutic endoscopy.



ENDOSCOPY 2008: Faculty Syed Shah (Leeds, UK), Peter Cotton (North Carolina, USA), Harjit Singh, Jayaram Menon and Andrew Chua



ENDOSCOPY 2013 Trade Exhibition, 13th Floor Menara Selatan with Guest of Honour- Professor Dato' Mohd Amin Jalaluddin, Vice Chancellor of University of Malaya and Professor Mustapha, Deputy Director University of Malaya Medical Centre



Special POEM hands-on workshop with Amit Maydeo (Mumbai, India), Endoscopy 2014. Sanjiv Mahadeva workshop co-ordinator



### ENDOSCOPY 2016





"Expanding the Horizons of Therapeutic Endoscopy"
80-10-April 2016



Kulwinder Dua (Milwaukee, USA) and Jerry Waye New York, USA). ENDOSCOPY 2009





Auditorium, University of Malaya Medical Centre, Menara Selatan, ENDOSCOPY 2014



Nageshwar Reddy (Hyderabad, India) and Brian Saunders (London, UK), ENDOSCOPY 2016



Our backroom boys and girls with Alex Leow, Endoscopy 2015

## DISTINGUISHED ENDOSCOPY LECTURERS

YEAR	TOPIC	LECTURER
1999	Biliary Stents - The Past and the Future	Kees Huibregtse   Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2000	The Future of Gl Endoscopy	Sydney CS Chung   Hong Kong, China
2001	Innovations in Gl Endoscopy	Nib Soehendra   Hamburg, Germany
2002	The Art of Colonoscopy	Christopher Williams   London, UK
2003	Advances in Endoscopic Imaging	Guido Costamagna   Rome, Italy
2004	Development and Application of Colonoscopy	Yoshihiro Sakai   Tokyo, Japan
2005	Endoscopic Management of Pancreatobiliary Diseases - State of the Art in 2005	Guido Costamagna   Rome, Italy
2006	Impact of New Technology in Gl Endoscopy	Anthony TR Axon   Leeds, UK
2007	Chronic pancreatitis - "Genes to Bed Side"	Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India
2008	Therapeutic Endoscopy - Then, Now and Maybe	Peter B Cotton   Charleston, USA
2009	Exploring the Limits of Endoscopy	Jerome D Waye   New York, USA
2010	Enhancing the Eye - The Future of Endoscopy	David L Carr-Locke   New York, USA
2011	Enhanced Imaging of the Gastrointestinal Tract	Hisao Tajiri   Tokyo, Japan
2012	The Current and Future Role of Endoscopic Ultrasonography in Gl Practice	Robert Hawes   Orlando, USA
2013	Viewing the Bile Duct - Recent Developments of Cholangioscopy	Horst Neuhaus   Dusseldorf, Germany
2014	Future Prospects for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy	Gregory Ginsberg   Philadeiphia, USA
2015	Diagnosis and Endoscopic Treatment of Barrett's Esophagus	Kenneth Wang   Rochester, USA
2016	Metabolic Endoscopy: Future Horizons in Therapeutic Endoscopy	Jacques Deviere   Brussels, Belgium
2017	Re-defining Therapeutic Endoscopy	Haruhiro Inoue   Tokyo, Japan
2018	Therapeutic Endoscopy - Building on Basics	Thierry Ponchon   Lyon, France
2019	The Role of EUS in the Screening and Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer	Mitsuhiro Kida   Tokyo, Japan

# Endoscopy Workshops and Courses organized by the University of Malaya/Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

TOPIC	FACULTY	DATE
Difficult ERCP- "The Master's Approach"	Kees Huibregtse   Amsterdam, The Netherlands	19 <sup>th</sup> August 1993
Endoscopic Ultrsonography	TL Tio   Washington, USA	26 <sup>th</sup> July 1994
ERCP- "Basic skills, finer points and new techniques"	Kees Huibregtse   Amsterdam, The Netherlands	25 <sup>th</sup> August 1994
Practical Points in Therapeutic Endoscopy	Nib Soehendra   Hamburg, Germany	6 <sup>th</sup> December 1994
Therapeutic Endoscopy Workshop	- Nib Soehendra   Hamburg, Germany	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 1997
	- Kees Huibregtse   Amsterdam, The Netherlands	
Gl Endoscopy Nurses Workshop- "Setting the Standards for Practice"	Staff members- Endoscopy Unit, University Hospital, Kuala Lumpur	30 <sup>th</sup> April - 2nd May 1999
Endoscopy 2000	- Sydney CS Chung   Hong Kong, China	13 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2000
	- Kenji Yasuda   Kyoto, Japan	
	- Wang Yong Guang   Beijing, China	
	- Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India	
	GIA Faculty:	
	- Dorothy Wong   Hong Kong, China	
Endoscopy 2001	- Nib Soehendra   Hamburg, Germany	14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> April 2001
'A Master class in Therapeutic Endoscopy"	GIA Faculty:	
, , , , ,	- Adriana Cargin   Melbourne, Australia	
Endoscopy 2002	- Christopher Williams   London, UK	5 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2002
"Enhancing Basic Skills and Developing Expertise"	- Naotaka Fujita   Sendai, Japan	
3	- Joseph Leung   Sacramento, USA	
	- Kees Huibregtse   Amsterdam, The Nertherlands	
	GIA Faculty:	
	- Diana Jones   Sydney, Australia	
Endoscopy 2003	- Douglas Howell   Portland, USA	28th February - 2nd March
"The Cutting Edge of Gl Endoscopy"	- Haruhiro Inoue   Tokyo, Japan	2003
catang rage of ot radecoup,	- Simon K Lo   Los Angeles, USA	
	- Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India	
Endoscopy 2004	- Firas Al Kawas   Washington, USA	5th - 7th March 2004
'Appreciating the Art of Gl Endoscopy"	- Yoshihiro Sakai   Toyko, Japan	
,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	- Stefan Seewald   Hamburg, Germany	
	- Joseph JY Sung   Hong Kong, China	

#### MSGH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL THERAPEUTIC LIVE ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOPS

ТОРІС	FACULTY	DATE	
Endoscopy 2005	- Guido Costamagna   Rome, Italy	1st-3rd April 2005	
"Defining the scope of excellence"	- CS Shim   Seoul, S. Korea		
3 ,	- K Yasuda   Kyoto, Japan		
	- B Rembacken   Leeds, UK		
Endoscopy 2006	- Antony Axon   Leeds, UK	14th - 16th April 2006	
"Frontiers of Therapeutic Endoscopy"	- James Lau   HK, China		
Trontiers of the apealle Endoscopy	- Seo-Dong Wan   Seoul, Korea		
	- Irving Waxman   Chicago, USA		
	- Naohisa Yahagi   Toyko, Japan		
adoscopy 2007 - Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, Inda		13th - 15th April 2007	
"The Best Endoscopic Practices"	- Reza Shaker   Milwaukee, USA		
The Best Endoscopic Fractices	- Yusuke Saitoh   Sapporo, Japan		
	- Stefan Seewald   Hamburg, Germany		
	- Si Young Song   Seoul, Korea		
	GIA Faculty		
	- Mary Bong   Sydney, Australia		
Endoscopy 2008	- Peter B Cotton   Charleston, USA	29th February - 2nd March	
	- Greg Ginsberg   Philadelphia, USA	2008	
"Seeing Better, Doing Better"	- H Isayama   Toyko, Japan		
	- S Ryozawa   Yamaguchi, Japan		
	- JS Byeon   Seoul, Korea		
	- Syed Shah   West Yorkshire, UK		
Endoscopy 2009	- Yong Chan Lee   Seoul, Korea	20th - 22nd March 2009	
"Exploring the Limits of Endoscopy"	- Jerome D Waye   New York, USA		
	- Kulwinder S Dua   Wiscousin, USA		
	- Ichiro Yasuda   Gifu, Japan		
	- Hirofumi Kawamoto   Okayama, Japan		
	- Amit Maydeo   Mumbai, India		
	- Yasushi Sano   Kobe, Japan		
Asian Pacific Digestive Week 2010 (incorporating	- Michael Bourke   Sydney, Australia	19th - 22nd September 2010	
live workshops from University of Malaya Medical Centre and Selayang Hospital)	- David Carr-Locke   New York, USA		
	- Yang K Chen   Denver, USA		
	- Mitsuhiro Fujishiro   Toyko, Japan		
	- Marc Giovanini   Marseilles, France		
	- Takuji Gotoda   Toyko, Japan		
	- James Lau   Hong Kong, China		
	- Amit Maydeo   Mumbai, India		

TOPIC	FACULTY	DATE
	- Ibrahim Mostafa   Cairo, Egypt - Horst Neuhaus   Düsseldorf, Germany - Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India - Rungsun Reknimitr   Bangkok,Thailand - Seo Dong Wan   Seoul, Korea - Naohisa Yahagi   Tokyo, Japan - Hironori Yamamoto   Tokyo, Japan - Kenjiro Yasuda   Kyoto, Japan	
Endoscopy 2011	- Han-Mo Chiu   Taipei, Taiwan	14th - 17th April 2011
What's New And What's Good For Our Patients	- Arthur Kaffes   Sydney, Australia - LawrenceKhek-Yu Ho   Singapore - Hiroo Imazu   Tokyo, Japan - Takao Itoi   Tokyo, Japan - Dong-Ki Lee   Seoul, Korea - Takahisa Matsuda   Tokyo, Japan - Jong-Ho Moon   Bucheon, Korea - Hisao Tajiri   Tokyo, Japan	
ENDOSCOPY 2012	- Robert Hawes   Orlando, USA	30th March - 1st April 2012
"Therapeutic Endoscopy In The Global World"	- Hiroshi Kashida   Osaka, Japan - Sang Hyub Lee   Seoul, Korea	
	<ul> <li>Claudio Navarette-Garcia   Santiago, Chile</li> <li>Paulo Sakai   Sao Paulo, Brazil</li> <li>Rajvinder Singh   Adelaide, Australia</li> <li>Hsiu-Po Wang   Taipei, Taiwan</li> <li>Kenshi Yao   Fukuoka, Japan</li> </ul>	
Endoscopy 2013	- Paulo Sakai   Sao Paulo, Brazil - Rajvinder Singh   Adelaide, Australia - Hsiu-Po Wang   Taipei, Taiwan	12th - 14th April 2013

TOPIC	FACULTY	DATE	
Endoscopy 2014	- Gregory Ginsberg   Philadelphia, USA	28th - 30th March 2014	
"The Best Tips in Therapeutic Endoscopy"	- Mitsuhiro Kida   Tokyo, Japan		
	- Yutaka Saito   Tokyo, Japan		
	- James Y N Lau   Hong Kong , China		
	- Michael Bourke   Sydney, Australia		
	GIA Faculty		
	- Mary Bong   Sydney, Australia		
Endoscopy 2015	- Kenneth Wang   Rochester, USA	17th - 19th April 2015	
"Maintaining Quality in Endoscopy Practice"	- Amit Maydeo   Mumbai, India		
manitaning Quality in Enabscopy Fractice	- Jong-Ho Moon   Bucheon, Korea		
	- Roy Soetikno   Singapore		
	- Christopher Khor   Singapore		
	- Sundeep Lakhtakia   Hyderabad, India		
	- Hiroyuki Maguchi   Sapporo, Japan		
ENDOSCOPY 2016	- Jacques Deviere   Brussels, Belgium	8th - 10th April 2016	
"Expanding the Horizons of Therapeutic Endoscopy"	- Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India		
Expanding the nonzons of Therapeutic Endoscopy	- Manoel Galvao Netto   Sao Paulo, Brazil		
	- Rungsun Reknitmitr   Bangkok, Thailand		
	- Shyam Vadarajulu   Orlando, USA		
	- Brian Saunders   London, UK		
	- Hyun-Jong Choi   Bucheon, Korea		
ENDOSCOPY 2017	- Haruhiro Inoue   Tokyo, Japan	7th - 9th April 2017	
"Re-defining Therapeutic Endoscopy"	- Viney Dhir   Mumbai, India		
ke-defining Therapeutic Endoscopy	- Hiroyuki Isayama   Tokyo, Japan		
	- Seiichiro Abe   Tokyo, Japan		
	- Martin Keuchel   Hamburg, Germany		
ENDOSCOPY 2018	- Hwoon-Yong Jung   Seoul, Korea	6th - 8th April 2018	
"Therapeutic Endoscopy- Building on Basics"	- Arthur Kaffes   Sydney, Australia		
apeade Endoscopy Dutturing Oil Dusits	- Kazuo Ohtsuka   Tokyo, Japan		
	- Nonthalee Pausawasdi   Bangkok, Thailand		
	- Thierry Ponchon   Lyon, France		
	- Noriya Uedo   Osaka, Japan		
	- Reuben Wong   Singapore		

#### MSGH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL THERAPEUTIC LIVE ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOPS

TOPIC FACULTY DATE

**ENDOSCOPY 2019** 

"Endoscopy in Evolution"

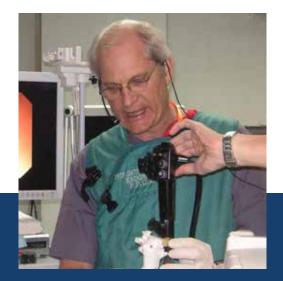
- Payal Saxena | Sydney, Australia
- Ping-Hong Zhou | Shanghai, China
- Helmut Neumann | Mainz, Germany
- Mitsuhiro Kida | Tokyo, Japan
- Tomonori Yano | Tokyo, Japan
- Tiing-Leong Ang | Singapore GIA Faculty
- Nenny Suzanah | Singapore
- Mary Bong | Sydney, Australia

26th - 28th April 2019



Nageshwar Reddy (Hyderabad, India) and Rungsun Reknimitr (Bangkok, Thailand) with the workshop team -ENDOSCOPY 2016

#### MSGH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL THERAPEUTIC LIVE ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOPS



Nib Soehendra (Hamburg, Germany)- A Master Class- ENDOSCOPY 2001

Rob Hawes (Orlando, USA), Distinguished Lecturer ENDOSCOPY 2012



Greg Ginsberg (Philadelphia, USA)
Distinguished Lecturer ENDOSCOPY 2014



Kees Huibregtse (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Distinguished Lecturer ENDOSCOPY 1999 with Joseph Leung (Sacramento, USA) at ENDOSCOPY 2002



Jerry Waye (New York, USA), Distinguished Lecturer ENDOSCOPY 2009 - Magic show at the Workshop Dinner



Chris Williams ( London, UK), Distinguished Lecturer ENDOSCOPY 2002



Horst Neuhaus (Dusseldorf, Germany), Distinguished Lecturer and Phillip Chiu (Hong Kong, China) ENDOSCOPY 2013



Claudio Navarette (Santiago, Chile), Paulo Sakai (Sao Paulo, Brazil) ENDOSCOPY 2013

# THE MSGH CLINICAL UPDATES: A BRIEF HISTORY AND LIST OF ACTIVITIES

by NAZRI MUSTAFFA

The MSGH Clinical updates are focused clinical based meetings which have been in existence since 2004. Dato' Dr Mazlam Zawawi was tasked with organising these meeting at the beginning and he carried out this job admirably for many years before passing this responsibility to Dr H J Tan and then Dr Hamizah Razlan and then my goodself. The MSGH Executive Committee agreed that there was a need to have regular gastroenterology teaching sessions, not just for those in academia but also for practising medical professionals from various backgrounds who were involved with gastroenterology as part of their daily practice.

The meetings were held twice a year and were originally held in the Klang Valley – hence the name MSGH Klang Valley GI Updates. These meetings were held at many locations in or around Kuala Lumpur with the assistance of various industry partners. The meetings covered case presentations and discussions with short focussed lectures and were designed to complement our well established GUT meetings and ENODOSCOPY workshops.

In 2015, it was decided that the meeting be held in other major cities within Peninsular Malaysia to enable increased participation from members from outside the Klang Valley and was then rebranded as MSGH Clinical Updates.

Over time the format of the meetings has also evolved. From 2018 onwards it was decided by the MSGH Executive Committee that the clinical meetings would be thematic in nature. As can be seen from the 2018 announcements, Hepatitis C was chosen as the topic for the inaugural monothematic MSGH Update. It was also felt that there should be events in Sabah and Sarawak too; thus, the second meeting in 2018 was held in Hospital Umum Sarawak.

The flyers for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> MSGH Clinical Meetings in 2018:







The flyer as well as selected photos from the  $1^{\rm st}$  MSGH Clinical Meeting 2019

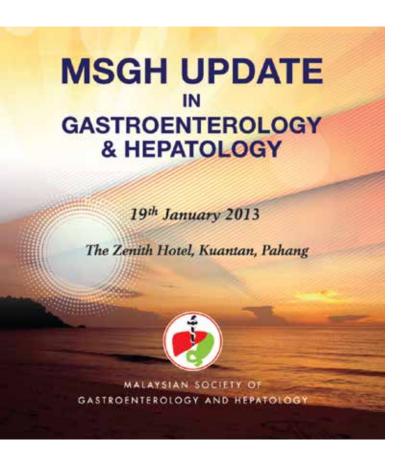


The 1st Clinical Meeting in 2019 was held in conjunction with the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting. Apart from case presentations by trainees, there were also lectures given by experts in the field. Of note is Professor Dr Leung Wai Keung from the University of Hong Kong who talked on treating-to-target in IBD, and on optimising IBD care in the era of biologics.

It is my hope that the MSGH Clinical Meetings will continue to serve as a platform for discussion of GI-related cases and topics in the many more years to come and as a permanent fixture in our annual scientific calendar.

# THE MSGH UPDATES IN GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY: THE EAST COAST MEETINGS

by NAZRI MUSTAFFA MSGH Committee Member 2017-2019



Previously, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Clinical conferences were regularly held in the Klang Valley or in the larger Malaysian cities. In view of this, the MSGH Executive Committee felt that it would be useful to have smaller, one-day meetings in order to disseminate knowledge as well as increase the Society's visibility amongst healthcare practitioners in East Coast states of Peninsular Malaysia. These meeting were planned to be limited in scope with invited regional speakers. It also gave an opportunity for local speakers to present lectures as well.

The idea was first mooted by Professor Dato' KL Goh in 2012. Dato' Dr H J Tan organized the first meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2013 in the Zenith Hotel, Kuantan, Pahang. The MSGH President at that time, Dr Ramesh Gurunathan, specifically mentioned that "This weekend update is meant for a small audience, therefore making it more interactive"; this statement highlighted the nature of the meeting which was intended to be kept small by design. Four international speakers were part of the invited faculty for this very first MSGH Update: Professor Pierce Chow from Singapore who gave a talk on loco-regional therapy for hepato-cellular carcinoma; Professor Teerha Piravisuth from Thailand who delivered a lecture on

	DATE	VENUE	OVERSEAS INVITED SPEAKERS
1st MSGH Update	19th January 2013	Kuantan, Pahang	Teerha Pirasivuth   Songkhla, Thailand
			Charles Vu   Singapore
			Lawrence KY Ho   Singapore
			Peirce Chow   Singapore
2nd MSGH Update	14th February 2014	Kota Bahru, Kelantan	Lim Seng Gee   Singapore
			Jeon Seong Woo   Korea
3rd MSGH Update	7th February 2015	Kuantan, Pahang	Peter Katelaris   Sydney, Australia
			Henry LY Chan   Hong Kong
4th MSGH Update	12th March 2016	Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu	Lawrence KY Ho   Singapore
5th MSGH Update	4th March 2017	Kuantan, Pahang	Francis KL Chan   Hong Kong
6th MSGH Update	3rd March 2018	Kubang Kerian, Kelantan	-
7th MSGH Update	23rd February 2019	Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu	-

individualised therapy for Hepatitis B; Dr Charles Vu from Singapore who spoke on an update on the management of pancreatic cysts, and Professor Lawrence Ho, also from Singapore who presented a talk on the management of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease.

Subsequently, one-day meetings have been held yearly at various venues in the East Coast cities of

Peninsular Malaysia. Dato' Dr Tan Huck Joo has been organising these meetings until 2018 when he handed over the responsibilities to Dr Nazri Mustaffa from Universti Sains Malaysia. Dr Tee Hoi Poh (Kuantan) has also been very active in the MSGH updates and has contributed immeasurably to the success of these meetings.





### **MSGH UPDATE IN GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY**

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018

Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology DK4, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan, Malaysia

Apart from overseas speakers, there were many other lectures by local experts from various disciplines.

Gastroenterologists, hepatologists, colorectal surgeons and interventional radiologists all gave talks on a variety of gastrointestinal disorders and endoscopy-related topics ranging from the management of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and imaging of liver lesions, the role of proton-pump inhibitors for functional dyspepsia, colorectal cancer, as well as advances in endoscopic ultrasound guided intervention to list down a few.

Beginning in 2018 it was felt that MSGH should collaborate further with local educational institutions as this would assist in raising the Society's image amongst lecturers, specialists, students (both under- and post-graduate) as well as allied healthcare professionals. The MSGH Update would also serve as a platform for local experts to make themselves known to a larger audience from various clinical backgrounds. To that end the meeting was held at the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Health Campus, in Kubang Kerian, Kelantan on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018. The meeting was a huge success, with a total of 230 participants from multiple clinical backgrounds attending the event.

Up until this point the MSGH East Coast meetings were mostly of a traditional, didactic format where

lectures were delivered followed by a short question and answer session. Even though the audience were given an opportunity to briefly interact with the panel of speakers, feedback from participants indicated that there was an overwhelming preference for case-based discussions. Thus, upon advice from the MSGH Executive Committee, the 2019 programme was structured to accommodate more time for case-based discussions in order to allow a better understanding of relevant management approaches.

For this year's East Coast event, MSGH partnered with Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA) in Terengganu. The meeting was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 at the UniSZA Medical School in Kuala Terengganu, with a registered number of 110 participants.

### SABAH ENDOQE ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOPS

by PHILIP GISAN, JAYARAM MENON & RAMAN MUTHUKARUPPAN

The Gastroenterology and the GI Endoscopy unit at Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, has over the years become a recognized major training centre for the Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM). Dr Jayaram Menon as Head of Gastroenterology (KKM) since 2002 had built up the unit at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital into a top class GI centre. Additionally, he had also inaugurated the GIA training programme at the hospital from 2009



Under the leadership of Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon and Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan, the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital started regular Endoscopy workshops in collaboration with the MSGH. The format of the workshops were a "handson" workshop for one year alternating with a larger live demonstration workshop the following year. In 2014, a "hand-on" workshop focussing on **ERCP** and **EUS** was organized together with a GIA workshop. Dr Arthur Kaffes and Dr Saurabh Gupta were guest faculty. In 2015, a larger workshop was organized with an international faculty comprising Drs Benedict Devereaux (Australia), Christopher Khor (Singapore), David Carr-Lock (USA), Nageshwar Reddy (India), Payal Saxena (Australia), Rajvinder Singh (Australia) and Roy Soetikno (Singapore)





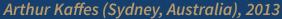
#### **ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOP 2014**

### 'TOWARDS EXCELLENCE IN ENDOSCOPY CARE'

04 - 06 DECEMBER 2014

### HOSPITAL QUEEN ELIZABETH, KOTA KINABALU SABAH









Ponnudurai, Sharmila Sachithanandan, Ahmad Shukri, Ganesananthan Shanmuganathan and Sanjiv Mahadeva. In 2016 a second "hand-on" workshop was organized with Dr Adrian Softoiu (Romania), Dr Nam Nguyen (Australia), Dr Krishnan Raman (Malaysia), Ms Rosalin Sulit (Malaysia) as guest faculty. A second international live demonstration workshop was organized from 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017 with an international faculty comprising Dr Amol Bapaye (India), Christopher Khor (Singapore), Dong-Wan Seo (Korea), Pradermchai Kongkam (Thailand), Rajvinder Singh (Australia) and Sun Siyu (China). Local faculty included Drs Ryan Ponnudurai,

#### SABAH ENDOQE ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOPS



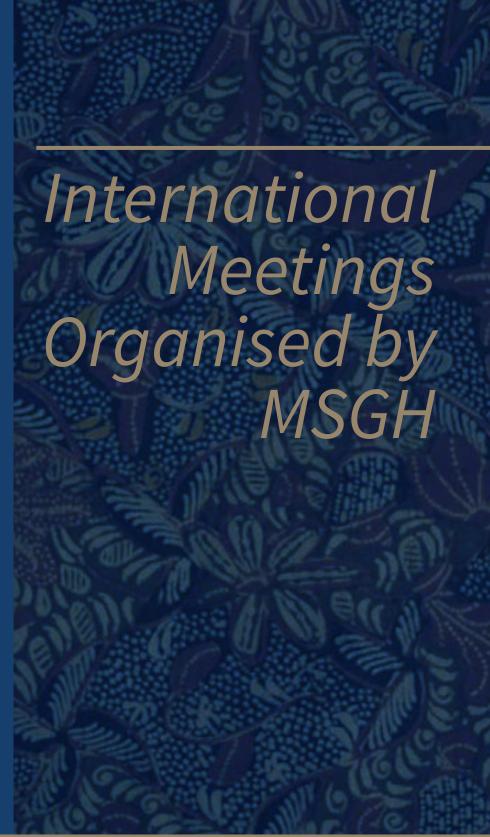


Sharmila Sachithanandan, Krishnan Raman, Manisekar Subramaniam, Lee Yeong Yeh and Ngiu Chai Soon. A GIA workshop was also conducted at the same time and the international faculty included Dianne Mary Jones (Australia), Minghwa Yuen (Germany) and Nenny Suzanah (Singapore)

These workshops have been highly successful with many attendees not just from Sabah but from Peninsular Malaysia. Drs Jayaram Menon, Raman Muthukaruppan and Mr Philip Gisan have been instrumental for the success of these workshops.







# ASIAN PACIFIC DIGESTIVE DISEASE WEEK (APDW) 2010

KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE 19th - 22th September 2010



The APDW 2010 was the epoch of our scientifc activities and was the biggest and most successful international meeting we have ever organized to date. It was held from 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. The meeting attracted a total of 2661 delegates with more than 150 invited faculty. Submitted abstracts totalled 667 and were published in a supplement of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (JGH).

The programme consisted of lectures, symposia, a two-day live endoscopy workshop, special workshops with the World Endoscopy Organization (WEO), an ASGE (American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy) learning centre and a full scale biomedical trade exhibition with more than 50 participating companies.

Professor Dato Dr KL Goh was the President and Organising Chairof the Congress and was ably assisted by a hardworking committee. Dr HJ Tan was the President of the MSGH in 2010 and also the Secretary-General of the meeting.



# ASIAN PACIFICAN PACIFIC DIGESTIVE DISEASE WEEK (APDW) 2010 DIGESTIVE WEEK

2010 19th - 22nd September 2010
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia



"Gastroenterology in Asia Pacific









Position Position Position President. Mahendra Raj Mazlam Zawawi **Endoscopy Workshop Subcommittee** Scientific Chairman Sharmila Satchinandan Sanjiv Mahadeva Vice President Scientific Co-Chairman Muhammed Radzi Raman Krishnan Endoscopy Workshop Subcommittee Huck-Joo Tan Secretary General Yumus Gul Rosemi Salleh Salem Omar Endoscopy Workshop Subcommittee Mohd Nazim Salleh Ramesh Gurunathan Jeeta Manikam **Endoscopy Workshop Subcommittee** Endoscopy Workshop Subcommittee Assistant Secretary General Social Events Manage Molly Kong

The live endoscopy workshops were held at the University of Malaya Medical Centre and Selayang Hospital and transmitted live to the KLCC by satellite facilities provided by ASTRO. The workshops were coordinated by Scientific Co-Chair, Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva, with a large diverse faculty from Asia Pacific and internationally (Figure 1). The delegates were treated to a superb demonstration of top-class therapeutic endoscopy.

The APDW 2010 has been the most prestigious meeting organized by the MSGH and was warmly

received by the gastroenterology fraternity of the Asian Pacific region, which was considered at that time one of the best APDWs ever organized.

Editor's footnote: The MSGH organizes the APDW 2020, almost to the exact dates from 10 years ago. Professor Raja Affendi is the President of the meeting with Dr Alex Leow as Secretary General. Professor Justin YY Lee the Scientifc Chair assisted by Professors WK Chan and SH Ho as Scientifc Co-Chairman.

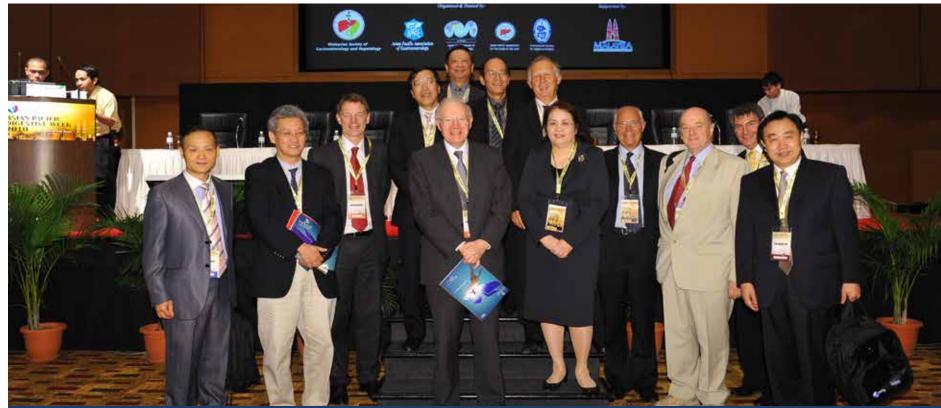
Professor KL Goh was the APDWF President from 2014-2018; a position which he held with distinction.



### Amongst the highlights were the Eponymous and State-of-the-Art Lectures:

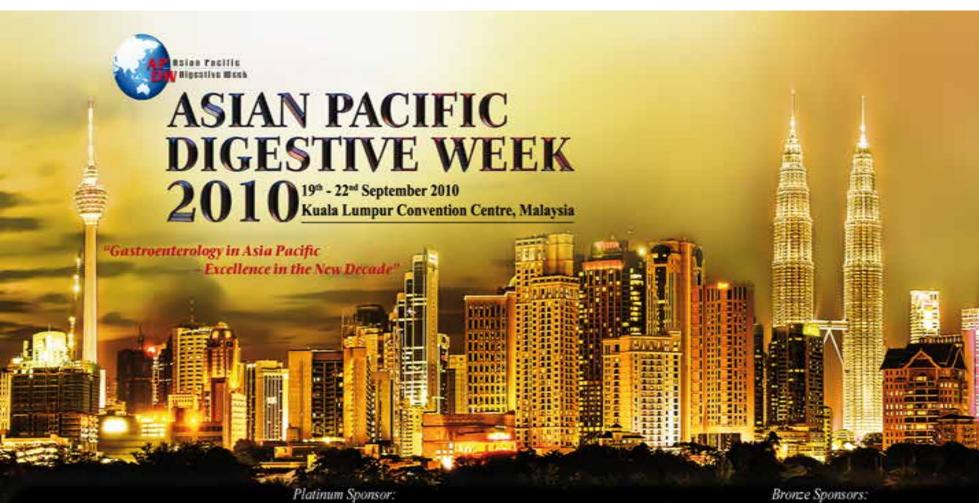
Okuda Lectureship	Does antiviral therapy for Hepatitis B & C prevent HCC?	Anna SF Lok   Michigan, USA
Marshall & Warren Lectureship	Aspirin: Old drug, new uses and challenges?	Neville D Yeomans   Melbourne, Australia
10 <sup>th</sup> Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Oration	New insights into aetiopathogenesis of functional dyspepsia	Nicholas J Talley   Sydney, Australia
The 7 <sup>th</sup> Panir Chelvam Memorial Lecture	The future role of the gastroenterologist in digestive oncology	Joseph JY Sung   Hong Kong, China
Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Distinguished Endoscopy Lecture	Enhancing the eye - The future of endoscopy	David L Carr-Locke   Boston, USA
State-of-the-Art Lecture	Evolution of endotherapy in chronic pancreatitis - A critical appraisal	D Nageshwar Reddy   Hyderabad, India
State-of-the-Art Lecture	Acid secretion: Now too much of a good thing in a developed world?	Kenneth EL McColl   Glasgow, United Kingdor
IGHF Emerging Leadership Lecture	The decoding of HBV genomics by a clinician	Henry LY Chan   Hong Kong, China
IGHF Emerging Leadership Lecture	From GERD to Barrett's oesophagus: Is the pattern in Asia mirroring that in the West?	Lawrence KY Ho   Singapore



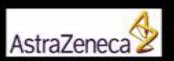


Helicobacter Symposium at APDW 2010.
Front row: Wu Kai-Chun, KL Goh, John Atherton, Ken McColl, Varocha Mahachai, Anthony Axon, Richard Hunt, Paul Moayeddi, Fan Dai-Ming.
Back row: Ken Sugano, Lin Jaw-Town, KM Fock, Peter Malfertheiner.





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Silver Sponsors:



































Opening of the Trade Exhibition by Professor KM Fock, President APDWF



Friends of the MSGH and APDW Faculty. Mrs Esther McColl, Professors Ken McColl (Glasgow, UK), Pali Hungin (Durham, UK) and Peter Malfertheiner (Magdeburg, Germany)





Ryan Ponnudurai (President MSGH 2006-2007) and Tan Huck Joo (President MSGH 2009-2010)



Professor Shu-Dong Xiao, {President APAGE) and Professor William Chao (President, APSDE)

### **ASIAN PACIFIC HELICOBACTER MEETING**

KUALA LUMPUR 13th - 15th JANUARY 2012



The MSGH with the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) collaborated in organising the second APAGE monothematic meeting (also called Asian Pacific Topic Conference) on H. Pylori infection with the theme "Translating Science into Clinical Medicine: H. pylori infection in Asia Pacific." This meeting was held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at the Shangri La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

The purpose of this meeting was to review various in depth issues involving H. pylori infection from the Asian-Pacific perspective. Twenty eight faculty from twelve countries were invited for this meeting. We had one state-of-the-art lecture by Professor Fritz Francois from New York and two plenary lectures by Professors Peter Malfertheiner and Hazel Mitchell and five symposia. We received many abstracts which were published in a supplement of the Journal of Gastroenterolpogy and Hepatology. A poster round was also organized for selected posters of distinction. Professor Dr KL Goh who was also the President of the APAGE was the organising chairman. Professor Sanjiv Mahadeva and Dr H J Tan were the scientific chairpersons.



Guest of Honour- Nobel Laureate Barry Marshall, KL Goh (President of APAGE and Organising Chairman), Ramesh Gurunathan (President MSGH), Kentaro Sugano (President, Japan Society of Gastroenterology)

Professor Barry Marshall, Nobel Laureate 2005 for Physiology or Medicine, was our special guest faculty. He was also at that time Visiting Professor at the University of Malaya where the H. Pylori Research Centre created under the High Impact Research Grant Initiative was named after him.

In addition to scientific lectures, two special workshops were organized: an endoscopy based workshop with short tutorials and videoclips presentations on the diagnosis or early gastric cancer utilizing image enhanced techniques as well as video demonstrations of endoscopic mucosal resection and endoscopy submucosal dissection of such lesions by Professor Takjui Gotoda and a second workshop on

microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics of H. pylori infection with several speakers including Professors Francis Megraud and Hazel Mitchell. We have also organized a special focused session on strategies in dealing with gastric cancer which is still a major health issue in the Asian Pacific region.

The meeting was a "tour de force" for the APAGE with the full council attending this meeting.

#### ASIAN PACIFIC HELICOBACTER MEETING

Varocha Mahachai	Bangkok, Thailand
Udom Kachintorn	Bangkok, Thailand
Rathan-Korn Vilaichone	Bangkok, Thailand
Francis Megraud	Bordeaux, France
Uday Ghoshal	Chandigarh, India
Chen Min-Hu	Guangzhou, China
Francis KL Chan	Hong Kong, China
Enders Ng	Hong Kong, China
Joseph JY Sung	Hong Kong, China
Benjamin CY Wong	Hong Kong, China
Justin Wu	Hong Kong, China
Rupa Banerjee	Hyderabad, India
Peter Malfertheiner	Magdeburg, Germany
Felix Zano	Manila, Philippines
Fritz Francois	New York, USA
Yoshio Yamaoka	Oita, Japan
Huck Joo Tan	Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
Masahiro Asaka	Sapporo, Japan
Kwong-Ming Fock	Singapore
Tiing-Leong Ang	Singapore
Lawrence KY Ho	Singapore
Peter Katelaris	Sydney, Australia
Hazel Mitchell	Sydney, Australia
Barry Marshall	Perth, Australia
Sheu Bor-Shyang	Tainan, Taiwan
Jaw-Town Lin	Taipei, Taiwan
Kentaro Sugano	Tochigi, Japan
Takuji Gotoda	Tokyo, Japan





# APAGE Council, Faculty and Organising Committee Asian Pacific Topic Conference on Helicobacter pylori



Front Row: Peter Gibson, Masahiro Asaka, Hazel Mitchell, Francis Megraud, Varocha Mahachai, Peter Malfertheiner, KM Fock, Ramesh Gurunathan (President MSGH), KL Goh (President APAGE and Congress President), Ken Sugano (President JSGE), Barry Marshall (Nobel Laureate 2005), Joseph JY Sung, P Kandasami, Neville Yeomans, James Freston, Aziz Rani, Toshio Fujioka

1<sup>st</sup> Row: Jamuna Vadivelu, Rupa Banerjee, EK Ooi, Srinath Dore, HJ Tan, Peter Katelaris, TG Amal Priyantha, Jayaram Menon, T Gotoda, Mazlam Zawawi, Yoshio Yamaoka, Yong - Chan Lee, Sheikh Anuar, Felix Zano

2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Min-Hu Chen, TL Ang, TZ Ong, CJ Ooi, Vilaichone Rathakorn, Mohd Nazim Salleh, John Wyeth, Saad Khalid Niaz, Robert Ding, Mun-Fai Loke, Sanjiv Mahadeva, Murdani Abdullah, Andrew Chua

# ASIAN PACIFIC TOPIC CONFERENCE (APTC) AND HELICOBACTER PYLORI MEETINGS IN THE ASIAN PACIFIC REGION

#### ASIAN PACIFIC TOPIC CONFERENCE

The concept of APAGE monothematic meetings was mooted by Professor KM Fock, past president of the APAGE in 2009. Following discussions with Professor Yutaka Atomi, the President of the Japan Society of Gastroenterology (JSGE), at that time, a decision was made to organize a series of monothematic meetings under the banner of APAGE-JSGE to be called the Asian Pacific Topic Conference (APTC). The JSGE generously agreed to underwrite the first meeting in 2010 and a third meeting in 2012 with a second APTC meeting to be held in another Asian Pacific member country in the intervening year. The purpose of the monothematic meetings is to provide an opportunity for the membership and GI fraternity in the Asian Pacific region to meet, deliberate and exchange scientific ideas on a specific topic in depth.

The first such meeting on "Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders" was held on 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010 in Shiba Park Hotel, Tokyo, Japan organized by Professor Soichi Miura and under the chairmanship of Professor Kentaro Sugano, President of the JSGE. There were invited lectures and free papers in the form of poster presentations and participants came from twelve APAGE member countries. Selected presentations were published in a supplement of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. The 1<sup>st</sup> APTC was a highly successful meeting.

This meeting on *Helicobacter pylori* with the theme "Translating Science into Clinical Medicine: H. pylori infection in Asia Pacific in the New Millennium" is timely as it had been more than five years since a focussed meeting on the subject was held in the region.

A third monothematic meeting was held in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia under the chairmanship of Professor Peter Gibson in collaboration with the Gastroenterological Society of Australia in April 2012 and focussed on inflammatory bowel disease. The meeting was entitled "IBD All Stars" and details of the meeting were posted on the APAGE website shortly.

### HELICOBACTER PYLORI MEETINGS IN ASIA PACIFIC

The discovery of H. pylori is considered one of the momentous discoveries in gastroenterology and medicine in recent years, revolutionizing our concept of pathogenesis of gastric diseases in a fundamental way. Since its discovery by Barry Marshall and Robin Warren in 1983, H. pylori has spawned a whole new field of medical and scientific research.

The first focussed meeting on Helicobacter pylori was organized in 1996 and was called the Western Pacific meeting on Helicobacter. The brainchild of Professors Stuart Hazell and Hazel Mitchell of the University of New South Wales, the first meeting was held in Guangzhou, China and was organized by Professor P J Hu. Since then this meeting has been held in several places very successfully including Kota Kinabalu, Bali, Perth, Kobe and Bangkok.

This monothematic meeting is being held in recognition of the tremendous amount of science still existing in the subject which could and should be translated into clinical medicine. Excellent publications have emanated from the Asian Pacific region in various aspects of H. pylori infection. A direct and most serious consequence of the infection, gastric cancer, continues to be a major Asian Pacific health issue. This meeting will discuss issues related to this cancer as well as strategies to overcome it and brings together members of the Asian Pacific Working Party on Gastric Cancer and the Asian Pacific Digestive Oncology group.

### List of Western Pacific Meetings on Helicobacter pylori (Organising Chairpersons)

1996: The 1st Western Pacific Congress, Guangzhou, People's Republic of China, 28th February – 1st March (Professor P J Hu)

1998: The 2nd Western Pacific Congress, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, 25th – 27th June (Professor KL Goh)

2000: The 3rd Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress, Bali, Indonesia, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June (Professor Aziz Rani)

2002 The 4th Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress, Perth, Western Australia, Australia, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March. (Professor Barry Marshall)

2004: The 5th Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress, Kobe, Japan, 17th – 19th November (Professor T Fujioaka)

2006: The 6th Western Pacific Helicobacter Congress, Bangkok, Thailand, 12th – 14th November (Professor Varocha Mahachai)

# APAGE CLINICAL FORUM ON INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

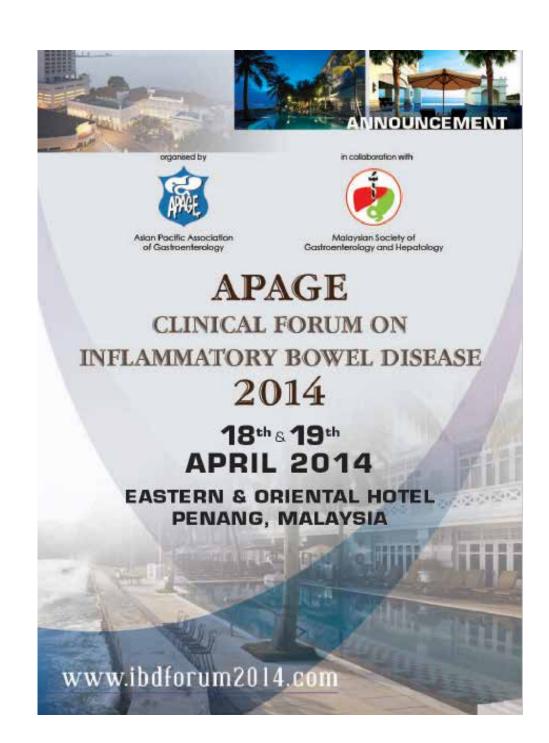
PENANG, MALAYSIA 18th - 19th April 2014

by CHOON JIN OOI
APAGE COUNCIL MEMBER CHAIRMAN & ORGANISING CHAIR

The Clinical Forum on IBD was held on 18th and 19th April 2014, in the beautiful island of Penang, Malaysia. The conference venue was the majestic Eastern and Oriental Hotel which was built during the British colonization in 1885.

The forum was the first of its kind, focusing on the management of inflammatory bowel disease with emphasis on the challenges specific to Asian countries. There were invited speakers from all corners of the Asia-Pacific region including Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Taiwan. Highlights included emerging new therapies for IBD such as faecal microbiota and stem cell therapy; a hilarious but highly educational debate on the importance of differentiating ulcerative colitis and Crohn's colitis, as well as interactive workshops on the use of biologic therapy, endoscopy in IBD and histological challenges in IBD.

Overall, the meeting was a great success with 180 registered participants from all over Asia who enjoyed not only the meeting but Penang itself, with all it has to offer, such as the beautiful beaches, historical buildings and an amazing selection of culinary delights.





#### **ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

Chairman Choon-Jin Ooi

Scientific Committee Ida Normiha Hilmi (Chairperson)

Khoon-Lin Ling Peter Gibson

Advisors Khean-Lee Goh (President of APAGE)

Sanjiv Mahadeva (President of MSGH)

#### INVITED FACULTY / CASE DISCUSSANTS

AUSTRALIA

Peter Gibson Michael Kamm Rupert Leong

AUSTRIA

Christoph Gasche

CHINA

Min-Hu Chen Kai-Chun Wu

HONG KONG

Wai-Keung Leung Siew-Chien Ng INDIA

Vineet Ahuja Rupa Banerjee Siddarth Dattagupta Govind Makharia

INDONESIA

Abdullah Murdani

JAPAN

Tadakazu Hisamatzu Haruhiko Ogata Masayuki Saruta

PHILIPPINES Jose Sollano SINGAPORE

Wee-Chian Lim Khoon-Lin Ling David Ong

SRI LANKA Janaka de Silva

TAIWAN, ROC Shu-Chen Wei

THAILAND

Pises Pisespongsa Rungsun Rerknimitr

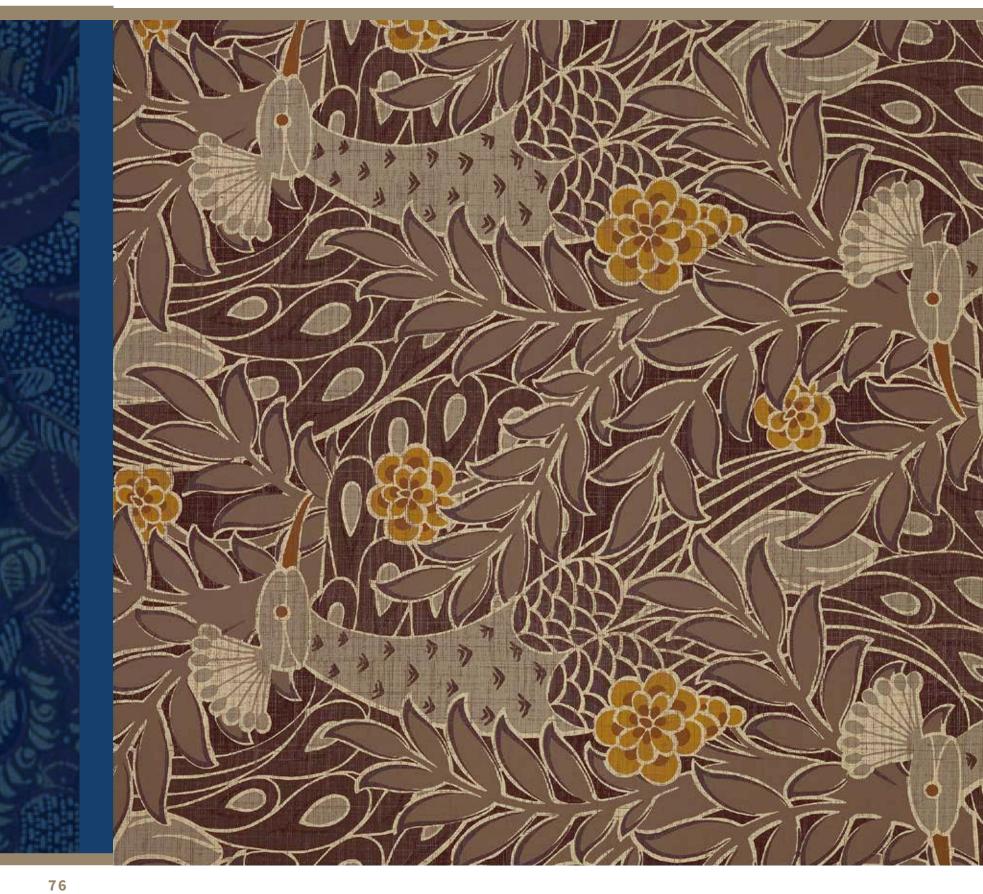
#### MALAYSIA

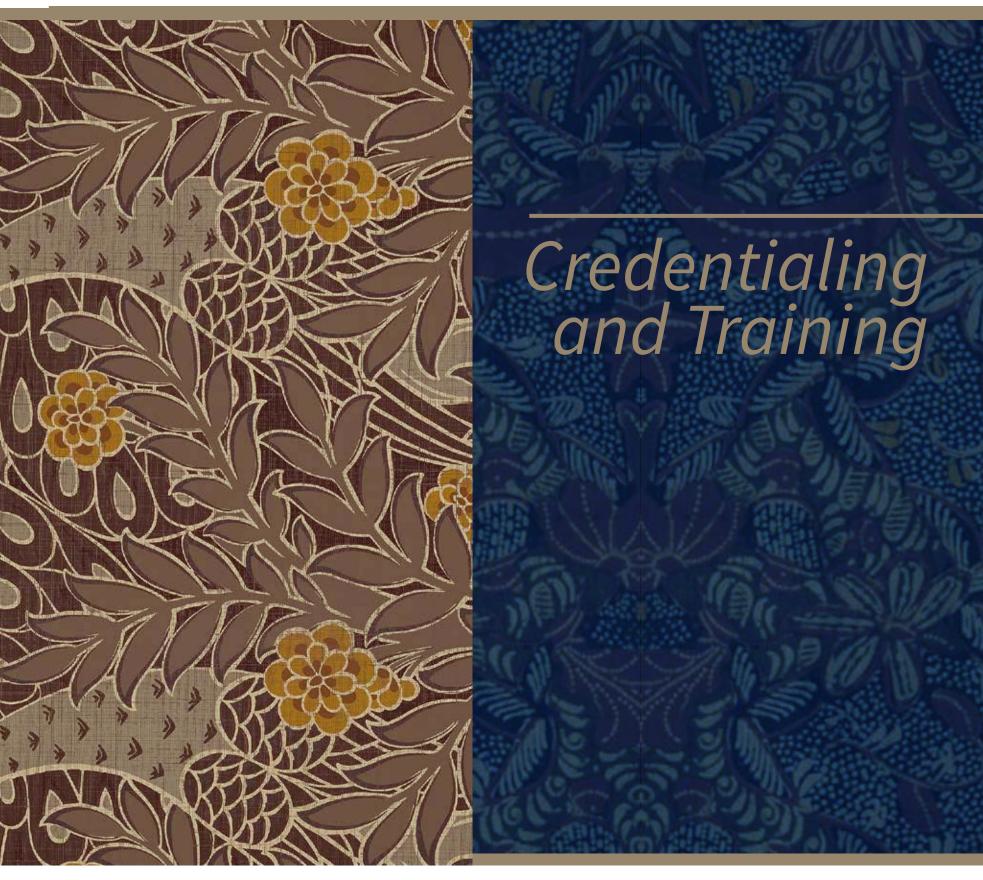
April Camilla Roslani Ida Normiha Hilmi Sanjiv Mahadeva Jayaram Menon Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan Nik Raihan Nik Mustapha Shanthi Palaniappan Raja Affendi Raja Ali

## Organising Committee & Speakers

#### Seated

Sanjiv Mahadeva (President MSGH), Ida Hilmi, CJ Ooi (Organising Chairman), KL Goh (President APAGE), Peter Gibson, Michael Kamm





# CREDENTIALLING FOR GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY

#### NATIONAL SPECIALIST REGISTER

The credentialing committee for Gastroenterology and Hepatology (Specialist Subcommittee (SSC)) under the umbrella of the National Specialist Register (NSR) was first formed in September 2004. Four members were chosen from the Universities and the private sector recommended by the MSGH and nominated by the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia. Three members were appointed from the Ministry of Health thus making it a committee of seven members. Professor Dato KL Goh was appointed as the inaugural chairman by the Director-General Health Malaysia, Tan Sri Datuk Dr Mohd Ismail Merican.

The founding committee consisted of the following: Drs KL Goh, Jayaram Menon, S Mahendra Raj, Rosemi Salleh, Andrew Chua, Mrs S T Kew and Dr Tan Soek Siam.

The first meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2004. Members of the committee were given the responsibility of drawing up the criteria for credentialing of both Gastroenterology and Hepatology but credentialing was to be separate for both. Much of the original criteria drawn up by the committee are still in place currently (https://www.nsr.org.my)

The formation of the committee pre-dated the establishment of the NSR which took place in 2006. The term of office was for two years, and Professor Dato KL Goh continued as chairman of the committee until 2016 when he was succeeded by Dato' Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan.

However, credentialing was not yet legally binding in Malaysia. The Medical (Amendment) Act 2012 finally received Royal Assent on the 5th September 2012 and the gazette was published on the 20th September 2012 making it a legal requirement for doctors wishing to practice as specialists to have their name entered on the National Specialist Register. However it was only passed in Parliament, several years later and took effect on 1st July 2017.

On 20<sup>th</sup> April 2014, following repeated representation by the MSGH, the Director-General of Health, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdulah, decided that the credentialing for Gastroenterology and Hepatology be unified and applicants will apply for a combined credentialing in both Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the same time.

In keeping with recent changes in the structure of the NSR, the Specialist Subcommittee for Gastroenterology now consists of an Evaluation Committee and an Education Committee.

# GASTROENTEROLOGY TRAINING IN MALAYSIA: THE EARLY YEARS

by JAYARAM MENON, MADHAV KUDVA, KL GOH

# Training in gastroenterology evolved slowly over the years from the late 1980s in keeping with subspecialisation in Internal Medicine

In the early days, physicians started a gastroenterology service in government and University hospitals but this was for many years often carried out as part of General Medicine.

The first physician at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) with an interest in gastroenterology was Dr Ambikapathy who subsequently migrated to Australia in the late 1970s. Dr Panir Chelvam who joined the UKM in the mid-1970's was the consultant gastroenterologist until 1981 when he left for the private sector. At that time, gastroenterology as a specialty was unheard of in Malaysia. Dr Panir spent short training stints overseas, with Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock at the Royal Free Hospital, London and Professor Richard Hunt at McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada before returning to Malaysia. Panir was truly the pioneer gastroenterologist in Malaysia. He

single-handedly built the gastroenterology unit and expanded the services to include ERCP. After he left, the Unit was ably run by Dr Thein Htut, a Burmese expat (1982-1989) and Edinburgh trained Dr Madhav V Kudva (1985-1990). Dr Thein Htut left for Australia in 1989, followed by Dr Kudva for the private sector in 1990.

At the University of Malaya, it started with Dr
Chris Loh Chi Loong who after having obtained
his MRCP (UK) spent time working with Dr Paul
Salmon in Bristol, UK. He returned to Malaysia
also in the mid-1970s and joined the Department
of Medicine, University of Malaya as a lecturer.
He started a service in gastroenterology at the
University Hospital but he left for Australia
after a short time. Chris is a gastroenterologist
in Sydney and still is practising up to this day.
Dr Damian Wong joined in 1978, after having
obtained his MRCP (UK) and worked for several

years at the University Hospital before leaving for private practice in Penang in 1996 where he is still presently practising. Dr KL Goh joined him in 1984 and stayed on at the University until his retirement in 2016. General Medicine departments had slowly evolved with time and during his long tenure as Head of the GI unit (and of the Department of Medicine, 1998-2004), gastroenterology had become firmly established as a subspecialty.

In the early days, acquisition and knowledge and, in particular, endoscopy skills were through clinical experience and peer supervision without any formal training programme. The Ministry of Health started a semi-formal programme in the late 1980s where physicians who were interested in gastroenterology were taken into the pool to provide a GI service at Hospital Kuala Lumpur under Dr (Mrs) ST Kew. They were then given scholarships to go abroad for a year to acquire further knowledge and expertise in gastroenterology. In the initial years there was also no credentialing nor recognition of gastroenterology as a subspecialty. Amongst the early trainees were Dr Jayaram Menon who spent a year working at the Royal Liverpool Hospital in 1992 - 1993 and Drs Tan Soon Seng and John Cheng who both went to the Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam in the mid-1990s. The

structure of a formal programme for the Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) (Ministry of Health) was drawn up in late 1990s. Mrs Kew was at the helm until 2002 when upon retirement, the headship of Gastroenterology Services at the KKM was passed on to Jayaram Menon.

Trainees in the University Hospitals (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and University of Malaya) had a different pathway. When they joined the Department of Medicine, they were already recognized as specialist physicians and were usually given a tenure in their jobs. Most were expected to pursue an academic as well as a professional pathway. Due to different expectations in the university teaching hospitals, subspecialisation in gastroenterology started earlier. The first trainees at the university hospitals were accepted in the early 1990s. Many went on to train overseas as well but some trainees including Drs Mazlam Zawawi from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and Mohd Nazim Salleh from Universiti Sains Malaysia, received academic staff training scholarships from their respective Universities.

With the establishment of a gastroenterology and therapeutic endoscopy centre at the University Malaya Medical Centre, many in-house trainees worked under the tutelage of Professor KL Goh from the mid-1990s. Trainees came from other

government hospitals as well as other University Hospitals. From 2007 several overseas trainees also started training at the centre principally from the Philippines.

The impetus to draw up a formal training programme came about with the credentialing of gastroenterology and hepatology as a speciality in 2004. The training period was defined for a period of three years.

The training programme in the KKM (Ministry of Health) was formalized when Dr Jayaram Menon became the Head of Gastroenterology in the Ministry of Health in 2002. Eventually a programme was drawn up with trainees rotated to different hospitals in the country as well as an exit visa and examination. All successful trainees received accreditation under the government system and need to undergo a period of gazettement after that. By then, the Hospital Oueen Elizabeth II In Kota Kinabalu had become a training centre in addition to Hospital Kuala Lumpur. With time, Selayang Hospital and other hospitals in the country were also accredited as training centres. The KKM Training programme formed the backbone of the unified training scheme supported by the MSGH, that is in place today



Jayaram Menon was instrumental in developing and formalizing the GI training programme in the KKM. The University of Malaya GI unit under the helm of KL Goh was a major training centre, taking in fellows from Malaysia and overseas



Dato Mrs ST Kew introduced the GI training programme at the Ministry of Health Malaysia

# MALAYSIAN COMBINED NATIONAL GI TRAINING BOARD

by SANJIV MAHADEVA & SOON SU YANG NATIONAL GASTROENTEROLOGY & HEPATOLOGY TRAINING BOARD

Gastroenterology (GI) training in Malaysia had been formalised in the early 1990's, but this had been conducted separately in the Ministries of Health and Education. Although the governance of training in Medicine and is related specialities is often conducted by a formal body like the College of Physicians in many countries, the situation was less developed locally. As such, many national societies of medical-related specialities had begun to take the lead, to organise and manage training at a national level.

In 2013, a proposal was made by members of MSGH, a non-profit organisation serving the educational needs of gastroenterologists in the country, to form a unified training programme involving both the MOH and the MOE. The MSGH had traditionally been the organisation where practising gastroenterologists (and trainees) from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the private sector had come together to work for the educational needs of the fraternity in Malaysia. Hence, the idea of unifying and standardising GI training in Malaysia under the banner of the MSGH was not unexpected – particularly as other societies, such as Haematology, Rheumatology, Nephrology, etc, had already begun to do the same.

Once the idea had been agreed by the then MSGH committee, a sub-committee, namely both of us, was created. Funding from the MSGH, and secretarial support, was agreed upon to help develop a unified national training committee and programme. Both of us travelled to meet Heads of Committees in MOH and GI Units in MOE – i.e. the main stakeholders for GI training in the country, to propose the idea. After several rounds of discussions, we were able to convince the relevant stakeholders and a formal proposal was submitted to the Director-General of Health, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, for his approval. A formal meeting was subsequently held between us, several MOH representatives and the DG of Health. The DG was pleasantly supportive of the idea and strongly endorsed the notion of individual societies taking responsibility and organising training in their respective disciplines. He acknowledged that the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia would ideally be the governing body for speciality training in Medicine locally, but was not prepared for it then.

Following a formal letter of approval from the DG of Health, a national level training board was set up. This encompassed representation from the relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and the MSGH, with a rolling chairmanship every two years. The first task was to develop a mutually agreed

national GI training curriculum, modified from established international training programmes, but tailored to the local scenario. Representatives from the MOH GI training committee (JKK Gastro), Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon and Dato' Dr Muhammed Radzi in particular, and representatives from the MOE GI units (Professor Ida Hilmi and Prof Raja Affendi in particular) contributed significantly at this stage and we were most grateful. The final training curriculum document was agreed by all representatives and finally approved in mid-2015 (the document is available on the MSGH website). Once this had been finalised, the programme was ready to be implemented!

The basic entry requirement for the National GI
Training programme consists of the following: i)
a minimum of four years of experience in Internal
Medicine at an M.O. level, ii) either the MRCP or
MMed (Mal) qualification. The first batch of GI
fellows/trainees from both the MOH and the MOE
were admitted in July 2016, following a standardised
interview process. Each of the Ministries retains
its independence for choice of candidate and their
rotations. The training duration is for four years,
interspersed with annual appraisals, and the
requirement of European Specialty Examination
in Gastroenterology and Hepatology (ESEGH)

### Dato' Dr Muhammed Radzi



First Chairman of the National Gastroenterology and Hepatology Training Board

#### Professor Sanjiv Mahadeva



Second Chairman of the National Gastroenterology and Hepatology Training Board

for completion. The first chairman of the National Gastroenterology and Hepatology Training Board was Dato' Dr Muhammed Radzi, who was then succeeded by Professor Sanjiv Mahadeva.

The combined national GI training programme has resulted in the following – a common Malaysian identity for training, a closer relationship and mutual exchange between trainees regardless of their institutions, increased training ventures/ workshops at the various MOH and the MOE institutions, greater participation of trainees at MSGH events and recently some international recognition of the programme.

The entire programme, however, would not exist in its current form if not for the ideological, financial, and secretarial support of the MSGH. Long may this continue!

# MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY NURSES, ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS & ASSOCIATES (MSGNMA)

by PHILIP GISAN & JERNIH LIM



The GI Assistants have been an invaluable part of our activities at the MSGH. The first such activity was a workshop dedicated to the training of Endoscopy nurses at the University Hospital, University of Malaya. It was a three-day live endoscopy workshop with lectures held from 30th April to 2nd May 1999 organized by Professor KL Goh and Sister Mary Bong with the theme "Setting the Standards for Practice".

The opening of the workshop was officiated by
Toh Puan Dr Aishah Ong who was chair of the
Board of Directors of University Hospital Kuala
Lumpur. The teaching faculty comprised doctors
and nurses of the University Hospital Endoscopy
team. (The name of University Hospital Kuala
Lumpur changed to University of Malaya Medical
Centre (UMMC) in 2000 with the corporatization
of the administration of the hospital)





GIA Workshop @ ENDOSCOPY 2011

Subsequently, the endoscopy nurses expanded their scope to include medical assistants who were an integral part of the endoscopy service in the Ministry of Health Hospitals in Malaysia. The first meeting of GIAs was at held at the Business Centre, Magellan Sutera Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah on 6th April 2001. The meeting was chaired by Mr Philip Gisan, as requested by Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon, to discuss the status of GIAs to join the MSGH as associate members.

A pro-tem committee was formed for a one-year term from 2001 to 2002. Mary Bong was chosen as the first chairperson and her committee consisted of the following: Vice Chairpersons: Mr Philip Gisan (East Malaysia); Ms Molly Chew Saw Chen (West Malaysia); Secretary: Ms Liew Siaw Hun; Assistant Secretary: Ms Rohaidah

Daud; Treasurer: Ms Rohani Ismail; Committee Members: i) Mrs Miriam See (Technical /Training Advisor), ii) Hj Kusai Hj Alias (Represent Central Zone), iii) Mr Mohd Azmi (Represent North Zone), iv) Mr Halim (Represent East Zone); v) Mrs Jaya Devi (Represent Private Sector)

The first committee meeting was held at the Endoscopy Unit, UMMC on 14th April 2001 in conjunction with the Endoscopy workshop at the UMMC. The name of Gastrointestinal Nurses and Allied Professional (GINAP) was adopted. The first meeting of GINAP was held the next day (15th April 2001). MSGH membership forms were distributed to all GIAS and annual membership fees of RM10 per person were collected. A total of 100 members applied to join the MSGH as associate members. Several committee meetings



were held throughout in the first year to plan activities for the group.

Annual General Meetings of the GINAP were held yearly during the Endoscopy Workshop of the MSGH at the University of Malaya Medical Centre. Other meetings were held when the GIAs congregated to attend events such as the Liver Update or workshops at Selayang Hospital and other hospitals.

The second Annual General Meeting was held during Endoscopy Workshop UMMC on 7th April 2002. It was attended by 140 GIAs. The group decided to address themselves as Gastrointestinal Nurses and Medical Assistant (GINMA). Election of new office bearers was conducted and some of the office bearers remained in their positions for another term from 2003 to 2004 with Mary Bong continuing as chairperson of the group.

Ms Rohani Ismail took over as chairperson from 2005 to 2006 and Hj Kusai Hj Alias from 2007 to 2008. From 2009 to 2016, Mr Philip Gisan was the chairman, the longest serving so far. During his tenure the name of the group changed its name again to its present name - Malaysian Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Nurses, Assistant Medical Officers & Associates.





Ms Jernih M Lim took over as chairperson from 2016 until the present time. She is ably assisted by her committee which comprises Vice Chairman: Ms Liew Siaw Hun, Secretary: Mr Zulkifli Mohd Sain, Assistant Secretary: Ms Chin Su Fei, Treasurer: Ms. Rohaidah Daud, Scientific Course Director & Chief Editor: Ms Rosalin Maria P Sulit, Committee Members: Ms Geetha Suseela, Ms Norleza Hassan, Ms Manorani K Doresamy, Ms Suzilawati Bt. Tulot, Ms Alice Lawet, Ms Malaiyarsi Sellamuthu, Hj Kusai Hj Alias, Mr Che Mohamad Amran bin Che Omar, Mr Azhar Othman, Mr Savio Saggang and Mr Rusdi Tahar. The senior Endoscopy Nursing Advisor

is Mr Philip Gisan and the National Advisor is Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon.

The biggest achievement of the group was the formal establishment of a formal training programme for GIAs. This was though the hard work and initiative of Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon and Mr Philip Gisan

# TRAINING FOR GASTROINTESTINAL ASSISTANTS

by PHILIP GISAN

Nurses and Medical Assistants play a key role in gastrointestinal endoscopy. Their task is not confined to assisting during endoscopic procedures but they are instrumental in helping set up and organize endoscopy units in the country.

For many years there was no formal training programme for GIAs. Many of the GIAs learnt their "trade" by being on the job. Some senior GIAs like Mrs Miriam See trained overseas on individual arrangements from their heads of units

Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon first mooted the idea of such a training programme for the Ministry of Health Malaysia in 1998. In that year, Mr Philip Gisan was appointed as the Medical Assistant in charge of Endoscopy Unit at Queen Elizabeth Hospital II, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, which was headed by Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon. In 2001, Mr Gisan and a few senior endoscopy nurses met up to discuss the vision and objectives for the GI Nurses and the way forward. He was assigned to prepare working papers to introduce GI Nursing as part of the training pathway and for endoscopy nursing to be officially recognized in Malaysia.

In 2007, Datuk Dr Jayaram presented the official working papers to the Ministry of Health Malaysia. On 26th September 2007, the Ministry of Health through the training division approved the Post Basic Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Nursing and the Nursing College of Kota Kinabalu was officially approved as the Training Centre.

In preparation of the formal launch of the GIA training programme, a few GI nurses were awarded 'Hadiah Latihan Luar Negara' to pursue training overseas in 2007. Mr Philip Gisan and Ms Roslin Sulit were amongst them and they were posted to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia in 2008 for two month training.

On 1st January 2009, the first batch of pioneering students started the programme. Up to the present time, we have produced more than 600 students throughout the country, both in the government and private sectors.

To further their career development, in 2013, Mr Gisan and two senior GI nurses had the privilege to attend training of Advance in Management of Endoscopy at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth, Australia.

# HONOURING GI ASSISTANTS IN GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY

by JERNIH LIM & KL GOH

Nurses and Medical Assistants play a key role in gastrointestinal endoscopy. Their task is not confined to assisting during endoscopic procedures but they are instrumental in helping set up and organize endoscopy units in the country.

On the initiative of Ms Jernih Lim,
President of the Chapter of Gastrointestinal
Endoscopy Nurses, Assistant Medical Officers
& Associates, the MSGH is proud to honour for
the first time, GIAs who have played such an
important role in Malaysia over the years.

Four GIAs were honoured with the GI Endoscopy Nursing Excellent Service Award on 27th April 2019 at the Endoscopy 2019 Workshop Dinner at the Aloft Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

They were: Mary Bong (University of Malaya Medical Centre), Miriam See (University of Malaya Medical Centre), Puan Rohani Ismail (Hospital Kuala Lumpur and Selayang Hospital) and Philip Gisan (Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Kota Kinabalu). Mary continues to work as Nurse Unit Manager at the Westmead Hospital, Sydney. Miriam See, Rohani and Philip Gisan have all retired from active service.



**Mary Bong** 



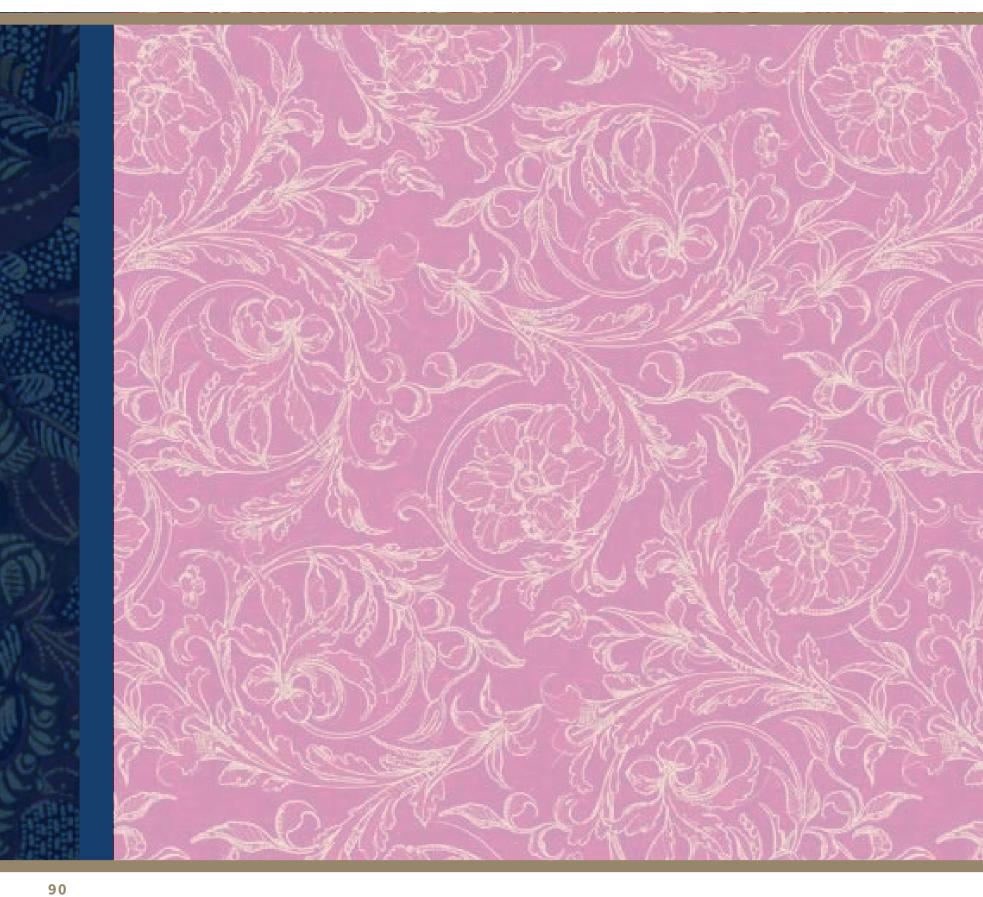
Miriam See

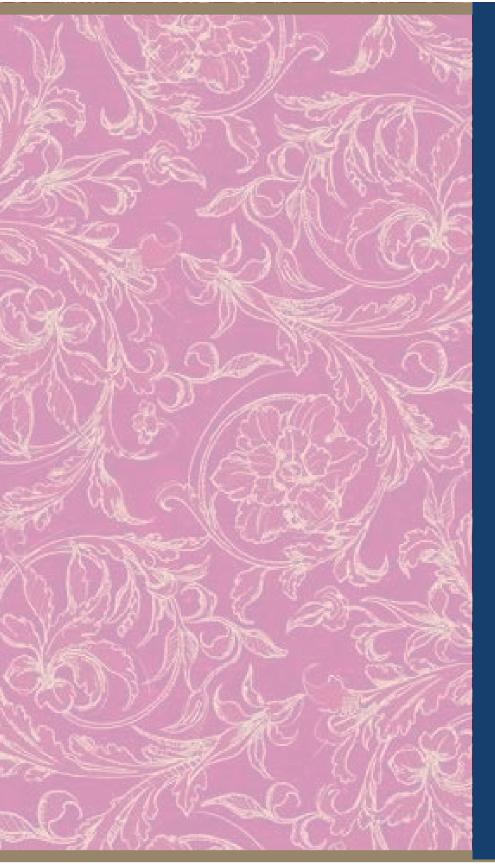


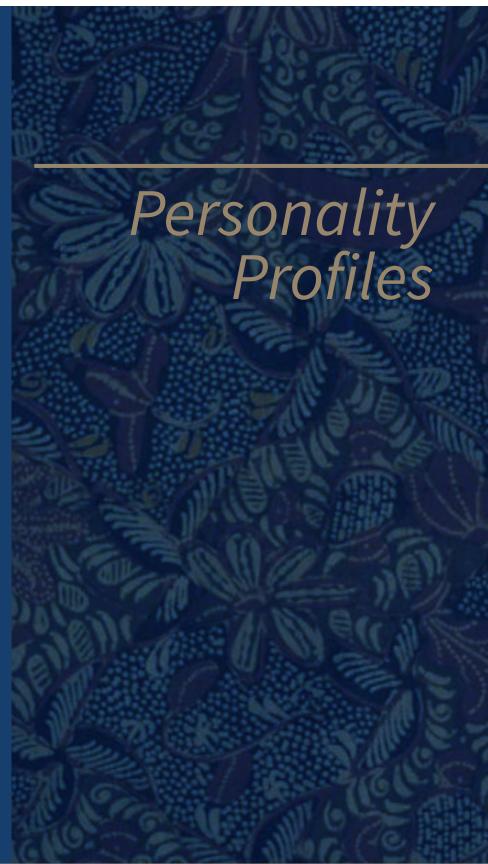
Rohani Ismail



Philip Gisan



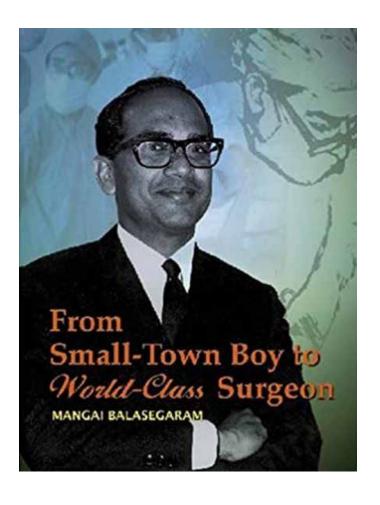




### **PERSONALITY PROFILES**

### BALASEGARAM MANICKAVASAGAR

Founder President of Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology



Professor Balasegaram or Bala as he is fondly known was an eminent surgeon and the "Father of Hepatology" in Malaysia. He grew up in extremely difficult conditions during the pre-World War II period. Balasegaram read medicine at King Edward VII College of Medicine, University of Malaya at Singapore graduating in 1955. His life story is one of dogged determination, discipline and hard work culminating in his recognition as one of the best liver surgeons in the world in his time. In 1969 he received the Hunterian Professorship from the Royal College of Surgeons of England. In 1970 he delivered the Chienee memorial lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and in 1972 received the prestigious Jacksoninan Prize from the Royal College of Surgeons of England for his treatise on "Modern concepts ion the surgery of the liver - With special reference to hepatic surgery during large scale civil disturbances". Most of all, he was a wellloved teacher who inculcated in all his surgical trainees a deep sense of responsibility, enduring hard work and commitment to medicine.

He was the first president and founder member of the Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (which preceded the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology) in 1987.

### KANDASAMI PALAYAN

President MSGH 1997 - 1998 Inaugural MSGH Orator 2001



Dr Kandasami is an outstanding gastrointestinal surgeon who was one of the pioneers of the MSGH having served as President of the Society in 1997 - 1998. He graduated from the famous Grant's Medical College, University of Bombay in 1974 and returned to work in Malaysia. He qualified as a surgeon in 1980 and served in many government hospitals in Kangar, Kota Bharu, Kuantan and Kuala Lumpur. In 1990 he was granted sabbatical leave and went on to work with the eminent Professor David

Johnson at the Leeds General Infirmary, UK. On his return he was appointed Head of Surgery at Ipoh Hospital. He has a special interest in upper gastrointestinal surgery and has written several papers on gastric cancer in Malaysia.

Following his retirement in 2000, he joined the International Medical University (IMU) as Associate Professor and was then promoted to Professor in 2001 and appointed Dean of the Clinical School from 2002 until October 2009. He continues to serve as professor at the IMU until the present time.

Professor Kandasami delivered the inaugural MSGH Oration in 2001 "Gastroenterology in Malaysia". His pleasant disposition and affability belies a steely determination that has seen him helmed, in the early days, The Stomach '96 - the first International meeting organized by the MSGH in collaboration with the College of Surgeons of Malaysia. Professor Kandasami was the then President of the College. Professor Kandasami has also been very active in the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia and was Master of the Academy from 2014 - 2017.

He served for many years in the Executive Committee of the MSGH after finishing his term as President. His wise counsel and advice have helped the MSGH immensely over the years.

# MSGH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2016

### KHEAN-LEE GOH

President MSGH 1996 - 1997 13<sup>th</sup> MSGH Orator 2013



KL Goh has been one of the pillars of the MSGH from the beginning. He was president of the MSGH in 1996 - 1997 and was instrumental in initiating many activities of the Society. He was scientific chairman of The Stomach '96 in 1996 and the organising chairman of the West Pacific Helicobacter Congress in 1998. Subsequent to that, for many years from 1999 - 2010 he was scientific chairman of our annual scientific meeting - GUT. As the Head of the Gastroenterology and Liver unit as well as the Chief of Endoscopy at the University of Malaya Medical Centre, he has also been instrumental in organising the internationally recognized yearly "ENDOSCOPY"- Live Endoscopy Workshops in collaboration with the MSGH. The Endoscopy unit at the University of Malaya Medical Centre has been accorded as a World Endoscopy Organization Centre of Excellence from 2008 -2014 and from 2015 - 2020.

In 2010, he was President of the highly acclaimed Asian Pacific Digestive Week 2010 held in Kuala Lumpur from 19th to 22nd September 2010.

He has worked tireless and sincerely for the MSGH over the years and was aptly awarded the MSGH Lifetime Award in 2016. He also delivered the MSGH oration 2013 - "Asia at the Crossroads

 Changing Oration Patterns and Emerging Diseases" at GUT 2013 in Penang.

Professor Goh is recognized as a leader internationally. He was Vice President of the World Gastroenterology Organization from 2012 - 2016, President of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) from 2010 - 2014 and President of the Asian Pacific Digestive Week Federation (APDWF) from 2014 - 2018, positions which he served with great distinction. He also delivered the prestigious Marshall and Warren Lecture at APDW 2017 in Hong Kong - "Lessons learnt from the Epidemiology of Helicobacter pylori in Malaysia"

He is Editor Emeritus of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (JGH) and is currently the Editor in Chief of the JGH Open. He has an excellent academic record with the highest bibliometric citation indices in the biomedical field in the country.

Amongst the many accolades he has received during his illustrious professional career:

Merdeka Award for Outstanding Scholastic
 Achievement for his contribution of elevating
 the study and practice of Gastroenterology and
 Hepatology to Global standards in September
 2011.

- The Crystal Award for International Service from the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in May 2014
- Master of World Gastroenterology Organization
   Award in September 2017

Editor's Footnote: Professor Goh worked at the University of Malaya, from 1980 until his retirement in 2016. He had been Professor since 1998 and was conferred Emeritus Professor by University of Malaya in October 2018.



MSGH President, Akhtar Qureshi, Scientific Chairman Tan Huck Joo and committee members with Professor KL Goh, GUT 2016, after receiving his MSGH Lifetime Achievement Award

## MSGH EXCELLENCE SERVICE AWARD 2017

by RAMAN MUTHUKARUPPAN HEAD AND CONSULTANT GASTROENTEROLOGIST, QUEEN ELIZABETH II HOSPITAL, KOTA KINBULU, SABAH

### JAYARAM MENON

President MSGH 2000 - 2001



Excerpted from Bulletin MSGH Vol. 26 No. 2, 2017

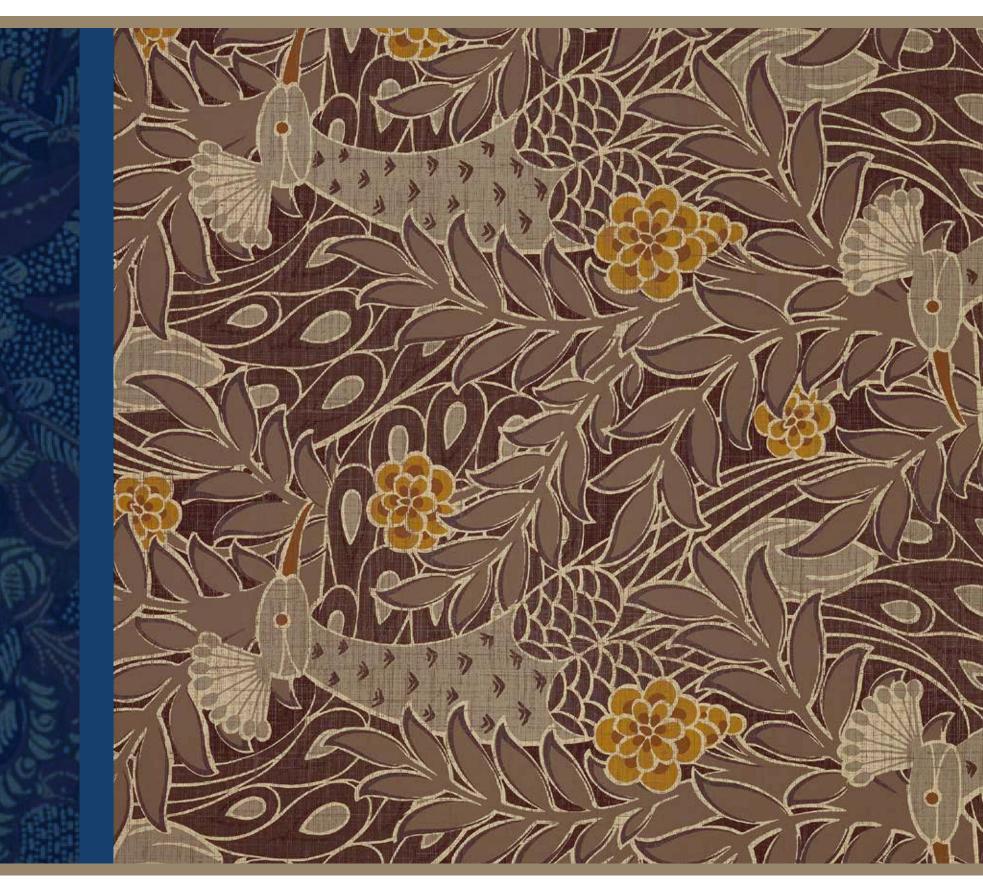
When I was asked to pen a few lines about Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon, I suddenly realised that I was not sure where to start from. Nevertheless, everyone of us had to start from some beginning. That for me started when I first joined medical department and gastroenterology unit of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu back in early 2004

as a gastroenterology fellow and my trainer cum mentor was none other than Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon. He was one of the reasons which made me wanting to travel the distance to the 'Land Below The Wind', for which I will always be thankful and remember fondly for the rest of my life. Fast forward almost 14 years, here we are at the brink of his retirement from public service, which is due in November this year. He is completing a mammoth 36 years of service in Ministry of Health (MOH), a large part of this being in Sabah, East Malaysia. He is presently the head and senior consultant physician and gastroenterologist at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, a position he has held since December 1990. Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon is no stranger to all of us in the fraternity of gastroenterology. He was instrumental and responsible for the creation of the current Gastroenterology Fellowship Programme in the MOH. He was appointed as national head of Gastroenterology services and chairman of Gastro fellowship training programme of the MOH from 2002 to 2012. He has worked tirelessly in raising and maintaining the standards of this fellowship programme even up to today. He will be best remembered for being the one who championed the post basic Gastrointestinal Assistant (GIA) formal training programme in Malaysia. He initiated this post basic training programme based in Queen Elizabeth II Hospital with the blessings of MOH back

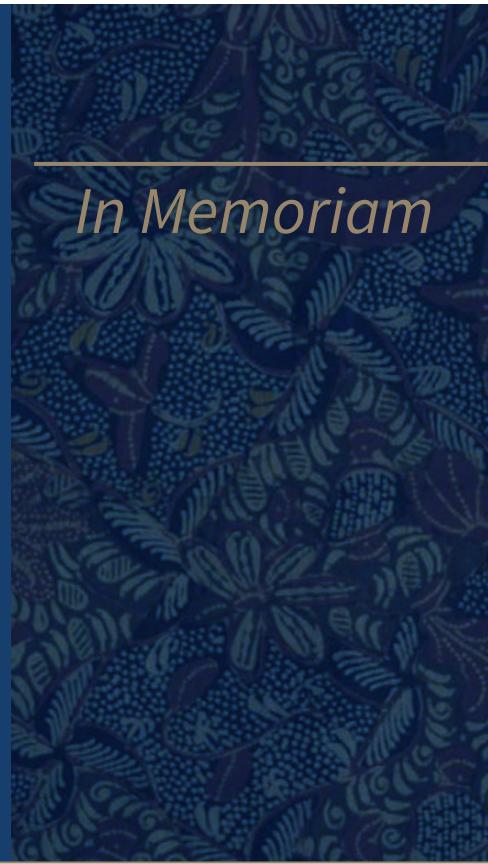
in 2009. This programme received tremendous support and recognition from both public and private hospitals throughout the country. This endoscopy nursing programme, the first of its kind in South East Asia, has produced close to 600 GIAs since its inception in 2009. Among the many positions he has held over the years, include the prestigious Presidency of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) and a member of the OMED Working Party on the American Association for Primary Care Endoscopy (AAPCE) Policy on Credentialing for GI Endoscopy. He was also the national head of Internal Medicine from 2012 - 2014. Gastroenterology unit of Queen Elizabeth Hospital has been among the best training centres, producing many gastroenterologists, now posted all over the country. It is also an endoscopy centre of excellence with high volume of cases in the Ministry of Health, thanks to the leadership of Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon. No one knows him better at work than me, who have been under him for past 13 over years. He has been my teacher and mentor and last but not least my fellow consultant and colleague in this fantastic unit of ours. I must say that I still look up to him even now. He has been truly inspirational and a role model for many of us in this unit and hospital. His tireless dedication and contribution in the field of Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology in particular, will be appreciated and remembered always by his colleagues and patients. After all he is someone who believes in giving the best! We in Sabah (and his peers throughout the country) will surely miss 'Big J' as he is fondly known, on his retirement. I am taking this opportunity on behalf of all in wishing him and his beloved family, all the best and happiness with good health always. Adios amigo!

**Editor's Footnote:** Jayaram Menon served the Ministry of Health faithfully for 36 years, since graduation in 1981 from the University of Malaya until his retirement in 2017. He had trained for a year under Dr Tony Morris in Liverpool in the UK, from 1992-1993. On his return, he became the Head of Medicine and Gastroenterology in Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Sabah. He was appointed the Head of Gastroenterology, Ministry of Health, Malaysia from 2002 until 2012. In this period of time he had contributed immensely to the development of the gastroenterology training in the country, as the majority of trainees came through the Ministry of Health training programme. He also assumed the position of Head of Medicine, Ministry of Health, Malaysia from 2012-2014. In 2012, he was awarded Datukship (Panglima Gemilang Darjah Kinabalu) from the Yang diPertua of Sabah. He has been based at his beloved Queen Elizabeth II hospital in Kota Kinabalu from 2002. Jayaram Menon was awarded the MSGH Excellent Service Award in 2017. He is presently continuing with clinical practice at the Pantai Ayer Keroh Hospital in Malacca as a Consultant Gastroenterologist.









### **PANIR CHELVAM**

Excerpted from Souvenir Programme, GUT 2004

by KL GOH

(1949 - 2004)

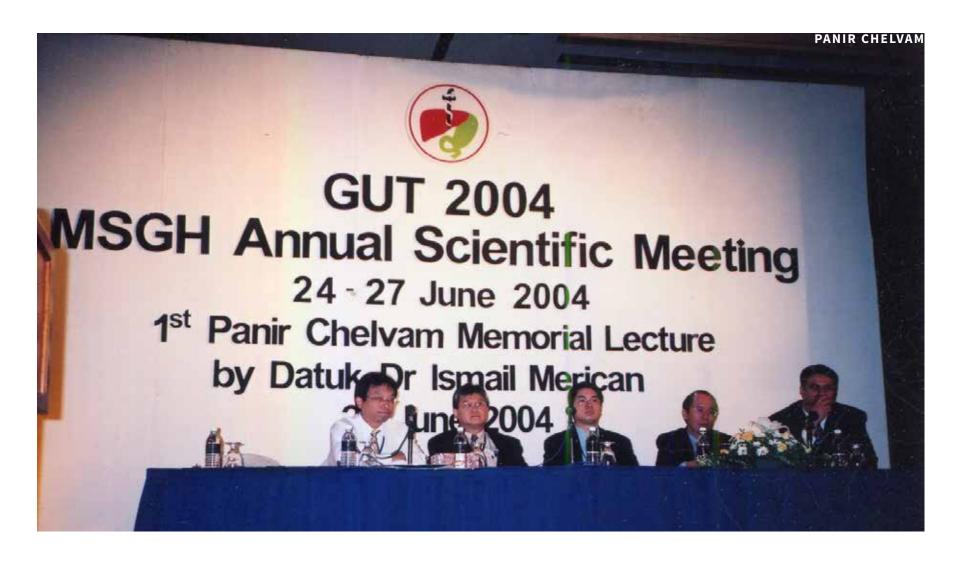


The medical and GI fraternity of Malaysia lost one of it most eminent members, Dr Panir Chelvam, on 7th March 2004. To many of us, his demise was a sudden and painful loss. We lost a very close and dear friend. Panir Chelvam sadly passed away following a myocardial infarction while driving home on that fateful night. He left behind a legacy in medical practice that will be unmatched in Malaysia for many years to come.

Panir Chelvam was born in Bukit Mertajam,
Penang on 16th April 1949, the youngest of eight
siblings. He grew up in humble surroundings and first
attended school at the Bukit Mertajam High School.
Panir was an outstanding student throughout his
school days. He was chosen on completion of Form

3 to continue his schooling in the then prestigious Royal Military College at Sungei Besi, Kuala Lumpur. He continued to do brilliantly, scoring top marks in his Higher School Certificate examination in Form 6 and then entering the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya in 1969. In medical school his academic performance was nothing short of perfection as he continued to score distinctions in virtually every subject throughout the medical course. It culminated in him becoming the top student of the graduating medical class of 1974, winning the coveted King Edward VII Hall silver medal and the Penang Medical Practitioners' Society gold medal and graduating with the degree, Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) with distinction.

Following graduation, Panir worked through the ranks of housemanship and medical officership and quickly obtained his MRCP (UK) degree. He then made the important decision to specialize in gastroenterology. At that time, gastroenterology as a specialty was unheard of in Malaysia. He spent time in training stints overseas, with Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock at the Royal Free Hospital, London and Professor Richard Hunt at McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada before returning to Malaysia. Panir Chelvam was truly the pioneer gastroenterologist in Malaysia. He worked at the then new Faculty of Medicine at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and subsequently left public service for private practice in 1981. From a small clinic located in an office space



in Sentul, Panir gradually expanded his clinic to a whole office block creating what we know and see today as the Kuala Lumpur Gastroenterology Centre.

Panir's greatest pride and achievement is the establishment of this extremely successful centre which is second to no other private practice in Malaysia. The success of this centre is solely due to the drive, prescience and commitment of Panir himself. The overwhelming popularity of the centre is testimony to his clinical acumen, dedication and singular kindness and sensitivity that he has continually shown to his patients. His generosity and kindness extended to his staff as well. Their loyalty

and the bond they had with him were unmatched. He was a responsible "boss" and cared dearly alway, for his staff and subordinates. Over the years, Panir had employed many doctors, many of whom had no previous GI training and through working and training with him have themselves now established successful practices of their own.

Being a pioneer gastroenterologist, Panir had to shoulder the responsibilities and burden of organising a fledgling specialty in the country. He was a founder member of the Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Malaysia and was the energetic secretary for the first five years and subsequently

#### **PANIR CHELVAM**

becoming President of the Society. His commitment, strength of personality and character managed to steer the Society to its present course and helped lay the foundation for the present day Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. Although no longer involved actively in activities of the Society in the latter years, Panir remained a highly sought after chairperson for numerous scientific sessions and talks. His sharpness of mind, intelligence, fairness of character and eloquence made him a natural chairperson.

One of Panir's greatest joys was his family. Happily married for 19 years to Sheila, Panir was the epitome of a completely happy and loving family man. Sheila has always been the bedrock that Panir could always depend on. Panir and Sheila have been blessed with two lovely daughters Alisha and Kavita. Panir would enjoy nothing more than spending time going out with his daughters to watch the English Premier League matches in London or teach them to drive or to just stay at home to enjoy television. Panir remained close to his mother, brothers and sisters and nephews and nieces, many of whom are now successful doctors and professionals in their own right

Panir cared for his friends. Kind in his words and deeds, he was generous to a fault. He would never think twice to help a friend even to his own inconvenience and at his own expense. His friendship has touched the lives of so many of us in and outside the medical fraternity.

Panir lived his life to the fullest. In his personal and professional life he never held anything

back. He gave his best and he received in return the best. His life was one that was well-lived. While we look back with great sadness on his passing, we know that this was the life that he would always have wanted to live.

Perhaps this quotation by the writer, Jack London best sums up his life: "I would rather be ashes than dust! I would rather that my spark burns out in a brilliant blaze than it be stifled by dry-rot. I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet."



### **MOHAMAD NAZIM DATO' HJ MOHD SALLEH**

by KL GOH & MOHD SHAMSUL AMRI ISMAIL

(1957 - 2017)





#### Excerpted from Bulletin MSGH Vol. 26 No. 2, 2017

The Malaysian Gastroenterology and Hepatology fraternity lost a dear friend, Dr Mohamad Nazim Dato' Hj Mohd Salleh, on 18th July 2017. Dr Mohamad Nazim passed away peacefully after a long illness with pulmonary fibrosis.

Dr Mohamad Nazim was born in Kota
Baru, Kelantan in 1957 and studied medicine at
the University Kebangsaan Malaysia. Following
graduation, he worked in several places in Malaysia
and abroad in the UK, in both London and Liverpool.
He subsequently took up a faculty position at the
Universiti Sains Malaysia where he served for many
years as an academic staff.

He was known to many of his former students as a good and conscientious teacher in clinical

medicine. In 2005, he left USM for private practice and worked at the Damansara Specialist Hospital, Petaling Jaya as a consultant gastroenterologist until his untimely demise.

I remember the late Dr Mohamad Nazim well as a friend and a loyal member of our gastro fraternity. He was President of the MSGH from 2005 to 2006, a position he held with the greatest honour and distinction. Previous to that he was a member of the Executive Committee for many years. He was a man of the highest personal integrity and exceptional kind. We mourn the loss of a very special colleague and friend.

### **SALEM OMAR**

Excerpted from the Centre of Excellence Magazine-University of Malaya Medical Centre

by SANJIV MAHADEVA & KL GOH

(1967 - 2012)



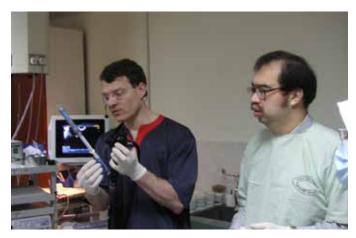
Salem Omar with Nib Soehendra (Hamburg Germany)

On 10th December 2012, the Gastroenterology Unit of University Malaya Medical Centre and the Faculty of Medicine of University Malaya lost a prominent and formidable member of staff in the passing of Associate Professor Dr Salem Omar. Salem, as he was fondly known, was a unique colleague and friend to many. An IT "geek" from his early days in medical school and subsequently as a doctor, he was early to embrace, before many others, the mass electronic communication even before the advent of electronic social media. Most of us will remember his early announcements of "increases in petrol prices" or "changes to the government salary structure" which were only subsequently announced in the mass media. He was ever helpful to those who were IT-illiterate. Through personal interest, he developed an interest in the area of electronic mass

media communication which eventually led to him becoming a key member of the APAN network in Asia.

A dedicated doctor and lecturer, Salem was not short of admirers among students and patients who came to UMMC. His career in Gastroenterology was carved out when he pursued training in Endoscopic Ultrasound which led to an impressive networking of international experts in this niche area. It was Salem's appeal and character which endeared him to so many around the globe whilst his knowledge and skill clearly led to his recognition in the field of EUS. Although the last few years of Salem's life became a balancing act between attending to his illness and functioning as a doctor, he was fortunate to have a solid rock in the form of his wife, Joanna, and his daughter, Edina, who were incredible sources of support.

Some of Salem's best years were in Hamburg from 2002 to 2006 where he worked in the world-famous University Hospital, Eppendorf, University of Hamburg, Germany, under the legendary Professor Dr Nib Soehendra. He enjoyed working and living with his family very much in Hamburg. According to Professor Dr KL Goh who was then Head of Medicine as well as Head of Gastroenterology "When Salem first joined me in the unit after passing his Masters of Medicine examination in 1999, he was already dedicated to achieving excellence in what he would do. I was impressed and enthused by his positive attitude. I remember the many evenings when he



Salem Omar with Stefan Seewald at ENDOSCOPY 2007

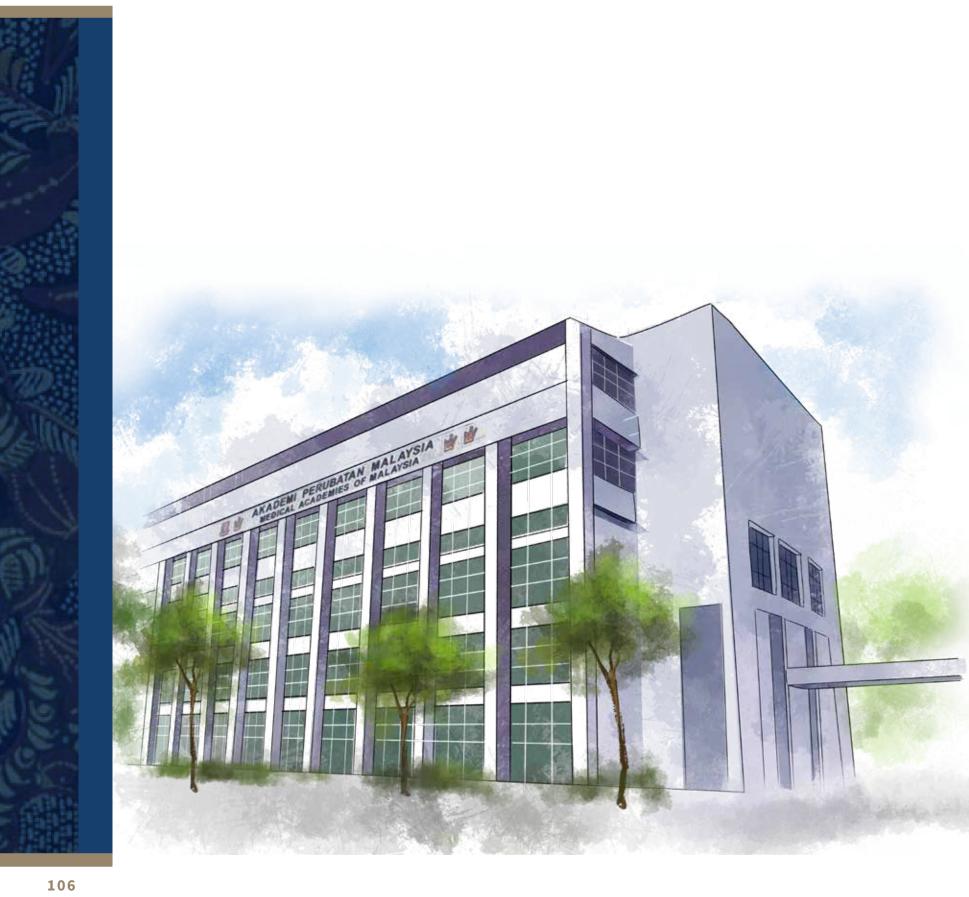
came to the Head's office at the Department of Medicine discussing what he should do if he could get a University scholarship."

"Happily in 2002 he successfully obtained the university scholarship. We had decided that he should focus on the relatively new field of "endoscopic ultrasonography". I wrote to Professor Dr Nib Soehendra in Hamburg whose centre excelled in every aspect of therapeutic endoscopy to request that he took Salem under his wings. Nib was very welcoming and Salem, Joana and Edina (who was only four years old), then made the long awaited trip overseas to Hamburg. Nib and Gudi Soehendra met Salem and his family at the airport in Hamburg. Before long, Salem had settled down to life in Hamburg and started learning endoscopic ultrasonography. His immediate supervisor and teacher was Dr Stefan Seewald who became a very close friend of Salem and his family. He had

always commented on Salem's absolute diligence and dedication to learning and work. With time, Salem became very good in the field and was soon teaching younger fellows who had joined the unit. Nib liked Salem very much and in no time, Salem was his close confidant and "aide-de camp" who took care of the continuous stream of overseas fellows who visited and worked in the "Mecca" of endoscopy in Hamburg. Through this, Salem built up a huge network of friends – Drs Begawan Bestari and Johannes Sadikin from Indonesia, Hiroo Imazu and Ichiro Yasuda from Japan, Thawatchai from Thailand, Frederick Dy from Philippines and Ang Tiing Leong from Singapore to name but a few. The list is almost endless"

In addition to pursuing his specialist interest in Endoscopic Ultrasound, Salem also wrote up a doctoral thesis entitled "Negative Predictive Value of Endoscopic Ultrasound in Exclusion of Pancreatic Cancer" which he submitted for a Doctor of Medicine degree to the University of Malaya despite his illness in 2011. Sadly he was due to receive his doctoral scroll in August 2012 during the University's convocation ceremony when he was taken ill by his final illness.

We celebrate the memory of Associate
Professor Dr Salem Omar and dedicate Endoscopy
2013 to an extraordinary colleague of ours.





# PERSONAL REFLECTIONS: MSGH - TWENTY FIVE GLORIOUS YEARS AND GOING STRONG!

by KL GOH



My involvement in gastroenterology started in 1984 when I passed my MRCP (UK) examinations and joined the Department of Medicine at the University of Malaya as a lecturer. Although our main duties in teaching and clinical work were in General Medicine, we were asked to choose a speciality to focus on. I thought gastroenterology would be a good field as it combined some hand and thinking skills. I felt that it would be less boring than just doing ward rounds every day, like what all good physicians do! Gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy was fledgling at that time in the University Hospital and was performed in the surgical minor operating theatre but only two to three times per week. I was frequently reminded by the Head of Medicine, Professor Florence Wang, that my first responsibility was in General Medicine and was dissuaded from spending too much time in Gastroenterology or GI endoscopy. Our weekly clinic was also considered to have too few patients and was combined with the Rheumatology clinic. With the screening for Hepatitis B in our Blood Bank, a Saturday clinic was started for us to see patients who were hepatitis B surface antigen positive.

The Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology of Malaysia (SHGM) was the predecessor of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) and coordinated activities of a very small fraternity at that time. Dr Panir Chelvam was at the forefront of the Society's activities, first as founding secretary for several years and then as President. He had worked briefly in gastroenterology at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and was

based at the General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur. Panir was an indefatigable person and organized many talks, which were in those days almost entirely pharmaceutical company sponsored talks. I got to know Panir well. He was a gregarious, kind and the most intelligent person that you would ever know and we became good friends!



Richard Hunt (Hamilton, Canada), a good friend of MSGH and Panir Chelvam Memorial Lecturer 2007

The discovery of histamine-2 antagonists in 1972 was "revolutionary". Smith Kline French produced cimetidine – Tagamet and shortly after that, Glaxo Pharmaceuticals produced ranitidine or Zantac. By the late 1970's, in Malaysia, these two companies were frequently involved in gastroenterology CME programmes. Glaxo under the charge of Encik Zainal Abidin, their long time Managing Director, provided us a member of their staff as a secretary to the Society. I remembered her as Dorina and after leaving Glaxo she had happily married and settled down in Johor Bharu. The SGHM, however, was not an independent society but was set up as a chapter under the Malaysian Medical Association. We did not keep separate accounts and we did not report to the Registrar of Societies. It did not have the respectability of an independent society.

The formation of the MSGH in 1994 was therefore a timely one. In 25 years, the MSGH has become today, one of the proudest professional speciality associations in Malaysia. But this did not happen by chance. Starting off was not easy. We had to learn from "scratch". We could not follow any of the old paradigms of the SGHM. I was the inaugural Hon Secretary of the Society from 1994 - 1995, Vice-President the subsequent year and then assumed the position of President in 1996 - 1997. As the speciality of gastroenterology was also new in Malaysia, there were few "guidelines" in running the society. It was clear from the beginning that we should build on the



close rapport between gastrointestinal surgery and gastroenterology (Figure 1). JC (Jacky) Mehta who latterly became President of the College of Surgeons, Chang Keng Wee (latterly becoming President College of Surgeons and Master of the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia), Robert Jalleh (who also was a President of the College of Surgeons) and Ernest Yeoh were good friends. Jacky was a particularly special person. He was the Head of Surgery of Malaysia based at the General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur. He led by example - he was a highly respectable top class surgeon and worked very hard. But he was also the kindest and most genial person. He emphasized the need for close co-operation between surgeons and gastroenterologists and, on several occasions, had asked me to go over to and demonstrate and teach ERCPs in his unit at the General Hospital. It was a

always a pleasure to work with him!

I did not know Dr P Kandasami well from previously. He must have noted that I had started to publish a lot on H. pylori and he approached me in early 1995 to discuss about a meeting he was thinking of organising which focused on "Diseases of the Stomach". I thought it was a fantastic idea and a positive step forward for a new Society. Kandasami had joined the MSGH as a committee member but he already had great respect in the GI fraternity as an outstanding surgeon and Head of Surgery at Ipoh Hospital.

He became the Organising Chairman of The Stomach '96 and asked me to be the Scientific Chairman to plan the programme. Dr Andrew Chua had just returned from Dublin and together we formed the core of the organising committee.

When I looked back, The Stomach '96 was clearly the breakthrough meeting for the MSGH. Kandasami was a very good organising chairman. His quiet, humble personality belies a steely determination. Perhaps, the best ever move that he did for the meeting and for the MSGH was to recruit Ms Kong, now fondly known as Molly, to be the executive secretary of the meeting. Molly was already secretary to the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia and the College of Surgeons. With her ever pleasant demeanour and efficiency, Molly proved to be of the greatest help in the organization and running of the meeting. The MSGH from that time

onwards enlisted her as our "permanent" secretary! Molly has become an invaluable asset and a constant reassuring presence in the MSGH. We always take her for granted, expecting her to "sort out everything for the society". And often we do not realize that her "daytime" job is not with us but with the Academy and the Colleges! (In addition she is also secretary to three other societies and from 2008, the executive secretary to the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology.) It is amazing how she copes with so many responsibilities but she always does a superb job with a smile! I have worked closely with Molly from that time and she has become a very close





friend. We have learned a lot from each other over the past 25 years.

Dr Robert Ding came up with the idea of organising a Penang International Teaching Course in 1997. This followed the lead of a previous meeting organized by Dr T P Yin in Penang several years before with the Penang Medical Practitioners' Society. Robert was by then the leading gastroenterologist in Penang and well known throughout the country. He had asked me again to help with the scientific programme with Andrew Chua. I was, by then, President of the MSGH and, of course, welcomed the organization of another big meeting soon after The Stomach '96.

I had worked in 1991 with Dr Kees Huibregtse at the Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam, on an advanced endoscopy fellowship during my University sabbatical. Kees became a good friend and I had invited him to demonstrate live cases in 1993 and 1994 at the University Hospital. (These were the first endoscopy workshops organized by the University together with the MSGH.) In my time at Amsterdam, I also got to know Dr Nib Soehendra well and subsequently had the opportunity to visit him in Hamburg. Amsterdam was the "Mecca" for therapeutic endoscopy and Nib was a frequent invited lecturer. Kees, Nib and Professor Guido Tytgat in Amsterdam were all close friends and associates. Together with Professor Meinhard Claessen, they represented, at that time, the powerful European axis which had influenced

world gastroenterology so much, for many years. Before the Penang meeting, Dr Jose (Joey) Sollano, with my help, had invited both Kees and Nib to participate in the 1st ASEAN Therapeutic Endoscopy Workshop at the Santo Tomas University Hospital in Manila, Philippines. Joey had spent some time working with Nib in Hamburg previously. I was the co-course director with Joey and we had a very enjoyable meeting in Manila. In Penang, we organized a small endoscopy workshop with live demonstrations at the newly opened Island Hospital in Penang where Robert works. We also had Dr Tony Axon from Leeds participating in the workshop. Tony was a well-known endoscopist in the UK and Head of Gastroenterology at the Leeds General Infirmary. Latterly, Tony became the President of the World **Endoscopy Organization.** 

In 1998, the MSGH organized the 2nd
Western Pacific Helicobacter Meeting. Professors
Hazel Mitchell and Stuart Hazell had organized the
first meeting in Guangzhou two years previously.
Through my Helicobacter work, I had got to know
both Stuart and Hazel. They wrote to me to request
that the MSGH consider organising the second
meeting and came to visit me in Kuala Lumpur in
December 1996. I was already President of the MSGH
by then. At about that same time, I was in Sabah
to give some lectures at the invitation of Jayaram
Menon. He had broached the subject of the MSGH
organising a big meeting in Kota Kinabalu. The MSGH
Executive Committee agreed to host the West Pacific
Meeting and I immediately contacted Jayaram about

organising it in Sabah. The Shangri La Tanjung Aru Resort was in my book, the most beautiful hotel in Malaysia and we chose it as our meeting venue. Jayaram and the energetic John Cheng coordinated the local organization of facilities and the social events. I asked Mahendra Raj and also Parasakthi who was my microbiology colleague from University of Malaya to take charge of the scientific programme. We had a major hiccup, in the run-up to the meeting. Three months before the meeting, extensive forest fires started in neighbouring Indonesia and Sabah and many parts of Malaysia were covered with thick smog, making airplane travel dangerous. We were worried and the Organising Committee decided that we had to have an alternative plan. Molly Kong and I made a trip to Langkawi island and we visited several hotel venues to see if any were suitable. Fortunately the smog subsided and travel to Sabah was possible. Another problem which surfaced was that on the exact dates of the meeting, the Kuala Lumpur International airport was being transferred from Subang to Sepang. Our international speakers landed in Subang but left in the very new Sepang airport with all its "teething" problems!

But the West Pac meeting was a huge success. Helicobacter pylori was the "hot" topic then with tremendous interest from both the clinical and research "bench" aspects. We had a large international faculty and the meeting brought wide recognition from peers regionally and internationally that Malaysia was capable of organising good international meetings. Peter Malfertheiner



Peter Malfertheiner (Magdeburg, Germany) was a close friend of the MSGH. He was Visiting Professor at University of Malaya 2005

(chairman of the Maastricht Helicobacter Consensus meetings) came to Malaysia for the first time and has since been coming to Malaysia many times including as Visiting Professor at the University of Malaya in 2005. The redoubtable David Graham was also a speaker and this was before he became a regular and frequent visitor to the Asian Pacific region.

Professor S K Lam from Hong Kong who was also faculty at the meeting, and as Chief Editor of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology arranged for the annual Editors' meeting to be held a day before the start of the meeting. The JGH has been the cornerstone of Asian Pacific gastroenterology for many years and S K Lam as Editor-in-Chief and President of the Asian Pacific

Association of Gastroenterology was widely respected as one of its pioneer leaders.

It was a heady time for MSGH. We had organized three big meetings consecutively from 1996 to 1998. Organising good meetings laid the foundation for the further development of the Society in many ways. It brought direct benefits to our membership through education and interaction with key opinion leaders; it gave the Society a good name and put us on the international map. For those involved in the organization of these meetings, it provided us with invaluable experience.

I had a family holiday in Kijal in 1998 and I was impressed by the facilities in Awana Kijal Hotel.

It had become a habit of mine (learned from Molly Kong) to have a quick look around at the available conference facilities at whichever nice hotel I stay in whenever I am on holiday. Mahendra Raj became President in 1999. I suggested to Mahendra to have Kijal as a venue. He was based at the Universiti Sains Malaysia in Kubang Kerian and he liked the idea very much. The MSGH decided to hold our annual scientific meeting at Awana Kijal, Trengganu. Despite some travel difficulties, we managed to invite many international speakers. Colm O'Morain whom Andrew Chua had worked with came from Dublin. Sydney Chung from Hong Kong brought his mother along and went diving in the nearby islands as well. We had Drs Mohd Al Karawi from Saudi Arabia and MS Khuroo from Kashmir as faculty as well.

Dr Mazlam Zawawi followed as president in 2000. When Mazlam was president, he insisted that we should expand our endoscopy workshops at the university and to make it an annual event of the MSGH. In 2000 we had with a live-demonstration workshop with Nagi Reddy, Wang Yong Guan, Sydney Chung and Ken Yasuda as faculty. We had then already moved to a new endoscopy unit at the Menara Timur, University of Malaya Medical Centre. Dr Jayaram Menon followed as President in 2001. At that time before the establishment of the Asian Pacific Digestive Week, the American Gastroenterology Association (AGA) had organized a series off-shore meetings with Asian gastroenterology societies. Professor Chung Owyang

from Michigan was the AGA international liaison office and being Asian himself was enthusiastic in pushing for these meetings. The MSGH decided to organize our annual scientific meeting in 2001 in conjunction with the AGA in Kota Kinabalu and it was held in the new Sutera Harbour complex which housed both the Magellan and the Pan Pacific hotels as a combined conference venue. Jayaram Menon as President of the MSGH was the Organising Chairman and John Cheng again his very able assistant. I was again the Scientific Chairman and had planned the programme. Sadly, my father became acutely unwell on the second day of the meeting (and passed away a week later) and I had to return to Kuala Lumpur very quickly in the midst of the meeting





Mazlam Zawawi, President of MSGH 1999-2000 and John Cheng who was a committee member of MSGH



Tan Huck Joo (President MSGH 2010-2011) and Sanjiv Mahadeva (President MSGH 2011-2013)- MSGH stalwarts

I thought I had enough of organising meetings, but each successive President asked me to help organize the scientific programme for the GUT meetings. Organising scientific meetings takes time and planning and starts many months before. It was therefore a continuous job for me and together with organising the annual Endoscopy workshops kept me busy throughout the whole year! Until 2008, I organised them almost single-handedly as Scientific Chairman. In 2008, Dr Tan Huck Joo started to help me as Deputy Scientific Chairman and after 2010, he had taken over as Scientific Chairman and I became his assistant! Huck Joo was committed to the MSGH with the organization of the GUT meetings, Klang Valley Updates and East Coast meetings. He was President of the MSGH in 2010-2011. With his guiet demeanour and diligence he had contributed a lot to the MSGH over many years.

APDW 2010 was the high point for the MSGH. With all our activities, Malaysia was getting well known in gastroenterology circles and the

culmination was the organization of the APDW 2010. In 2007, with Yunus Gul as President of MSGH, the Executive Committee decided that Malaysia should bid for the APDW 2010. I was appointed as Chairman of the "bidding committee". I went for the bid meeting at APDW 2007 in Kobe together with Molly Kong and we promptly won the bid with little competition.

Unfortunately, as we were starting with our work of planning the meeting in early 2008, Molly became unwell and took six months off work. I had all my old friends in the committee. Sanjiv Mahadeva was a new face. He had already started working with me at the university since 2004. I asked him to be Scientific Co-Chairman to assist Mahendra Raj. Sanjiv was a hardworking and highly intelligent chap imbued with a sharp and often acerbic wit but he got many things done! Being very hands-on myself, I was deeply involved in the overall planning as well as the details of the programme.



Guido Tytgat
(Professor Emeritus
at University of
Amsterdam, The
Netherlands)
- Teacher par
excellence - Master
Class at University
of Malaya. 2002

By that time, I had a large network of friends in the Asian Pacific region and across the world whom I could call to support the meeting. Guido Tytgat my old mentor from Amsterdam, brought the European Association of Gastroenterology to participate in the Post Graduate course, Tony Axon had the World Endoscopy Organization (WEO) participate in several special programmes, Peter Gibson arranged for the International Organization for Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IOIBD) to sponsor two speakers. Professors Xiao Shu-Dong and Hisao Tajiri brought many delegates from China and Japan to the meeting! I became acquainted with Professor Ibrahim Mostaffa from Egypt. He had invited me

to demonstrate at his workshop in Cairo in 1999. Ibrahim used his numerous contacts and we had many delegates from the Middle East as well. Many old friends of the Society participated in APDW 2010: Richard Hunt, Peter Malfertheiner, Geoff Farrell, David Carr-Locke, Jaw-Town Lin, Neville Yeomans to name but a few.

We had exceptional support from the biomedical industry for the APDW 2010. Over the years, the MSGH has built up a strong support from pharmaceutical companies who respected our hard work and responsibility in organising good meetings. It was certainly heartening to see the large and wonderful trade exhibition we had at the meeting!





Ms SF Yap, Grace and colleagues of Console Communications, PCO for APDW 2010

Ms Yap Shook Fung who was the Managing Director of Console Communications Sdn Bhd and her able assistant Ms Grace Wong contributed immensely to the meeting. After initial hiccups, they got used to our style of having meetings on Sundays and communicating on the phone at night, etc! As our Professional Congress Organizers (PCO), Console helped us organized the meeting efficiently, leaving little to chance and attending to all the small details. It has always been my philosophy that "attention-to-details" is important in organising meetings. The meeting took up a lot of our time but the reward was having a "job well done". Molly Kong regained her health quickly and re-joined prior to the conference.

APDW 2010 was well received by all participants and earned us plaudits from the entire international faculty. It is with great pleasure to know that 10 years on, with a new team, the MSGH

now organizes the APDW 2020 in Kuala Lumpur.

The Endoscopy workshops organized with the University of Malaya had grown from strength to strength over the years. It has come to be called simply as ENDOSCOPY. Organising live endoscopy workshops is never straightforward. You need to have a hospital with an active endoscopy unit as a base. We are fortunate that the University of Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) Endoscopy Unit (the name University Hospital had officially changed to UMMC in 2000) had developed into a strong unit equipped with fluoroscopy facilities from 1999. In the initial years, we transmitted by CCTV lines directly from the endoscopy and radiology fluoroscopy rooms to the lecture hall in the new Primary Care building at University Hospital, Kuala Lumpur. Subsequently when we moved to the new unit in Menara Timur in 1999, we had a big headache in arranging transmission lines from the Endoscopy unit to our lecture halls, which were quite a distance away, at Dewan Jermerlang and Bidara in the Faculty of Medicine. We used initially direct CCTV lines with multiple boosters and then we had a dedicated fibre optic cable installed from the Endoscopy unit to the lecture halls through the good offices of our Deputy Dean Professor Mustaffa Ali Mohammad, But within three short years, these cables were irreparably damaged. My bosses at the Faculty of Medicine and UMMC - firstly Professor Anuar Zaini and in later years Professor Ikram Ismail Shah and his able assistant Mustaffa were very supportive of our workshops and

always spoke highly of them. Endodynamics Sdn Bhd (agents of Olympus Optical Company) under Mr Ong Kim Chee, in the initial years, provided us all the technical support we needed for live transmission. This was of course outside the purview of their "job". When it became more difficult, Kim Chee contracted a third party on his own account to help us with the live transmission. Under the prescient stewardship of Prof Ikram as Director, UMMC made a big push to improve our IT capability. The new building in Menara Selatan has full IT capabilities and from the 2014 workshop onwards, we transmitted with excellent imaging live procedures from our latest Endoscopy unit on the 6th floor of Menara Selatan to the auditorium on the 13th Floor. The biomedical industry trade exhibition, which has been part of our workshop since the start, has found a wonderful venue in the spacious and comfortable meeting/ dining area on the same level as the auditorium on the 13th floor. Participants, nowadays have a truly enjoyable experience when they visit the trade





MSGH President-Jason Chin (2001-2002)

Yunus Gul (President 2007-2008) chairing Sydney Chung's (Hong Kong, China) MSGH Oration 2008. A phenomenal evening lecture at GUT 2008: "Playing God in Paradise - Surgery in Papua New Guinea"

exhibition at ENDOSCOPY.venue in the spacious and comfortable meeting/dining area on the same level as the auditorium on the 13th floor. Participants, nowadays have a truly enjoyable experience when they visit the trade exhibition at ENDOSCOPY.

Gastrointestinal endoscopy has evolved tremendously with relentless technological advances. ERCP was the pinnacle of therapeutic endoscopy in the early days. The legends of ERCP have retired: Kees Huibregtse in 2004 and Nib Soehendra in 2008. Peter Cotton continued with work albeit at a slower pace but found time to participate in our workshop in 2008. Jerry Waye active as always, up to this day, was an outstanding faculty at ENDOSCOPY 2009 and many still remember his amazing magic show during the workshop dinner as well as throughout the workshop! We had outstanding faculty such as Horst Neuhaus, Paolo Sakai, Greg Ginsberg, Jacques Deviere, Haru Inoue and Ken Wang come to our workshop. Nagi

Reddy continues to be our close friend and last came in 2016 to the new unit at the UMMC. In 2008, on my request, he had transmitted live, the whole Sunday afternoon, cases of NOTES from his centre in Hyderabad. Nagi has also expanded his services in Hyderabad. The Asian Institute of Gastroenterology (AIG) is an exceptional medical centre and has moved into new premises with separate clinical and research blocks at the Hi-Tech city in Hyderabad befitting a truly top GI centre!. On his kind invitations, the last being the World Congress of Endoscopy in February 2017, I have had the opportunity to speak and perform at Hyderabad many times. Nagi is a giant in gastrointestinal endoscopy, culminating in him being the President of the World Endoscopy Organization and the Presidency of the First World Congress of Endoscopy in February 2017. He was deservedly awarded the prestigious Padma Bhushan award by the President of India in 2016 for his outstanding contributions to medicine in India. A teacher par







excellence but a very sincere and humble person, Nagi Reddy will always remain a very dear friend!

With the evolution of gastroenterology as a speciality, the MSGH has been deeply involved from 2004 with the Academy of Medicine of Medicine and latterly the National Specialist Register in the credentialing of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. In more recent years, the MSGH was instrumental with the Ministry of Health, Malaysia in forming the GI

**Training Board.** 

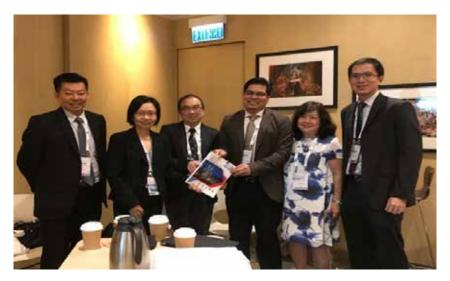
The MSGH must continue to stay relevant to serve the needs of its membership and the whole Gastroenterology and Hepatology fraternity in the country. In a blink of an eye, 25 years have passed. With new and younger members at the helm, I continue to look forward to participating in MSGH activities for many more years to come!

## **MSGH - THE WAY FORWARD**

by RAJA AFFENDI RAJA ALI

The Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) has been regarded as the professional society to provide directions for high-value and quality care to the patients, up-to-date information on research and technology innovations in relation to the field of gastroenterology, hepatology as well as diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopies. The society has provided an opportunity for the newer generation to be educated and trained for the next generation of gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopic providers. In addition, it continuously engaged with the early-career professionals in the community with the intention to identify future leaders on the specialty.

An annual MSGH scientific meeting which was termed 'The Stomach '96' in the early days and currently called 'GUT' has provided an opportunity for the clinicians to connect and network with colleagues across the country whom they may not have otherwise met. The quality of the best paper award has increased tremendously where there was involvement of basic sciences, public health, surgery, endoscopy right to the translational aspects of gastroenterology pertaining to gut health. More and more fundamental and trans-disciplinary researches that link with the clinical components will be involved in the near future. The emergence of big data together with cloud technologies enable data to be linked and processed to get a new insight on gastrointestinal and liver disorders. To make all these a reality, it demands interdisciplinary collaboration between multiple



APDW Bid Committee. From the left: SH Ho, SS Tan, Justin YY Lee, Raja Affendi (chairman), Molly Kong, WK Chan

disciplines and gastroenterologists. Hopefully in the near future, the attendees for this annual meeting will be a balance between the scientists and clinicians.

MSGH has taken a step forward as we won the bidding to host the Asia Pacific digestive week (APDW) conference for the year of 2020, a prestigious meeting that gathers the prominent speakers all over the world with thousands of delegates. Since the establishment of MSGH, this is the second opportunity after the success of APDW 2010 for Malaysia to host such a most wanted event. Looking back at the journey and learning from our masters and mentorship; Prof Emeritus Dato' Dr Khean Lee Goh, Dato Dr Tan Huck Joo, Prof Sanjiv Mahadewa, Dr Akhtar Qureshi and other advisory board members



APDW Site visit with the APDW 2020 Organising Committee: Alex Leow (Secretary-General), Chan Wah Kheong (Scientific Co-Chair - Hepatology), Felicia Teng (APDW Federation Secretariat), Molly YM Kong, Tee Hoi Poh (Treasurer), Seigo Kitano (APDW Federation Treasurer), Tan Soek Siam (Vice President), KL Goh (President APDW Federation), Raja Affendi (President APDW 2020), Justin Lee Yeong Yeh (Scientific Chairman), Ho Shiaw Hooi (Scientific Co-Chair - Endoscopy); Absent: Nazri Mustaffa, Raman Muthukaruppan and Ramesh Gurunathan (Scientific Co-Chair - Surgery)

where it was started with the preparation of the documents has taken hours and hours of thinking and meeting sessions. No doubt it was not an easy journey! The complex and comprehensive information on the event as well as a robust and sensible financial implication were discussed and put on paper. Finally, to present it to the APDWF Board panel was actually a nerve breaking moment. Winning the heart and gaining of the Board was truly a big onus for the MSGH bidding team. The journey gave the bidding team an experience to engage with the government to win the support. We are local experts with an eye on the world. In the upcoming APDW 2020 which will be held on 17th

to 20th September 2020 with the theme of "Vision of Excellence in Digestive Disorders & Sciences" will highlight the cutting edge of clinical and basic science researches related to the digestive health. We will ensure the meeting will be a memorable one for all delegates!

MSGH has provided funding as research grants to all its member. The amount at present is fairly small and in the near future, with better financial support, the society will allocate enough funds for the researchers. The funding will serve as an aid to high quality scientific researchers with the aim to foster curiosity-based research for the benefit of wider community. The possible outcome of the

research will hopefully be published in an original type of article in a high impact international journal. The current major issues in the gastroenterology and hepatology field is to detect the disease early. Also, to predict the clinical outcomes in digestive disorders remain challenging tasks for the medical researchers. Numerous ongoing works try to explore new biomarkers for the diseases. It is essential to understand the root cause of the disease, rather than treating the symptoms. Precision medicine is the way to go. Environmental issues, individual lifestyle and variability of genes in each person should be taken into consideration before we embark into a new approach or treatment. Malaysia remains the top country in the world facing all-too-common diseases including digestive disorders and cancers. Realizing these ideas, MSGH will be the platform to deliver the message to the local researchers on the importance of looking the disease in a holistic way and giving back to the community.

Today's world has evolved so much with technology. The way how we communicate socially, learn and tackle problems have revolutionized in order to keep pace with the change. Technology has created amazing tools and resources at our finger tips. Smartphone is used to search practically anything on the internet. On the other hand, smartwatch assists to monitor one's health. One thing for sure in the near future, artificial intelligence (AI) will be seen in the gastroenterology and hepatology field. The application of AI was observed in the procedures such endoscopy. AI has shortened the time taken for report documentation. Instead of spending time to scribble down the report, more

quality time should be allocated for patients. In the next couple of years, we will spot more clinicians who are interested to venture into this area of research.

MSGH in the next few years will provide a link to expose and share the members on the excitement of this new field.

Nanomedicine is also emerging and the way forward to diagnose, treat and prevent digestive diseases. This branch of medicine has the ability to control molecule at the extremely smallest size of nanoscale to much better at precise targeting and delivery systems in particular in the wide surface of the digestive tract. This area will be relevant for the society especially when it will take the path towards combating complex conditions such as gastrointestinal cancers and the rising of immunemediated digestive disorders. Malaysia has a great capacity to use this in the clinical practice as we have the manpower and expertise to do this. The only setback is the financial constraints to offer the technology to the daily clinical practice.

Developing a healthy pipeline of future leaders in gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopy in Malaysia with a mission of empowering clinicians and scientists to improve gut health using the latest technology is the ultimate goal of this society. It requires an invaluable commitment of the members of the MSGH to ensure the goal is achieved.

Personally, I am very optimistic with the support of senior members synergistically work with the enthusiastic junior members of the profession so that the society will grow and fly high in the future.



