



## Executive Committee 2019 - 2020

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- Dr Yap Yoke Yeow
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- Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT 2019 - 2020



It is my great honour to serve as the President of the Malaysian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists - Head and Neck Surgeons (MSO-HNS) for the term 2019-2020. I am blessed to have worked with a team of wonderful Executive Committee members who have been so supportive and excellent, in assisting me all the way.

Our Society has grown steadily since its inception 40 years ago. Our members with subspecialty training in various fields such as otology, neurotology, rhinology, skull base surgery, head and neck surgery, laryngology and paediatric ENT have also increased significantly. The responsibility and the role of our Society has evolved and so have the expectations of the members. We are now a Chapter in the College of Surgeons and are looking forward to form our own College of Otorhinolaryngologists - Head and Neck Surgeons (ORL-HNS) in the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia soon. The formation of the College of ORL-HNS will definitely make the ORL-HNS fraternity better represented in the medical community in Malaysia. We have organised campaigns to recruit more members to join the Chapter who will eventually be members of the College. Special presentations on this were organised at the retreat in Penang, December 2019 and MSO-HNS Annual General Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, August 2020.

For this term, we have continued the tradition to organise ENT updates for the general practitioners (GP) throughout the country. We managed to organise five ENT updates in Kuching, Johor Bahru, Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Kota Kinabalu before the advent of Covid-19. These workshops provided updates in ENT problems which are commonly seen among GPs and in government clinics.

We had planned for health camps, annual scientific meeting and the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Endoscopic Surgery of the Paranasal Sinuses, Skull Base, Brain and Spine (ENDOKL2020) in 2020. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we faced insurmountable challenges to continue to hold the events physically. As such, the health camp which was arranged at Longhouse Rumah Magretta, Julau, Sarawak on 20 March 2020 had to be cancelled. Luckily, we managed to change our annual scientific meeting to webinar sessions on 17 May 2020. Meanwhile, the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Endoscopic Surgery of the Paranasal Sinuses, Skull Base, Brain and Spine has been postponed to **October 2022** due to the fact that the majority of the participants and speakers are expected to be from overseas. Please access [endokl2021.org](http://endokl2021.org) website for regular updates on ENDOKL2022.

During the Covid-19 movement control order (MCO) period, we continued to provide guidelines on the MSO-HNS website and utilised social media to advise our members and the GPs regarding the "new norm" of clinical practice in ORL-HNS.

This has been a hard year of presidentship for me and undoubtedly a hard year for all of us, with a virus that we have yet to fully understand and combat. We have flattened the curve now and hope we can maintain this way until we have access to effective treatment and vaccine. Having said that, I must compliment the 2019-2020 Executive Committee members who has given their best to continue the tradition of making sure the Society progresses. I humbly hope that we can move forward in unity and face all the challenges collectively.

Until then, I urge everyone to remain safe and stay united in this fight against Covid-19.

**Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping**  
August 2020

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT 2019 - 2020



Assalamualaikum and Salam Sejahtera.

It is my great honour to have been elected as the President of the Malaysian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists - Head and Neck Surgeons (MSO-HNS) for the term 2020 - 2021. Currently we also identify our Society as the Chapter of ORL-HNS, College of Surgeons, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia. The biggest change in two years' time will be the formation of the College of ORL-HNS. Hence, hopefully, our MSO-HNS will be dissolved and we will be known as

College of ORL-HNS. It is going to be a tough and challenging process as we have now to convince our current and future members to join as members of the Chapter of ORL-HNS via Academy of Medicine. I am blessed to have an opportunity to work together with a wonderful Executive Committee and hope we can achieve this goal. The Society has grown not only in numbers but it has matured with all the positive vibes from our junior and senior members. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, we planned a few activities, with strict SOP. Providing updates to the general practitioners (GPs) around the country have been a recurrent event for the past few years. The reason this is continued is due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback from GPs and also medical

officers from the Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia who have appreciated the knowledge that they have gained from the seminars. To encourage the young upcoming ORL-HNS specialists to present their work in the field, the Society also will organise the Annual Scientific Meeting. Through the MSO-HNS Research Grant, we also encourage our members to apply for the grants to help them in their studies. The researchers will apply their evidence-based knowledge for the benefit of the community and this will make our Society a proactive group that contributes to the nation. In June 2021, we will organise the Annual General Meeting together with the Asian Society of Head and Neck Oncology Conference. The date is on 3 to 5 June 2021. This is the first time we combine the Head and Neck Surgery Conference with our AGM. The conference is also co-organised with the Malaysian Oncological Society and the Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons of Malaysia. We hope this conference will increase our collaboration with the respective teams managing head and neck cancer. Like all great societies, participation from the members is the key to success. I really hope this coming term will be enjoyable for both our members and the Executive Committee. Despite the difficult Covid-19 pandemic, we will face it together as a team and will make a success of all the activities planned.

**Professor Dr Mohd Razif Mohamad Yunus**

## Alert on COVID-19

Dear MSO-HNS Members,

We are now in the fight to flatten the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic while trying to prevent the tsunami that may cripple our health care system. While most cases of COVID-19 are mild, 5% of patients may require intensive care for acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), shock and multiorgan failure.<sup>1</sup>

What concerns us most is the vulnerability of the ORL profession during this period. It has been reported that in Wuhan, China, otorhinolaryngologists and ophthalmologists were infected at higher rates than other colleagues in the same hospitals.<sup>2</sup> Based on discussions with our international counterparts, there are similar findings in Italy and Iran which are hammered by the number of cases close to China's proportions.

The route of transmission of COVID-19 is not yet fully elucidated but is thought to be mainly respiratory.<sup>3,4</sup> Early signs and symptoms are vague and commonly misinterpreted as upper respiratory tract infection such as fever (43.8-88.7%) and cough (67.8%).<sup>5</sup> These common symptoms could lead to patients seeking treatment in an ORL Clinic.

More recently, a significant number of COVID-19 patients complained of anosmia/hyposmia. In Germany, more than two-third of confirmed cases had anosmia. What is more alarming is that countries such as US, France and Italy reported of isolated anosmia as the presenting symptom.<sup>6</sup>

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Once again, isolated anosmia would lead a patient to seek ORL consultation.

Besides the symptomology which may lead to undiagnosed COVID-19 patients coming to our clinic, some speculate that the higher risk in our profession could be due to high viral shedding from the nasal cavity.<sup>6</sup> The need for close contact with the patients during examination is one factor. The second factor is most of the ORL endoscopy procedures result in aerosolization.<sup>7,8</sup>

At this juncture, we advise judicious use of scopes and emphasize the importance of personal protection equipment. WHO provides guidance on personal protection equipment in infection prevention and control when COVID-19 is suspected. Eye protection (face shield or goggles) or facial protection (face mask preferably N95), gown and gloves should be worn, and healthcare workers are advised against touching any mucosal membranes (eyes, nose or mouth).<sup>3,9</sup> Do consult your relevant Infection Control Units, if available, for proper guidance.

Until we have flattened this curve, we wish all to remain safe and stay united in this fight against COVID-19.

### Executive Committee 2019-2020

Malaysian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists Head & Neck Surgeons / Chapter of ORL-HNS, College of Surgeons, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia

# ENDOKL2020 - 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Endoscopic Surgery of the Paranasal Sinuses Skull Base, Brain and Spine

## Report by Dr Carren Teh

In 2017, Malaysia was accorded the privilege to host the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress For Endoscopic Surgery of the Paranasal Sinuses Skull Base, Brain and Spine under the helm of Professor Dato' Dr Prepageran Narayanan, Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping, Associate Professor Dato' Dr Hari Chandran (ENDOKL2020 Organising Chairs) and the MSO-HNS Executive Committee 2019/2020. The event was planned for 15 to 18 July 2020 in Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

## PROGRAMME

The Congress was divided into three components which were as follows:

### A. Pre-Congress Workshops:

1. Advanced Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery Dissection
2. Basic Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Dissection
3. Advanced Otological Implants Workshop
4. Paediatric Airway Workshop
5. Paramedic Workshop

### B. Post Congress Workshop:

1. Endoscopic Ear Surgery
2. Temporal Bone Cadaveric Workshop

### C. Main Congress

The main congress was planned as a three and a half day event with nine tracks running simultaneously with the exception of the Keynote being single tracks. Topics included Endonasal, Expanded Skull Base, Intracranial and Spine, Rhinology, General ORL and Live Dissection Advanced Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery Demonstration

## TRAVEL GRANT

The Malaysian Government has pledged a financial contribution to ENDOKL2020 to facilitate young ORL-HNS specialists and trainees from developing countries in ASEAN to participate in the conference. Sixty (60) travel grants of USD400 per applicant were available from this contribution. The applicants must be below 40 years old and must have at least one abstract accepted for presentation.

Reimbursement would be made in cash by the Congress Secretariat on the third day of the conference. Participants have to provide passport for verification and the original receipts.

Applications were made online via the ENDOKL2020 website upon successful submission of abstract. The Congress Committee would decide on the successful applicants and the decision would be final. Five applications were received.

## RESPONSE

As of 10 January 2020, there were 250 faculty members from 43 countries who agreed to participate out of whom 180 had replied with their preferred topics. Seventy-three faculty members had registered for the Congress. There were 311 delegates from 37 different countries who had registered and 206 abstracts were received.

Pre and post-congress workshops had mixed response with the following registration numbers.

No	Workshop	Number of pax registered
1	Paediatric Airway Workshop	12
2	Paramedic Workshop	1
3	Basic FESS	11
4	Advanced FESS	6 (+7 observers)
5	Endoscopic Ear Surgery	5
6	Temporal Bone Cadaveric Workshop	2

## EFFECTS OF COVID-19

On 24 January 2020, Malaysia had her first Covid-19 case. Subsequently the world saw the effects of the pandemic and, as expected, we started to receive requests to cancel registration. As Malaysia entered into the Movement Control Order in March 2020, it was decided to postpone the event to April 2021. Letters were sent out to faculty, delegates and industry sponsors informing of the postponement with the hope that many would not withdraw.

However, in view of fact that the event will receive many international participants, the Organising Committee has decided that it would be best to postpone it to 2022. ENDOKL2022 - 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Endoscopic Surgery of the Paranasal Sinuses Skull Base, Brain and Spine is now slated for 6 to 8 October 2022. Please follow the ENDOKL website, officially ENDOKL2021.org



Part of the Organising Committee who joined EndoBarcelona during the handover ceremony and booth display in 2018

# Annual Scientific Meeting

## Report by Dr Revadi Govindaraju

The COVID-19 pandemic leads to many unprecedented events globally and this year some of the planned activities of the MSO-HNS have been severely disrupted by the pandemic including the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM).

The ASM was originally planned on 14 March 2020 at the VE Hotel, Bangsar South, Kuala Lumpur with a panel of judges that included Dr Barry Tan from Singapore as an external assessor. The meeting had to be abruptly postponed on the eve of the meeting due to the rising COVID-19 cases in the country and the government's call to restrict mass gatherings. The tentative new date was planned in June 2020; however, the pandemic was evolving at a rate that was causing uncertainties and concern for a safe gathering for an indefinite time. Therefore, in tandem with similar practices which was becoming a preferred option elsewhere, the MSO-HNS too embarked for the first time on a web-based platform to hold this meeting.

Microsoft Teams application was used as a platform to conduct the ASM and a forum on COVID-19. An invitation with a link for the meeting was sent out to all registered participants who joined the meeting via this app downloaded on computers as well on smartphones.

The webinar session began at 9.00 am with the forum titled "COVID-19 pandemic: Adapting and acclimatizing ENT Practices hereafter". The participating panel was from the COVID-19 designated hospitals in the Klang Valley and the session was moderated by Dr Kong Min Han. The session began with a lecture by Associate Professor Dr Sasheela Ponampalavanar, an Infectious Disease Consultant and also the pandemic preparedness and infection control coordinator of the COVID-19 task force of University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC). She gave us a brief overview of the COVID-19 infection. Her lecture covered an overview of the SARS-COV-2, viral shedding, and infectivity, the current treatment, plans for a patient discharged home, and follow-up plans for them including repeat swabs and antibody testing.

The next speaker was Dr Maria Kahar Bador, a clinical microbiologist of the virology unit of UMMC. Dr Maria is actively involved in the PCR testing of SARS-COV-2 and elaborated on the techniques of the PCR test, the sequence of the genome tested, interpretation of the test, home-made test kit, etc.

Dr Carren Teh Sui Lin, ENT Surgeon from Hospital Sungai Buloh, the National Infectious Disease Centre for Ministry of Health (MOH), gave us a pictorial tutorial of the adaptations made as the pandemic evolved. The initial adaptations in their set-up involved the reduction in outpatient department patient consultations to urgent cases, shunting of cases to other hospitals, the setting of the COVID-19 core team, and deployment of medical officers (MO) to inpatient wards/PUI screening centres. The other aspects shared in this session were the HCW screening and monitoring, training, welfare, and psychosocial aid. Patient care

adaptions included physical distancing measures in the clinics, telehealth options for non-urgent outpatient appointments, vacating inpatient wards designated for ENT patients to make way for the COVID-19 patients, cessation of all non-urgent ENT surgeries and adapting to PPEs for AGP procedures. She also shared a glimpse of the protocol drawn up by her team, awaiting to be incorporated into the National Guidelines by the MOH. The transition to hybrid hospital status and limitations in many aspects of patient care in the period to come or post-COVID-19 era were also discussed. Associate Professor Dr Tengku Ahmad Shahrizal, Consultant Otorhinolaryngologist, University Malaya Medical Centre, spoke on the adaptations in the practice to perform urgent ENT surgeries that had to continue for some patients. Lastly, Dr Rohaizam Jaafar, a Head and Neck Surgery fellow from Hospital Kuala Lumpur, shared his real life experience performing tracheostomy on a COVID-19 patient who also had a laryngeal carcinoma with impending airway obstruction.

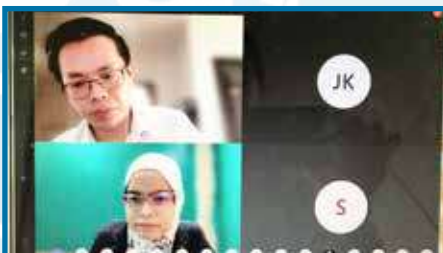
This meeting was logged in by 89 participants in total including the panelists. After a break, the meeting resumed at 11.00 am with the ASM, a platform for ENT trainees and young specialists to present their scientific papers and research. Twenty-three abstracts were received, and 19 candidates were finalised for the oral presentation. The researches encompassed animal studies, clinical trials, observational studies, systematic reviews, basic science in ENT, and diagnostic accuracy studies. As this was a first time online presentation experience for most of us, the organising team prepared for uncertainties from hiccups that might occur with this sort of unfamiliar technology. Dr Julius Goh assisted in training the presenters on the use of the Microsoft Teams application and conducting trial sessions for a smooth flow of the meeting. Back-up plans were also drawn up and power-point presentations with voice-overs were stored in case of connectivity issues. A total of 17 trainees and two young specialists participated in the meeting. Judges comprised representatives from USM, UKM, UM, UNIMAS and MOH. Paperless scoring sheets were prepared using Microsoft Excel and Google Forms which allowed the immediate transfer of marks to the organiser for tabulation. The session continued till 4.00 pm with a lunch break in between. The pre-lunch session was moderated by Dr Julius Goh and post-lunch session by Dr Zahirrudin Jaafar. The successful candidates were selected and will be awarded prizes in the next MSO-HNS meeting.

## ASM 2019/2020 WINNERS:

- Specialist group:  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jeyasakthy Saniasiaya
- Master students/MO:  
1<sup>st</sup>: Abdul Azim  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Thilaga Rajendran  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Christopher Yeoh



Pre-meeting testing of the ASM



One of the candidates presenting his paper



Virologist Dr Maria Kahar Bador online with her talk

# 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysian International ORL-HNS Congress and 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the MSO-HNS

## Report by Dr Masaany binti Mansor

The 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysian International Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (ORL-HNS) Congress and 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists - Head and Neck Surgeons (MSO-HNS) was held from 20 to 22 June 2019 at the Royale Chulan Hotel, Jalan Conlay, Kuala Lumpur.

The Paediatric Hearing Implant Pre-Congress Workshop spearheaded by Professor Dr Goh Bee See started the ball rolling on 19 June 2019. Various interesting updates on paediatric cochlear implantation and management of paediatric vertigo were discussed.



Newly elected MSO-HNS Executive Committee members 2019/2020 at 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting 2019



Speech by Dr Kong Min Han, President 2018/19

The response and attendance at the Congress itself was good with more than 400 participants including both local and international ENT surgeons, ENT trainees and medical officers. Thirty two companies were involved to make the meeting possible. There were 140 posters displayed and 12 free paper presentations.

Besides symposia covering all subspecialties, there was also live demonstration of videolaryngostroboscopy, rhinology and otology instructional courses plus free paper presentation sessions. The Annual Scientific Meeting was held simultaneously with the Congress sessions on the first day of the event to support and encourage research and presentations among ENT medical officers, trainees and newer generation of ENT surgeons.

A post-congress workshop concentrating in educating ENT nurses and paramedics was held on the third day of the meeting.

In conclusion, the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysian International ORL-HNS Congress was a success for dissemination of knowledge and sharing of expertise while creating networking and also opportunities to meet fellow colleagues in the fraternity.

## MSO-HNS Retreat 2019

### Report by Dr Kong Min Han

One of the last responsibilities as the President of MSO-HNS was to organise the MSO-HNS Retreat. Without fail, the past presidents had organised the retreat successfully in various venues in Malaysia. The responsibility was placed on me to organise the MSO-HNS Retreat 2019. I had chosen to hold the MSO-HNS Retreat 2019 in the beautiful island of Penang from 13 to 15 December 2019. The contemporary and beautiful Hard Rock Hotel at Batu Feringhi with front view facing the Straits of Malacca was chosen as the meeting place for the members of MSO-HNS and their families to get together and celebrate the togetherness, friendship and comradeship. The 3 days 2 nights retreat brought together approximately 60 families from all over Malaysia and attended by the senior as well as the junior specialists.

The meeting would be meaningless if it was only "play". We invited Dr Harvinder Singh, Consultant ENT Surgeon in Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun, Ipoh, Perak and Head for MSO-HNS Fee Schedule Subcommittee to speak on 13<sup>th</sup> Fee Schedule. He had addressed some of the issues and queries pertaining to the fee schedule.

Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh, Consultant ENT Surgeon in Prince Court Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur spoke on Artificial Intelligence in Medicine. It was an eye opening talk. He had described the current usage of AI in medicine and the future development. The facts that AI will be introduced in medicine is encouraging and worrying at the same time.

The retreat was successful and enjoyable. We will be looking forward to the next MSO-HNS Retreat.

Hard Rock HOTEL PENANG

MSO-HNS RETREAT 2019

Hard Rock Hotel, Penang | 13th - 15th December 2019  
Limited to 70 rooms only. First come, first serve basis.

• Open to MSO-HNS Life Members only

# MSO-HNS / Chapter of ORL-HNS, College of Surgeons, AMM 2019 Health Camp

*Report by Dr Mohd Nazir bin Othman*

Rumah Panjang Magretta in Julau, Sarawak was chosen as the venue for the 2020 annual MSO-HNS health screening camp. MSO-HNS had collaborated with UNIMAS, Sarawak ENT Society and Sarawak HEAR in planning the various activities i.e. health talk, poster exhibition and ENT health screening.

Unfortunately due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the event had to be cancelled in accordance to government rules and regulations. Nonetheless, our gratitude to all the MSO-HNS Executive Committee members who tirelessly contributed towards the above event.



# MSO-HNS / Chapter of ORL-HNS Malaysia ORL Primary Care Symposium Kuching ENT Primary Care Symposium 22 SEPTEMBER 2019

*Report by Dr Mohd Nazir bin Othman*

The Kuching ENT Primary Care Symposium supported by MSO-HNS, saw nearly 100 primary care doctors from Kuching and nearby areas, participating in this event held at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching, Sarawak on 22 September 2019. The participants experienced first-hand lectures and discussion delivered by experienced ENT surgeons regarding common ENT problems in primary care. This full day programme highlighted the importance of neonatal hearing screening and early interventions for paediatric hearing loss.



Panel of Speakers at MSO-HNS Kuching ENT Primary Care Symposium



MSO-HNS Kuching ENT Primary Care Symposium at Imperial Hotel, Kuching, Sarawak

# MSO-HNS Johor Bahru ENT Primary Care Symposium

## 19 October 2019

### Report by Dr Yap Yoke Yeow

MSO-HNS organised the ENT Primary Care symposium at Trove Hotel, Johor Bahru, Johor on 19 October 2019. There were 128 participants at the workshop. The panel speakers were mainly from Johor with others from Perak, Penang, Sabah and Sarawak. This successful event was supported by seven medical companies which enabled the participants to be updated with their products.



MSO-HNS Johor Bahru ENT Primary Care Symposium at Trove Hotel, Johor Bahru

# MSO-HNS Kuala Lumpur ENT Primary Care Symposium

## 24 November 2019

### Report by Dr Rajveer Singh Saren

MSO-HNS organised the ENT Primary Care Symposium at Aloft Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. Despite being a rainy Sunday morning, there were about 120 participants. The panel speakers were mainly from the Klang Valley. This successful event was supported by eight medical companies.



MSO-HNS Kuala Lumpur ENT Primary Care Symposium at Aloft Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

# MSO-HNS Penang ENT Primary Care Symposium

## 15 December 2019

### Report by Dr Zahirudin bin Zakaria

MSO-HNS Penang ENT Primary Care Symposium was held successfully on 15 December 2019 at the Hard Rock Hotel, Penang. This symposium was organised by the MSO-HNS in collaboration with the ORL Department, Hospital Pulau Pinang.

Various topics covering the common Otorhinolaryngology diseases were well presented by the distinguished speakers mainly Otorhinolaryngology Surgeons and also an Audiologist and a Speech Therapist.

As this event was the only MSO-HNS Primary care symposium held in the Northern region, the response was overwhelming. A total of 98 participants mainly primary care doctors from Penang, Perak, Kedah and also Perlis came to this event.

The participants stay till the end of the event and continued the discussion even when the event has finished.

From the feedback of the participants, they were really impressed on how the symposium was handled as the speakers covered the most

important aspects that are relevant to their practice. They also felt that the usage of Telegram is a good platform for the participants to engage with speakers for a two-way communication.

We really hope this event can be organised annually.



A total of 98 participants attended the MSO-HNS Penang ENT Primary Care Symposium at Hard Rock Hotel, Penang

# MSO-HNS Sabah ENT Primary Care Symposium

## 12 January 2020

### Report by Dr Ahmad Nordin

This was the final edition of the programme, which was previously conducted in Kuching, Johor Bahru, Kuala Lumpur and Georgetown for the 2019/2020 session. The lecture series were similar, the only difference being the speakers. The majority of the speakers were based in government and private sectors in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.

The symposium drew 86 participants from the private general practitioner clinics and government clinics around Sabah. Some drove and flew in from out of Kota Kinabalu to attend this event, including one GP from West Malaysia.



Participants in Sabah

At the end of the event, the participants were still very receptive and attentive. Post mortem with the crowd yielded good reviews and they hope that in future the lectures would go into great details in topics regarding emergencies in ORL. We hope that Sabah will be listed as regular venue for this annual symposium programme.



Panel of speakers in Sabah

# Welcoming New Otorhinology-Head and Neck Surgeons 2019

### Report by Associate Professor Dr Ramiza Ramza Ramli

Universiti Sains Malaysia had the honour of hosting the 2019 Conjoint Otorhinology-Head and Neck Surgery Master of Medicine final examinations for the year 2019. The examinations were hosted and organised by the Department of Otorhinology-Head and Neck Surgery, Universiti Sains Malaysia, in April and November 2019. The candidates were from Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, University of Malaya, and KPJ Healthcare University College. The theory examinations were held on 22 April and 10 October 2019, whereas the clinical examinations, which consist of long cases, short cases, and viva-voce, were held on the 28 April till 30 April 2019 and 18 November till 20 November 2019 respectively. Examiners for the examinations include internal examiners, mainly from the universities involved, and invited external examiners. In the April 2019 MMED examinations, the external examiner was Professor Dr Abhilash

Balakrishnan from Singapore, and for the November 2019 examination, Associate Professor Dr Rashid Al-Abri from Oman.

Thirty candidates sat for the clinical exams during the April 2019 examinations, and 26 candidates in November 2019. Out of the total of 56 candidates who sat for the MMED ORL-HNS examinations, 14 candidates passed the April 2019 examination and 19 candidates the November 2019 examination.

Therefore in the year 2019, as many as 33 new Otorhinology and Head and Neck Surgeons will go through 6 months gazettement by the Ministry of Health at their respectful hospitals. After the gazettement, the new surgeons will be posted throughout the country giving services to the community and Malaysia as a whole.



The organising team with Associate Professor Dr Rashid



Examiners after discussing about the MMED ORL-HNS results



# Universiti Malaysia Sarawak & Sarawak General Hospital Cadaveric Dissection & Paediatric Airway Workshop 13 to 21 September 2019

*Report by Dr Asfa Najmi binti Mohammad Yusof*

The Cadaveric Dissection and Paediatric Airway Workshop was held from the 13 to 21 September 2019 in the Anatomy Lab of Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Kota Samarahan, Sarawak. The workshop was jointly organised by ORL-HNS Department of UNIMAS, ORL-HNS Department and Neurosurgery Department of Sarawak General Hospital. The main objective was to enable new ORL surgeons, neurosurgeons and medical officers including Master students to improve their knowledge and skills in their respective fields.

The programme for the whole week included:

1. Temporal Bone workshop (28 participants)
2. Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery & Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery workshop (36 participants)
3. Neurosurgery workshop (5 participants)
4. Head and Neck Surgery workshop (17 participants)
5. Paediatric Airway workshop (21 participants)

A total of 60 local and 4 international delegates participated in this course. Five local guest speakers and facilitators were involved in making the course a success. This course received very good feedback and comments from the participants.



Temporal Bone Dissection Workshop



FESS & Advanced Skull Base Surgery Dissection Workshop



Cadaveric Dissection Workshop



Paediatric Airway Workshop

# National ORL Symposium, Technical and Scientific Meeting 2019

## 24 - 26 September 2019

### Report by Dr Mohd Nazir bin Othman

National ORL Symposium, Technical and Scientific Meeting, an annual event for ORL services, supported by Medical Development Division (Bahagian Perkembangan Perubatan), Ministry of Health Malaysia was held from 24 to 26 September 2019.

The ORL Department of Sarawak General Hospital played host this 2019 edition of this symposium. Held at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching, Sarawak, this three-day event brought together 200 participants comprising doctors, nurses and paramedics from all Ministry of Health ORL centres in Malaysia.

Skull base surgery was the main theme of this event. Lectures, live cadaveric dissection demonstrations, forums and workshops were held to engage participants and presenters. Among the highlights were the discussions on skull base clinical techniques with notable mention on the invaluable experiences of the invited neurosurgeons and anterior and lateral skull base ORL surgeons, who shared information on their collaborations in developing skull base units.

It was truly an enriching experience for the attendees; from experiencing first-hand the colourful cultural diversity of Sarawak to coming together on this common platform to share, learn, improve, develop and expand future ORL services.



Cadaveric skull base surgery demonstration by Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping, MSO-HNS President 2019/2020



Participants of National ORL Symposium, Technical and Scientific Meeting 2019



# 21<sup>st</sup> Sabah State Clinical Conference

## 10 & 11 September 2019

### Report by Dr Ahmad Nordin

Our department was fortunate to be chosen to conduct this prestigious state event, which has been held annually in various towns in Sabah since 1999. Initially organised solely by the Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Sabah, the task has been handed over in rotation to various districts and departments to host the event over the years.

As with previous years, there was a theme for the conference and the topics should involve the various disciplines. We have chosen 'Holistic Approach to Head and Neck Cancer' as our theme as cancer management has always been a multidisciplinary approach. Professor Dr Mohd Razif Mohamad Yunus from UKM and Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping from UNIMAS were our plenary speakers on both days. We had speakers from disciplines involved directly and indirectly in head and

neck cancer management, to give us a broader perspective of what the patients go through during their most challenging times.

Our other lecturers were from these departments and units: Anaesthesia, Radiology, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery, Pathology, Plastic Surgery, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Oncology, Wound Care, Dietetics, Speech Therapy, Psychiatry, Palliative Care, Social Welfare and Unit Hasil.

This conference drew 205 attendees and they represented the various hospitals and clinics in districts of Sabah. On feedback, most of them were glad to have attended this event for exposure as well as an update on head and neck cancer.



# Sabah ORL Update 2019

## 26 & 27 August 2019

### Report by Dr Ahmad Nordin

This is our second edition state event organised by the Department of ORL, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. In previous years, we ran the state level ORL Emergency and Tracheostomy Workshop annually. Our plan was to have this event to complement the topics which were not covered in the scope of emergency and tracheostomy. The Audiology and Speech Therapy unit was actively involved as well and we had lectures and workshop sessions from our medical assistants and nursing side as well.

Target participants were the staff from the districts as we intend to expose them to topics which they might not be familiar with, as the medical officers in district do not undergo formal ORL training when they are posted out. This workshop drew 96 participants from the whole of Sabah, mainly from district hospitals and health clinics located along the West Coast.

The lectures were held in the morning in the auditorium. In the afternoon, the participants were divided into groups for interactive

teaching. Here they were given demonstration, discussion on case scenarios and view close up on items used in ORL practice.



# 3<sup>rd</sup> ORL Dissection Workshop 2020

## organised by Department of ORL, Hospital Sungai Buloh in collaboration with Department of ORL, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya

### Report by Dr Carren Teh

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Hospital Sungai Buloh and University of Malaya have always believed in the importance of education and hands-on workshops as an effective method of learning. In early 2020, we organised our 3<sup>rd</sup> Dissection Workshop at the Makmal Simulasi Surgeri in University of Malaya. Dissection was performed on imported fresh frozen cadavers which provided the best training experience without the bleeding and risk on live patients.



Professor Dr Tang addressing questions from participants

Endoscopic Sinus Surgery was held on 11 & 12 February 2020 where participants had the opportunity to learn and practice under the tutelage of Professor Dato' Dr Prepageran Narayanan, Professor Dr

Salina bt Husain, Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping, Dr Abdul Fattah, Dr Ida Sadja'ah and Dr Indirani Batumalay. The highlight of this event was the opportunity to practise Eustachian Tube Balloon Dilation on top of the usual programme.



Makmal Simulasi Surgeri, University of Malaya



Group photo of the Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Moderators, Participants and Organising team

Head and Neck Dissection Workshop was held on 13 & 14 February 2020 with Professor Dr Mohd Razif Mohamad Yunus, Associate Professor Dr Zulkiflee Abu Bakar, Dr Avatar Singh, Dr Zakinah bt Yahaya, Dr Masaany bt Mansor, Dr Kong Min Han and Associate Professor Dr Mawaddah bt

Azman guiding the participants. This year we attracted candidates from the Dental Faculty who were interested to learn more about head and neck dissections. We also had international participants who returned for the second time while bringing colleagues with them.



Professor Dr Mohd Razif at the helm



Dr Avatar Singh working his magic



Group photo with the Head and Neck Dissection Workshop Moderators, Participants and Organising team

The Temporal Bone Course was held on 17 & 18 February 2020 after a break over the weekend. This time we had the otologists and lateral skull base surgeons from near and far including Professor Dato' Dr Prepageran Narayanan, Professor Dr Tang Ing Ping, Dr Sobani bin Din, Dr Fadzilah bt Ismail, Dr Iskandar Hailani, Dr Azila bt Alias and Dr Mohd Sazafi. The participants had the opportunity to learn more about endoscopic ear surgeries in keeping with the current advances. This was followed by the traditional temporal bone course.

As with the previous workshops, we had reserved slots for master students or medical officers at special discounted rates taking into account the need for practice but not wanting to further burden those who are still training. A total of 55 participants including 3 international delegates attended the dissection workshop. The event was a success as all dissection seats were taken up and we had good post workshop reviews. This would not have been possible without the good collaboration between University of Malaya and Hospital Sungai Buloh and the support from the industry such as UMMI Surgical, Humedical, Storz, Zeiss, Medel and Easmed.



One-to-one coaching by Dr Fadzilah Ismail (left) and Dr Mohd Sazafi (right)



Group photo with the Temporal Bone Course Moderators, Participants and Organising team

# ORL Health Camp at Hospital Orang Asli Gombak

**Report by Abdul Ruhi Ul Azim, Mr Shankar Ramasundram, Mr Zainal Azmi bin Zainal Abidin**

On the 30 November 2019, the ORL Department of Hospital Selayang held a health camp at Hospital Orang Asli Gombak (HOAG). About 20 staff were involved in this programme including doctors, audiologists, speech therapists and supporting staff.

The health camp started at 8.00 am. About 80 participants attended comprising various ethnicities. There were not only Malay and Chinese patients but also Iban, Bidayuh, Orang Asli and Kadazans. Screening for ORL head and neck pathologies was performed with assistance of rigid and flexible endoscopes. HOAG also provided special rooms for our audiologists to do tympanometry and pure tone audiogram while our

speech therapist concentrated on speech assessment among children aged between two to four years old.

The session ended at 2.00 pm. Packed brunch and goody bags prepared by our supporting staff were distributed to all participants. ORL pathologies such as allergic rhinitis, deviated septum, otitis media, sensorineural hearing loss, obstructive sleep apnoea and delayed speech were identified in addition to the cases of impacted ear wax. All patients were given subsequent follow up dates to our ORL clinic for further management.



# USM Head & Neck Cadaveric Workshop in conjunction with 5<sup>th</sup> World Head and Neck Cancer Day 2019

**Report by Dr Azliana Aziz, Associate Professor Dr Irfan Mohamad, Associate Professor Dr Norhafiza Mat Lazim**

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, School of Medical Sciences, USM Health Campus, Kelantan, had successfully organised the USM Head and Neck Cadaveric Workshop 2019, in conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> World Head & Neck Cancer Day (WHNCD) 2019. This was held for two days on 5 & 6 August 2019 with the collaboration of the Department of Anatomy and Kelab Komuniti ORL. The workshop was held at MPG2 lab, School of Medical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Health Campus, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan, Malaysia.

It was a fruitful, hands-on cadaveric course with all participants and observers benefitting from the course as there were demonstrations by the experts prior to cadaveric dissections. All dissectors had great hands-on experiences, performing and training on most of head and neck surgical oncology procedures ranging from oral cavity surgery, salivary glands surgery, neck dissection, laryngectomy, mandibulotomy, and mandibulectomy and so forth. We were delighted with the gracious presence of Professor Dato' Dr Ab Rani Samsudin, who had made the event more meaningful with his personal teaching and guidance. There were in total 40 participants including observers coming from all over Malaysia.

We expressed our deepest gratitude to everyone involved in this excellent event, especially the moderators and the Organising Committee members who had given their full support and commitment. We hope that this course will continue to improve hands-on skills, anatomical and surgical knowledge of our local ENT trainees and young budding head and neck surgeons.



Speakers and participants of the workshop



The Organising Committee of the workshop

# Tour de Borneo 2020: Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Health Camp

## 29 February & 1 March 2020

### Report by Dr Ahmad Nordin

This health camp was co-organised with Group of Otorhinolaryngologists, Audiologists, Speech Therapists Kota Kinabalu (GOAST), MSO-HNS and Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) Department Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. This inaugural event was intended to create awareness and provide health screening to the small town of Kota Belud. This town was chosen as it has a high incidence of head and neck cancer in Sabah, especially oral cancer.

The health camp was held at Tamu Besar area, which is the weekly local market area where most people gather. The health screening area consisted of:

- **ORL area:**  
nasal and neck cancer screening, audiometry screening and speech & swallowing disorder screening
- **OMFS area:**  
oral cancer screening and dental screening with simple dental procedures with Kota Belud Dental team
- **Ophthalmology area:**  
cataract screening (by Kota Belud Ophthalmology team)
- **Health clinic area:**  
blood donation, Oral Polio vaccine administration, DASS - Mental screening assessment and basic health screening for blood glucose, blood pressure, etc

In total, 142 persons were screened with four picked up for NPC, sinonasal carcinoma and cholesteatoma. OMFS had 60 persons checked and seven detected with early cancer. Audiology team screened 61 public members and out of this, 28 needed further assessment in QEH. Simultaneously, some of the staff went over to the local market vendors to spread awareness regarding oral cancer with simple short advice and distribution of cancer information leaflet.

In case you are wondering why this was called Tour de Borneo, the journey to this town from Queen Elizabeth Hospital was actually done by cycling. A handful of the surgeons, dental officers, audiologists and paramedics actually rode on bicycles for 82 km from Kota Kinabalu to Kota Belud. Since the majority were not regular cyclists, the single day ride was broken down into few stops to rest, refuel and exchange riders.

The cyclists were escorted with support crew consisting of two pick up trucks and three cars. The ride itself was rather easy at the initial part, but for the last 15 km we had to ride up two steep hills of 170 metres climb back-to-back. In the end, all riders made it safely to our final destination without any major mishap. A few obstacles encountered were punctured bicycle tyre, bicycle gear malfunction and severe muscle cramps.

We thank again the Kota Belud Hospital under the command of the Hospital Director, Dr Primus John, who supported us in terms of logistics, manpower and promotion of event among others from the very beginning. Also to the Kota Belud District Dental team led by Dr Nursyafika Abdul Khalim for assembling the local dental team and all the equipment. As with previous Sabah MSO-HNS health camp, Karl Storz stepped up again to support us, with their staff driving up to Kota Belud to provide the scopes and camera system.

The initial idea of this tour was an impromptu brainstorming session with OMFS surgeon, Dr Saravanan, to cycle to our destination while creating awareness and setting a health camp at the same time. For this inaugural event, we received positive feedback from the participants, district health staff and local folks. In future, we plan to do it on annual basis, cycling to other districts in Sabah, to set up this similar campaign.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> ORL OMFS Ophthalmology Hill Stair Climbathon 7 December 2019

### *Report by Dr Ahmad Nordin*

This is one of the annual events organised for ORL staff in Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. To foster relationship with other departments, we opened registration to colleagues in neighbouring departments, which are OMFS and Ophthalmology since the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition in 2018.

The participants were separated into categories based on gender and age groups, regardless of their hierarchy. All participants were required to first run at the hospital compound, then run up the gradual slope up the hillside area and back towards the hospital. They then head towards the stairs and ascend up to Level 10 which was the finish line.

Although it was a competitive event, it fostered good sportsmanship among the staff from each department. Everyone had a good time, despite being breathless and worn out at the finish line. This was also the final event of the annual inter-departmental games which previously included bowling and badminton.



## First Rhinology Masterclass 2019 in collaboration with Ministry of Health

### *Report by Ms Fauziah Nasir, Ms Hafiza Zanan*

The First Rhinology Masterclass in collaboration with Ministry of Health was organised by the Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Hospital Putrajaya. The two-day course was held at the Putrajaya Hospital from 24 to 25 July 2019. It was limited to doctors only and was attended by 49 participants from all over the country involving 32 specialists and 17 medical officers.

The topics chosen were based on AAO format and broad based topics pertaining purely to rhinology including basic anatomy, radiology, surgical techniques and latest updates on management. All the topics were delivered by nine distinguished rhinologists who graciously came

to contribute from all over Malaysia. Participants were provided soft copies of the slides upon registration and showed great interest throughout the course and actively participated during the Q&A session.

The course ended successfully and the overwhelming positive feedback from the participants was that they look forward for similar events in the future. The Rhinology fraternity has decided to have the Rhinology Masterclass every two years and the next Masterclass will be held in Kota Bahru, Kelantan in the year 2021.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Ipoh Obstructive Sleep Apnea Workshop and Healthcare Screening “No one should snore anymore”

*Report by Dr Pathma Letchumanan*

On 11 to 13 August 2019 and Department of ORL, Hospital Raja Perempunan Bainun, Ipoh, Perak had taken another step in promoting awareness of OSA. This three-day course had become an eye opener not only to healthcare providers but also to the public. The first day of the event focused on screening and raising awareness to the staff of HRPB. Held in Conference Room, HRPB, it was officiated by Dr Philip Rajan, Head of Department of ORL, HRPB. The second day of the event highlighted the OSA problems among children. It was held at Sekolah

Pakatan Jaya and was officiated by Datin Seri Dato' Normee Radzi. More than 100 students were successfully screened during this event. The last day of the event aimed to educate the public about OSA and was held at AEON, Kinta City Mall. The event was blessed with the presence of Executive Committee Member Perak, YB Sivanesan A/L Achalingam. The public was entertained with fun activities such as aerobic and sketches of OSA screening. This workshop had been a success in spreading awareness regarding OSA to health personnel as well as the public.



Organising Committee

## 9<sup>th</sup> ENT Primary Care & Tracheostomy Course and Workshop

*Report by Dr Izzatul Suib*

On 11 March 2020, Otorhinolaryngology Department, Hospital Raja Permasuri Bainun had conducted the 9<sup>th</sup> ENT Primary Care and Tracheostomy Course and Workshop. This workshop was held in Seminar Room in HRPB for two days. More than 100 participants joined the course and they were all doctors, staff nurses and assistant medical officers from district hospitals and Klinik Kesihatan.

Dr Philip Rajan, as the head of Department of ORL HRPB, was the one who delivered the welcoming speech. The speakers were Dr Harvinder Singh, Dr Pathma Letchumanan, Dr Meenakshi, Dr Nik Mohamad Yunus, Dr Ng Sze Yin, Dr Benjamin, Dr Dinesh, Dr Kumareysh, Dr Izzatul, Dr Pravina, Dr Nabila, Dr Sree, Dr Teh, Dr Ruthran and Dr Yee.

The lectures given during the course were mainly about common emergency ENT presentation to primary care and early management to

stabilize the patients before sending to ENT. Dr Harvinder and Dr Pathma who attended the Training-of-Trainers (TOT) course in Putrajaya in 2018 for chronic sinusitis and nasopharyngeal carcinoma, incorporated the two topics into the ENT update teaching each year. The course also emphasized on tracheostomy care and problems that might arise from tracheostomy. Doctors were reminded to make an urgent referral to ENT centres if they suspected ENT malignancy cases based on clinical signs and symptoms. Basic ENT examination and instruments, and tracheostomy care were taught during hands-on session. To evaluate their understanding on the lectures, quizzes were given and discussed.

The course was a success with everyone gaining new knowledge and experience. We were hoping to be able to continue conducting this course every year as it benefits all.





# ENT Clinical Examinations and DOHNS/MRCS (ENT) OSCE Preparatory Course 2020

*Reported by Dr Pathma Letchumanan*

This course was conducted from 7 to 8 March 2020 in Weil Hotel, Ipoh, Perak by the ENT department, Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun, Ipoh. It was attended by 20 participants consisting of local ENT Master students and medical officers from all over Malaysia. The main purpose of the course was to offer students hands-on experience and also important highlights in preparation for DOHNS (Diploma in Otorlaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery) part 2 and also local ENT postgraduate exam.



This course consist of two parts. The first part was an OSCE session with written exam and communication skills. Participants were tested on their ENT knowledge and also communication skills with patients which is an important component of DOHNS part 2 exam. The second part were lectures by local and international speakers.

Speakers from local and international faculty were invited to help in conducting the course. Dr Ho Eu Chin from Tan Tock Sing Hospital, Singapore and Dr Somasundaran Subramaniam from NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine were the international speakers and also examiners.

Local speakers were Professor Dr Mohd Razif from UKM and Dr Jeyanthi Kulasegarah from UM. Other local speakers were Dr Philip Rajan, Dr Harvinder Singh, Dr Benjamin Goh, Dr Anusha and Dr Yeoh Xhi Ziang.



## Daycare Services in ENT, Ministry of Health

*Report by Dr Pathma Letchumanan*

In 2018, the ENT Department of Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun hosted the National ORL Symposium & Scientific Meeting at Hotel Impiana, Ipoh, Perak. The topic addressed was Expanding Horizons in Daycare Surgery.

During the three-day symposium, we discussed in detail the definition of daycare services, services each speciality could offer as daycare, overseas experiences on daycare services, etc. We also had free paper and poster presentations by HRPB ENT medical officers. The symposium was well attended by specialists and medical assistants from ENT centres in the country.

Following the symposium we have had two meetings in Putrajaya to move forward in increasing the number of cases from ENT faculty. The meeting on 24 January 2019 was to elect champions for each state who

will educate and distribute the enthusiasm to start daycare services in other ENT clinics within their state. They were also asked to collect data on the number of cases done as daycare in each hospital. We decided to keep our Target Index simple with 1) Tonsillectomy without adenoidectomy and 2) Tonsillectomy with adenoidectomy. We had inclusion and exclusion criteria and patient satisfaction survey forms done.

At the recent meeting on 2 March 2020, many issues faced by the various hospitals were discussed including inappropriate forms used for admission and discharging of daycare patients and how the data cannot be captured in the national census, etc.

Overall the number of cases done as daycare and hospitals starting to use this services has increased since the first meeting.



# 1<sup>st</sup> National Paediatric ORL Masterclass 2019 - Training of Trainers for Paediatric Otology & Airway Update

## Report by Dr Yeoh Zhi Xiang

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah, Alor Setar, Kedah, with support from the Medical Development Division of Ministry of Health (MOH), Malaysia, had successfully organised the 1<sup>st</sup> National Paediatric ORL Masterclass on 21 & 22 October 2019, at Aloft Langkawi, Langkawi, Kedah. The two-day event was the first of its kind to be held at the national level involving the Paediatric Otorhinolaryngology Subspecialty of the Ministry, with guest speakers invited from the university hospitals in the country. Themed "Training of Trainers for Paediatric Otology & Airway Update", the meeting brought together experienced paediatric otorhinolaryngologists throughout the nation to share and exchange the latest developments in patient management strategies in Paediatric Otology and Airway. The event was officiated by Dato' Dr Siti Sabzah Mohd Hashim, the National Head of Otorhinolaryngology Service, Ministry of Health, Malaysia, who is herself an accomplished Senior Consultant Paediatric Otorhinolaryngologist. More than 40 delegates from hospitals nationwide - MOH, universities and private hospitals joined the event to gain invaluable expertise knowledge in the cosy but vibrant ambience in Aloft Langkawi. Professor Dr Goh Bee See (UKM), Professor Dr Suzina Sheikh Ab Hamid (USM) and Dr Jeyanthi A/P Kulasegarah (UM) graced the event by sharing their clinical case managements in academic tertiary referral centres, besides interesting lectures from other consultants such as Dr Norzi Gazali (Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah),

Dr Hashimah Ismail (Hospital Raja Perempuan Zainab II), Dr Saraiza Abu Bakar (Hospital Serdang), and Dr Izny Hafiz Zainon (Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah). The future plans and strategies of Paediatric ORL services in the country were also discussed enthusiastically. Everyone who attended the event benefitted from the interactive sessions carried out during the event and gave positive responses.



# Kedah Regional ORL Week 2019

## Report by Dr Yeoh Zhi Xiang

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah, Alor Setar, Kedah, in collaboration with ORL, Audiology and Speech Education Society Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah (OASES), had organised the Kedah Regional ORL Week 2019 on 18 to 21 August 2019. The event was a blend of academic discussion and clinical management updates for the ORL fraternity, benefitting ORL doctors and paramedics alike. With the events held in the spacious Auditorium in Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah, the series of courses attracted more than 100 delegates in total, mainly from hospitals in Northern Region. The first two days of the ORL Week were allocated for the Kedah Regional ORL Rendezvous, during which two full days of comprehensive topics relevant to daily ORL practice were presented by both residents and invited lecturers. Audiology and Speech Pathology topics were also presented to improve

multidisciplinary integration in providing best patient care. On the third day, the Kedah Regional ORL Emergency Update enlightened salient issues in managing various ORL emergencies which are pertinent even in general outpatient and emergency settings. Last but not least, the Kedah Regional ORL Tracheostomy Care Update complemented the day four by providing small group interactive hands-on sessions for all delegates in practical issues of handling surgical airway in various patient situations. The residents and invited lecturers were consultants in respective sub-specialties hence the discussions were carried out not only in an interesting and fruitful manner to the relatively junior audience, but also served as in-depth exchange of knowledge and expertise to improve collaborative ORL service provision within the region.



# Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Hospital Melaka ORL Week 2019

## *Report by Dr Pathma Letchumanan*

2019 marked the fifth time our Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Melaka has organised the ORL week which is organised biennially since 2011. We conducted this ORL week from 6 to 9 August 2019 in the ORL-HNS Clinic, Hospital Melaka. Our aim for this event was to provide exposure to the local community on the importance of early detection and management of ear, nose and throat conditions in order to improve the quality of life.

We had organised various programmes in ORL week 2019. We conducted daily free screening throughout the ORL week for general population who included school children, patients and their relatives, Hospital Melaka healthcare workers and others. Anyone could walk in for a quick, yet comprehensive free ENT check-ups. Patients were given subsequent follow up if they were found to have any pathology. From a total of 260 screened patients, 120 were found to be having ENT illness and were given appointments. Lectures were given to participants on common ENT conditions such as managing discharging ear, allergic rhinitis, Epistaxis, foreign bodies in ENT, hearing loss, obstructive sleep apnea, head & neck cancer, speech & language delay, universal newborn

screening, etc. Educational posters emphasizing on early detection of head and neck cancers, and other common ENT conditions were made available in the exhibition booth for the patients and public.

We also conducted poster competitions where our ORL medical officers presented their interesting and valuable academic studies and case reports. We dedicated an entire day for tracheostomy on the last day of the event, where we explain the indications and proper care of tracheostomy followed by an hands-on workshop to wrap up the entire ORL week.

The ORL week continues to be an important event that has been incorporated into Hospital Melaka event calendar. It provides benefits to various parties especially the general population.

This programme will be continued in the future with improvements emphasizing latest up-to-date management, and empowering patients in their own health care through education.



ASHNO KUALA LUMPUR  
2021

7<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN SOCIETY OF HEAD  
& NECK ONCOLOGY

3<sup>RD</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021



Organized by  
The Malaysian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists Head and Neck Surgeon  
(Chapter of ORL)  
In collaboration with  
Malaysian Oncological Society  
Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon



**ENDOKL 2022**  
**9<sup>th</sup>** WORLD CONGRESS FOR  
ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY OF THE  
PARANASAL SINUSES, SKULL BASE,  
BRAIN AND SPINE  
incorporating the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysian International  
ORL-HNS Congress  
Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
**FINAL DATE: 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2020

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