



MALAYSIAN UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL
SURGICAL SOCIETY (MUGIS)

MUGIS 2025

in collaboration with
Upper Gastro-Intestinal Society of ASEAN (USAN)

17-18 October 2025 @ CCEC@The Vertical

Organised by



PRECISION MEDICINE: NAVIGATING PATIENT-CENTERED OUTCOMES

MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker At-a-glance



Dr. Hans Alexander Mahendran



Prof. Nik Ritza Kosai



Asst. Prof. Asim Shabbir



Prof. Takeo Fujita



Dr. Lau Peng Choong



Prof. Lee Yeong Yeh



Prof. Masanori Terashima



Prof. Jimmy So



Dr. Ooi Wei Keat



Dr. Wong Wei Jin



Dr. Sekkapan Thannimalai A/L
Sambanthan



Dr. Kelvin Voon



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Dr. Tee Sze Chee



Dr. Voraboot Taweerutchana



Dr. Rohana Abdul Ghani



Dr. Ng Chong Beng



Dr. Ho Shiaw Hooi



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MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker's Profile



Asim Shabbir

Institution: National University Hospital

Country: Singapore

Speaker Bio

A/Prof Asim Shabbir is Head & Senior Consultant with the Department of Surgery, National University Hospital (NUH) and Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine).

He completed his basic and advance surgical training at NUH, Singapore. He was awarded fellowships from Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and was accredited a surgical specialist by the Specialist accreditation board in 2007. In 2009, he did a clinical fellowship on Gastric cancer management with special interest in laparoscopic surgery for gastric cancer at the Seoul National University Hospital, South Korean. In 2010, he trained at Eda Hospital, I Shou University Kaohsiung, Taiwan in Bariatric and Metabolic surgery and was awarded as Fellowship.

A/Prof Asim's specialty is general surgery, and his special interests are upper gastrointestinal surgery, bariatric & metabolic surgery, advance endoscopy and laparoscopic surgery. He has been active in international as well as local meeting of his interest. His research interest includes obesity, surgery for type 2 diabetes and gastric cancer. He won the Best free paper award for his presentation "Laparoscopic Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass for the Treatment of Type II Diabetes Mellitus in Chinese Patients with Body 25-35kg/m² at Asia Pacific metabolic bariatric surgical society meeting 2010. He has published in reputed journals in his field of interest.





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MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker's Profile



Woo Jin HYUNG

Institution: Yonsei University Hospital

Country: Korea

Speaker Bio

Dr. Hyung is a Professor of the Department of Surgery at Yonsei University College of Medicine. As a gastric surgeon, he was the first to introduce robotic surgery for gastric cancer in Korea and now has the world's largest number of robotic gastric cancer surgery cases. He has numerous publications in authoritative academic journals on minimally invasive surgery through laparoscopic and robotic surgery. His main areas of research interest are surgical oncology, especially gastric cancer, image-guided surgery, and fluorescence use in minimally invasive surgery. In May 2017, he established a start-up company named "Hutom" which is developing a surgical navigation and surgery analytics platform using surgical data science with artificial intelligence.



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MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker's Profile



Reuben Wong Kong-Min

Institution: National University Singapore

Country: Singapore

Speaker Bio

Associate Professor (Adj) Reuben KM WONG

MBBS AGAF FRCP FAMS RFF

Reuben is an Associate Professor of Medicine, and adjunct faculty at the National University of Singapore. Apart from being a practising specialist in Gastroenterology & Hepatology, he is also a Fellow of the American Gastroenterological Association, Royal College of Physicians and Academy of Medicine (Singapore) and a Rome Foundation Fellow.

Reuben was awarded a MOH HMDP Award, and completed his sub-specialty training at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill under the mentorship of Professors Douglas Drossman and William Whitehead of the Rome Foundation. He honed his skills in the management of complex functional gastrointestinal disorders within a multi-disciplinary setting, and trained in esophageal motility and anorectal manometry testing.

In his near two decades of public service, he introduced High Resolution Esophageal Manometry to, and grew, the utility of pH-Impedance testing in Singapore. He was a Senior Consultant and Director of the NUHS Gastrointestinal Motility Lab and still remains the lead specialist involved with esophageal motility and reflux testing. He is also actively involved in drafting the new language for both upper and lower gut motility testing, and sits on both the International Anorectal Physiology Workgroup, and the Esophageal Chicago IV Revision Committee. He was also involved with the SAGES POEMS guidelines workgroup and is a co-chair on the Rome V Chapter Committee.

Reuben has a keen subspecialty interest in the field of IBS, chronic constipation and gut motility, as well as being recognised for his work on quality improvement in colon cancer screening. He was part of the Rome Global Study workgroup, and lectures with the International Scientific Association for Probiotics and Prebiotics. He has an active interest in the realm of gut microbiota and was part of the team that introduced Fecal Microbiota Transplantation to Singapore.

He has authored multiple peer-reviewed publications and book chapters; and is regularly invited as a key opinion leader to speak and chair sessions at international scientific meetings and workshops, as well as sitting on medical





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advisory boards and national committees. His research has garnered awards and been presented and cited at international conferences.

With his passion for education, Reuben is actively involved in both undergraduate and post-graduate teaching, and leads GIMotility, an internationally renowned upper and lower motility hands-on teaching course. He is also a chair of the Rome Partners Group, established to support and grow mid-career upcoming professionals in neurogastroenterology.

A proponent of patient education and empowerment, Reuben regularly contributes media articles and shares about gut health on radio and television. He is Past President of the IBS Support Group (Singapore) and remains an advisor. He is conversant in English, Mandarin, Bahasa Indonesia and multiple dialects.

Reuben is a founding partner of Gutcare, where his clinical practice is based, and where he's established the only gut motility lab to-date in private practice. He's actively involved in church and community service, serving on the Parochial Church Council and well as committees at St Andrew's Cathedral and St Andrew's Nursing Home. He serves on the Medical Board of Mt Alvernia Hospital. More than anything, he enjoys time with his wife Jane and their four kids.



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MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker's Profile



Rohana Abd Ghani

Institution: UiTM

Country: Malaysia

Speaker Bio

Consultant Endocrinologist and Professor of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, MARA Technology University (UiTM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

She received her undergraduate education in University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, Ireland. She pursued her postgraduate studies in Masters in Internal Medicine and subsequently completed her Endocrine Fellowship Training at the National University of Malaysia (UKM).

She is actively involved in the teaching of both undergraduate and postgraduate students within the faculty. She is also involved in the Endocrine services including the UiTM Endocrine and Weight Management Clinic. She is one of the researchers within the faculty leading various international as well as national research grants with special interests in the various aspects of diabetes and obesity. She was a member of the development of various Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) including for Gestational Diabetes in 2019, Management of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in 2021, Management of Obesity in 2023 and Management of Heart Failure 2023. She also represented Malaysia in the new Consensus on Care and Management of Obesity in South and Southeast Asia- a collaboration with the Asia Oceania Association for the Study of Obesity (AOASO). She is currently the President of the Malaysian Society of Obesity (MYOS).



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MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker's Profile



Masanori Terashima

Institution: Shizuoka Cancer Center

Country: Japan

Speaker Bio

Deputy Director
Division of Gastric Surgery
Shizuoka Cancer Center

Dr. Terashima is a Deputy Director of Shizuoka Cancer Center. Shizuoka Cancer Center is the 3rd leading hospital in terms of the number of gastric cancer surgery in Japan. Currently, about 50 open surgery, 50 laparoscopic surgery and 180 robotic surgery are performed annually. He has been served as a chairman of Japan Clinical Oncology Group (JCOG) Stomach Cancer Study Group and conducted many pivotal trials as a principal investigator. He can perform any kinds of gastric cancer surgery from extended lymph node dissection to minimally invasive surgery using the Da Vinci Surgical System. He has already performed more than 400 robotic gastrectomy. He is a past president of 91st Annual Meeting of Japan Gastric Cancer Association in 2019. He also dedicates in translational researches such as metabolome analysis and exome sequence using human gastric cancer samples.

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MUGIS/USAN Congress 2025 Speaker's Profile



Jimmy SO Bok Yan

Institution: National University of Singapore

Country: Singapore

Speaker Bio

Prof Jimmy So graduated from Faculty of Medicine at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1991. He received his surgical training in National University Hospital, Singapore. He was trained in Upper Gastrointestinal Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Bariatric Surgery, Therapeutic Endoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery. He received fellowship training at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, USA. He was also appointed as visiting consultant surgeon in Esophageal and Gastric Surgery at the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh, UK. He established the Centre for Obesity Management and Surgery (COMS). He is pioneer of peroral endoscopic myotomy (POEM), minimally invasive surgery for gastric cancer, intraperitoneal chemotherapy and pressurized intraperitoneal aerosol chemotherapy (PIPAC) in Singapore.

He has published more than 300 peer reviewed scientific papers (H Index of 61, Total citations > 13500 according to Google Scholar in Nov 2024) and received over S\$35 million research grants for his research. He published his research in medical journals such as Lancet, Nature, Cell, Nature Genetics, Gastroenterology, Gut, Cancer Discovery, Cancer Cell, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Annals of Surgery, BJS and JAMA Surgery. He received the Peritoneal Prize by International Society for the Study of Peritoneum and Pleura (ISSPP) in 2020 which recognized the top researcher in the world in the field of peritoneal carcinomatosis. He delivered the Yaya Cohen Memorial Lecture by College of Surgeons, Singapore in 2018. He has delivered over 150 invited lectures internationally. He was invited regularly to speak at International Gastric Cancer Congress, Annual Scientific Meetings of Japanese Gastric Cancer Association and Korean International Gastric Cancer Week. He has also presented his research at American Gastroenterological Association (AGA), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE), Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), International Society for Diseases of Esophagus (ISDE) and World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery. He is founding president of the Asia-Pacific Gastro-esophageal Cancer Congress in 2006. Prof So is the Editor for Gastric Cancer, an official journal of International Gastric Cancer Association (IGCA) and he is also member of editorial board of journals including ESMO GI Oncology, BJS Open, Journal of Gastric Cancer, Cancers, Translational Medicine and Annals of Gastroenterological Surgery.

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Sekkapan Thannimalai Sambathan

Institution: Hospital Sultanah Aminah, JB

Country: Malaysia

Speaker Bio

Started houseman ship at hospital Taiping and worked at various KKM hospital all throughout semenanjung Malaysia . Surgical masters were under HUKM off campus at HTAA Kuantan under Dato jiffre. Did gazettement at HSA and continued serving here . UGI sub training were at HUKM , IKN and GEM Hospital Coimbatore India (overseas). My area of interest if minimally invasive esophagectomy for both benign and malignant condition and functional disease of Upper GI track. Actively involved various research on bariatric surgery and functional disease.



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Kelvin Voon

Institution: Sunway Hospital Penang

Country: Malaysia

Speaker Bio

Dr. Kelvin Voon is a Consultant Upper Gastrointestinal, Bariatric & Robotic Surgeon, currently serving as Head of the Division of Surgery at Sunway Medical Centre Penang. He completed his specialist training in General and Upper GI Surgery in Malaysia, followed by fellowships in Esophagogastric Cancer Surgery in Shanghai and Clinical Obesity & Bariatric Surgery in Taiwan. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Ireland & Glasgow, as well as the American College of Surgeons. Renowned for his contributions in the field of surgery, he was instrumental in establishing the Upper GI & bariatric surgical services in northern region, and previously led the Department of Surgery at Penang General Hospital, the largest government tertiary hospital in Northern Peninsular Malaysia. He holds leadership roles in several professional societies including The Upper Gastrointestinal Surgeons Society (TUGSS), Malaysia Upper GI Surgical Society (MUGIS) & Malaysia Upper GI Fellowship Training Committee. His clinical interests include minimally invasive esophagectomy, robotic surgery, bariatric procedures, endoscopy & clinical nutrition.



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Takeo Fujita

Institution: National Cancer Center Hospital East

Country: Japan

Speaker Bio

Takeo Fujita Distinguished Professor of Esophageal Surgery, National Cancer Center Hospital East, Japan, grew up in Japan and received Bachelor's and Ph.D. from the University of Okayama in 2001. He joined Hillman Cancer Center at University of Pittsburgh as a Postdoctoral Associate in 2005. Graduate after University of Pittsburgh he joined into National Cancer Center Hospital as a Gastrointestinal Surgery in 2008. He positioned as Consultant Surgeon in Esophageal Surgery in 2010. Thereafter he has been in position of Director at the Division of Esophageal Surgery in National Cancer Center Hospital East Japan in 2019. He has received various awards, with most representative being the 2017 most valuable paper Japan Esophageal Society, 2005 Young Investigator Award in Asian Cancer Conference, and Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) in 2015, Fellow of the international Society of Surgery in 2015.

