



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



A warm welcome to Endoscopy 2018. The Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology is honoured to co-organise with University of Malaya to bring to you Endoscopy 2018 to be held at the University Malaya Medical Centre Endoscopy Unit, a World Endoscopy Organization Center of Excellence for 2008-2014 and 2015-2020. The Organising Committee has put together an exciting three-day programme which features sessions for GIAs, lectures on tips and tricks, live demonstrations with highlights on EUS/EMR/ESD and a teaching forum on GI motility. This year for the first time, we have 'Malaysia Boleh', a competition for the Best Endoscopic Video from our local talents.

It has been an exciting last few months; most of you would know by now that the MSGH has been chosen to host the APDW 2020 for the second time in Malaysia. It will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on 17th - 20th September 2020. We already had the first inspection by the APDW Federation officials and work had already begun earnestly, headed by Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi, the Organising Chair.

Another exciting news is that the MSGH has been invited by the World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO) to be one of its global partners in World Digestive Health Day (WDHD), a public health, advocacy and awareness campaign. The WDHD 2018 Campaign is titled "Viral Hepatitis, B and C: Lift the Global Burden" and together we will "Take Action" and "Celebrate" throughout this year by creating ways to advocate and raise the awareness of viral hepatitis, B and C for the public, the health care professionals and the policy makers. Do join us in our series of CPD activities on viral hepatitis and encourage your patients

to come to our public forum. If you have suggestions or would like to contribute, please do let me know.

Other activities which the MSGH members were invited and had participated were the Program for Endoscopic Teachers (PET) in Singapore from 12th - 13th January 2018 organised by the Gastroenterological Society of Singapore and the World Endoscopy Organisation, the Gastroenterology Postgraduate Course from 20th - 21st January 2018 organised by the Gastroenterological Society of Singapore and Chapter of Gastroenterologists, College of Physicians, in collaboration with the Department of Gastroenterology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore.

The local meetings we had so far this year were the First MSGH Clinical Meeting 2018 in partnership with Gastroenterology Unit, Hospital Kuala Lumpur and MSD on 7th January 2018, the MSGH Update in Gastroenterology and Hepatology in partnership with Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian and Johnson and Johnson on 3rd March 2018 and the recently concluded Abbott APAC Gastro summit 2020 in Kuala Lumpur on 17th March 2018 co-organised by the MSGH.

Mark your calendar, GUT2018 will be held on 13th - 15th July 2018 in Penang. I look forward to meeting you in GUT 2018, in the meantime do contact us and follow us in our MSGH Facebook for any updates.

Dr Tan Soek Siam

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Dear Respected Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to the first issue of MSGH Bulletin for 2018. In this issue, we presented brief reports of all the MSGH clinical and other related activities. Of note, almost the whole MSGH Committee Member attended the MSGH Clinical Update in HUSM, Kelantan and the attendance was phenomenal!

As Editor, I realise that the involvement of our entire gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopy community will help our Society to grow and let us synergize together our clinical, endoscopic, teaching and research experiences to ensure the real expansion of our Society.

May I congratulate Professor Dr Ida Hilmi, the course director, and her team for the excellent programme in Endoscopy 2018. As we all know, the field of endoscopy is continually evolving and this impacts many different areas of our practice. Hence, it is very important for all of us to embrace the change of evolving endoscopy techniques and be ready to adapt and even better if we can lead the change.

May I also congratulate our 'figiur feicealach', Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee for being conferred the 2017 Masters of World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO) Award. This is the highest honour WGO can bestow and is granted only to those individuals who have provided outstanding dedication to the mission of the WGO.

Two of our members, Dr Nazri Mustafa and Dr Hoe Chee Hoong, were selected to attend the World Endoscopy Organization Program for Endoscopy Teachers (PET) in Singapore and we hope there will be a formal accreditation of endoscopy in future in Malaysia. Our two past presidents, Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadewa and Dr Akhtar Qureshi, are in the process of negotiating and discussing with other stakeholders which include the Malaysian Society of Colorectal Surgeons, Malaysian Upper GI Society, Malaysian Society of Hepatobiliary Surgery and College of Surgeons towards formal certification in endoscopy.

Again and again I look forward to more constructive and productive contributions as well as feedback from all the members to the MSGH Bulletin as well as MSGH as a whole in the future and please do not hesitate to contact me at draffendi@ppukm.ukm.edu.my with your ideas and contributions!

May I thank those who have contacted me directly and indirectly and regurgitate your comments, ideas, feedbacks and appreciation for the betterment of MSGH.

We look forward to your participation in our GUT 2018 in Penang!

Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

MSGH COMMITTEE FOR 2017/2019

PRESIDENT

Dr Tan Soek Siam

HON TREASURER

Dr Tee Hoi Poh

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadewa
Associate Professor Dr Chan Wah Keong
Associate Professor Dr Alex Leow Hwong Ruey
Dato' Dr Raman Muthukaruppan
Dr Nazri Mustafa
Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee
Dato' Dr Tan Huck Joo

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dr Akhtar Qureshi

HON SECRETARY

Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh



1st MSGH Clinical Meeting

7th January 2018, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur

Reported by Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh and Associate Professor Dr Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

The Society has successfully conducted the 1st Clinical Meeting 2018 on 7th January 2018 at the Dermatology Auditorium of Hospital Kuala Lumpur. Previously called GI Updates or Klang Valley meetings, it provides a platform where both gastroenterology and surgical trainees can come together to present and highlight interesting cases from their respective hospitals. This year, the activity has been renamed 'Clinical Meeting' to reflect its shifts from being purely case-based discussions to include didactic lectures and cases on a specific theme. For this year, the theme was 'Chronic Hepatitis C'. There are several reasons for the choice of this theme. Firstly, the theme for World Digestive Health Day (WDHD) this year is to lift the global burden of hepatitis C. Secondly, we hope to create awareness and provide state-of-art management of this disease for our members and lastly, the forum provides an avenue to discuss the various less straightforward cases of hepatitis C. We have two prominent speakers, Dr Tan Soek Siam, our current MSGH President and Dr Haniza Omar who delivered the didactic lectures. During the meeting, five cases were discussed, from renal to lung manifestations of hepatitis C and from renal to liver transplantations. It was well attended with approximately 50 participants, and we were grateful to renal physicians from HKL who provided their expert input on the cases. We also thank Merck Sharp & Dohme (M) Sdn. Bhd. for the educational grant that made this meeting possible.



2nd MSGH Clinical Meeting

3rd March 2018, Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan

Reported by Dr Nazri Mustaffa

An annual event held by the MSGH, the Clinical Update aims to provide medical professionals with the latest developments in the fields of gastroenterology, hepatology and GI-related surgery. This year's meeting was hosted by the USM Health Campus and was well attended with approximately 230 participants registering for the event. Faculty members comprised local experts from various disciplines - there were symposia on peptic ulcer disease/GIT bleeding, hepatology and hepato-pancreatobiliary surgery in the morning, followed by a lunch talk on inflammatory bowel disease. In the afternoon the scientific programme consisted of lectures on bariatric and colorectal surgery, as well as on GI motility.

Such meetings are a good platform for participants from various medical and surgical disciplines to meet up and share their experience and expertise. Nevertheless, a big thank you goes out to the invited faculty and members of the organising committee for making this event possible. At the same time, we would like to acknowledge the overwhelming support from the participants in ensuring the success of the event.



World Endoscopy Organization Program for Endoscopic Teachers (PET) Reported by Dr Nazri Mustaffa

The Gastroenterological Society of Singapore, in conjunction with the WEO, recently organised a PET workshop from 12th -13th January 2018 at the Academia campus of the Singapore General Hospital. The course directors for the program were Jonathan Cohen (USA), Tiing Leong Ang (Singapore) and Christopher Jen Lock Khor (Singapore). The themes for this program included techniques and methodologies of training in endoscopy, the use of models in training as well as assessment of endoscopic competency.

The PET is essentially a “train-the-trainers course”, designed for those who supervise endoscopic training. The program aims to impart the necessary skills for those who teach digestive endoscopy by identifying and addressing organizational issues, as well as by focusing on the principles and techniques that will lead to excellence in individual endoscopy teaching skill.

During the two-day program there was a mix of didactic presentations, large and small breakout group discussions, and hands-on instruction on the use of simulators for teaching endoscopy. Participants were exposed to aspects of ideal training methodologies, taught techniques of competency assessment and learned how to optimize the use of models in endoscopy training. This was facilitated by members of the faculty; Lars Aabakken (Norway), Douglas Faigel (USA), Bret Petersen (USA), Nageshwar Reddy (India), Rome Jutabha (USA), Taya Kitiyakara (Thailand), Nonthalee Pausawasdi (Thailand) and Roy Soetikno

(Indonesia) represented the international faculty, whilst Lawrence Ho, Damien Tan, How Cheng Low, Wai Chong Ong and Wee Chian Lim were members of the local faculty.

The program on Day 1 started off with a lecture on “Developing Effective Endoscopy Training Skills”, this was followed by an interesting panel discussion on Challenges in the Endoscopy Training Environment. The discussion was divided into two parts, the first part was on “Who should teach endoscopy (and who shouldn’t)?”, whilst the second part was on “Who should be trained in endoscopy and dealing with challenges?”. The participants then split up into smaller groups for the breakout sessions which touched on topics such as training the novice/advanced trainee, teaching cognitive skills as well as a session on how to give feedback. Later in the day there was a talk on “Training the Academic Endoscopist: Research and publications”, followed by classes on trainee assessment and competency, simulators and training tools. The first day wrapped up with video case discussions that highlighted the aspects of endoscopic teaching.

The second day was filled with hands-on simulator training in the morning, followed by a talk on the Digital Health & Distance Learning initiative. The program then ended with a summary by the faculty members that highlighted specific take home messages.



Dr Nazri Mustaffa and Dr Hoe Chee Hoong (second row standing, 9th and 10th from the left respectively)

World Digestive Health Day 2018

Reported by Dr Tan Soek Siam

The World Digestive Health Day is celebrated every year on the 29th of May and this year campaign is on “Viral Hepatitis, B and C: Lift the Global Burden”. The Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology will join forces with the World Gastroenterology Organization in this year long campaign with various activities for example viral hepatitis topics in our series of MSGH clinical meetings to be held in different states, MSGH update in Gastroenterology and Hepatology in Kota Bharu and GUT 2018. This year GUT 2018 will also feature a public forum on viral hepatitis on the last day, 15th of July 2018 in Penang.

Worldwide viral hepatitis kills 1.34 million people in 2015. In the recent World Cancer Day on 4th February 2018, it was reported that viral hepatitis B and C caused the majority of primary liver cancer, which is the 2nd most common cancer in the world at an estimated 788,000 deaths each year.

In Malaysia it has been estimated there are 382,000 people with viremic hepatitis C infection. With the introduction of hepatitis B vaccination in the National Immunization Programs for newborn since 1989, the estimated prevalence rates of hepatitis B infection dropped to less than 1% in the vaccinated age groups.

However there are still many older Malaysians born before 1989 with chronic hepatitis B as perinatal transmission is the main mode of HBV transmission in our part of the world and this carries a high risk of chronic infection at 90%. On the other hand, hepatitis C is mainly and continuously transmitted by infected injection equipments, this can be at a one-time sharing of infected needles or paraphernalia by people who inject drugs and in other settings.

As the population of chronically infected hepatitis B or C people aged, they are at risk of developing liver cirrhosis, liver failure and liver cancer. In the National Cancer Registry report in 2006, liver cancer ranked 5th among males (incidence rate of 7.2 per 100,000) and 9th in females. These have significant impacts on the individual patient and family as well as our economy at large not to mention a burden to our health care system.

Chronic viral hepatitis does not cause any symptoms until the late stages of disease, aptly described as a silent killer. However the complications of chronic viral hepatitis are preventable by early detection of the infection and appropriate treatment. The Global Health Sector Strategy 2016-2021 by WHO has set the goal of eliminating viral hepatitis as a public health burden by the year 2030 defined as a 65% reduction in mortality and a 90% reduction in incidence compared with the 2015 baseline. The core interventions are hepatitis B vaccinations, Hepatitis B prevention of mother to child transmission, blood safety, injection safety, harm reductions, testing and treatment.

Tremendous advancements have been achieved in the treatment and management of viral hepatitis, hepatitis B can be well controlled with medications and work is being carried out in search of a cure. While with the advent of direct acting anti-viral since 2011, hepatitis C can now be cured in more than 95% of cases with 12 or 24 weeks of an all oral treatment.

We need to work together to create more public awareness, diagnose this silent condition by offering screening to those with risks and to manage viral hepatitis appropriately based on the best evidence-based medicine.

The Master World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO) Award



It's a pleasure indeed that our prominence figure of gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopy, Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee is the recipient of the highest honour by the World Gastroenterology Organization. May this award inspire all of us!



Postgraduate Training in Gastroenterology & Hepatology

The MSGH has set up a committee comprising representatives from all the stake holders. This committee is spearheaded by Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadewa along with Datuk Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hasan, Dr Rosaida Md Said, Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi, Dr Tee Hoi Poh, Dr Soon Su Yang, Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali and Dr Haniza Omar. All the successful trainees have commenced their work at the nominated Universities and Ministry of Health hospitals and they are going for assessment at the end of this year.

The MSGH Research Grants

The MSGH research grant has been awarded previously to Dr Tan Han Loong, UKM Medical Centre under the supervision of Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali. He had successfully published his research project on 'Serum pepsinogen and gastrin -17 as potential biomarkers for pre-malignant lesions in the gastric corpus' in the journal of Biomedical Reports. The authors would like to thank the MSGH for the financial support and MSGH was also acknowledged by the authors in the publication.

Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology & Hepatology Research Guidelines

Philosophy of the fund

The primary objective of the MSGH research fund is to encourage research among young practitioners with an interest in gastroenterology or hepatology. The intention is to offer grants suitable for the undertaking of small scale, short-term projects which if successfully completed would enhance the track record of the investigators and place them in a better position to apply for larger grants from other agencies. Research proposals may be for observational studies aimed at improving knowledge of local disease epidemiology or interventional studies designed to answer specific scientific questions.

Logistics of the Fund

The quantum of funding available each year will be decided by the Executive Committee at the start of its term of office and this information will be circulated to the members. All applications will be vetted by a Research Subcommittee appointed by the Executive Committee. The role of the Research Subcommittee would be to:

1. assess and prioritise the merits of each application
2. advise investigators on the design of the study
3. submit the recommendations to the MSGH Executive Committee for final ratification.
4. monitor the progress of the projects

Guidelines for Research Proposals

1. Proposals should be on areas of research pertaining to gastroenterology or hepatology.
2. The projects should be designed to achieve completion of data collection within a year.
3. Projects should be viable and have realistic objectives.
4. The objective should be well defined and clearly stated.
5. The proposal should include the justification for the project and evidence that the relevant literature has been adequately reviewed.
6. The research instruments used to measure the outcome variable(s) in the study should be adequately validated.

7. The intended sample size and the statistical analysis used should be stated.
8. Clear and accurate costing of the project should be included in the proposal.
9. Ethical approval should be obtained from the institution in which the investigator is based.

The general format of the submitted proposals would be as follows:

1. General introduction and justification for the study
2. Objective(s) of the study
3. Materials and methods
4. Statistical methods
5. Costing
6. Anticipated time schedule for the project
7. Literature references

A brief CV of the investigator(s) including previous research presentations and publications should be submitted with the proposal. If a project includes multiple investigators, the chief investigator will be held accountable for the grant. Accurate and detailed accounts should be maintained and is the responsibility of the chief investigator.

An interim report should be submitted six months after the grant has been awarded and a full report within two months of the proposed date of completion of the project. The final report should include the scientific findings and a detailed account of the expenditures incurred during the project. Any excess monies available after completion of the project should be returned to the MSGH.

Time Lines

1 st February 2018	Call for applications
30 th June 2018	Closing of applications
31 st July 2018	Decision on award

The successful applicants would be asked to present their findings at GUT - Annual Congress of Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology & Hepatology.

NATIONAL EVENT

GUT 2018

(Eliminate Hepatitis Fight Cancers)

Date: 13th - 15th July 2018
Venue: G Hotel, Penang, Malaysia

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

EASL - The International Liver Congress

Date: 11th - 15th April 2018
Venue: Paris, France

Digestive Disease Week (DDW)

Date: 2nd - 5th June 2018
Venue: Washington DC, USA

International Digestive Disease Forum (IDDF)

Date: 9th - 10th June 2018
Venue: Hong Kong

United European Gastroenterology Week (UEGW)

Date: 20th - 24th October 2018
Venue: Vienna, Austria

The American Association Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD)

Date: 9th - 13th November 2018
Venue: San Francisco, USA

Asia Pacific Digestive Week (APDW)

Date: 15th - 18th November 2018
Venue: Seoul, Korea



Malaysian Society of
Gastroenterology and Hepatology

APDW 2020

17th - 20th September 2020

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Asian Pacific Society
for Digestive Endoscopy



Asian Pacific Association
of Gastroenterology



Asian Pacific Association
for the Study of the Liver



International Society
for Digestive Surgery

Congress Secretariat

Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

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