



Newsletter

Editor : Yoichi Nakanishi

Associate Editors : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, Yasutomi Yamanaka

Message from the President



Happy New Year. I hope all members of the APSR have had a splendid starting time of the New Year.

It was a great honour and privilege for me to assume the presidency of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR) in November 2019. Since its establishment in 1986, the APSR has made steady progress due to the tremendous efforts of our senior members. Especially under great contribution by the Immediate Past President Dr Kwun Fong, our society has stepped up from “the era of sustainability” to “the era of transparency and governance”. Today we have more than 16,000 members from 13 en bloc member societies in the Asia-Pacific region.

The objectives of the Society are described in “The mission of the APSR” on our website, i.e., “The advancement and promotion of knowledge of the respiratory system in health and disease, which strives to encourage research, improve clinical practice through teaching, increase awareness of health problems in the area and promote the exchange of knowledge among respirologists in the Asia-Pacific region”. In order to achieve these objectives, we need to enlarge our society, encourage participation of young members, and strengthen the financial bases.

And also, as a specific aim of the Society, to organize and coordinate regular congresses is one of the most important activities. I would express a sincere appreciation to Dr Chau Ngo Quy and all the Local Congress Committee members for the great success of the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam. In addition, strong support by Dr Kazuto Matsunaga and the Central Congress Committee members were another factor of the success. I also thank them for their big contribution.

Today, the Asia-Pacific region comprises more than 4.5 billion people, which is over 60% of the world’s population, and the development of economy and industry are extremely rapid. Accordingly, the standard of living is improving. However, deterioration of the environment, including air pollution, is very serious. In such a situation, our goal is to protect lung health in this area by achieving our objectives. In addition, we are just facing a serious risk of novel corona virus disease/pneumonia (COVID-19), which raises concern not only in Asia-Pacific region but also over the whole world. Therefore, cooperation not only with all the APSR members but also with other societies outside of the Asia-Pacific region, such as our sister societies ATS and ERS, is indispensable. We are the TEAM. I hope for your understanding and support. Thank you very much again.

May the new year bring you more happiness than last year.

Yoichi Nakanishi

Message from the Immediate Past President

It is an honour to be able to write to you as Immediate Past President, as it has been a wonderful and humble privilege to have passed on the baton to my colleague and good friend Dr Yoichi Nakanishi, who I am very confident will lead the APSR to new heights.

Another year is past, and we look forward to the New Year, towards wonderful things for all of us, from personal to professional, so that we can all live in a better world.

I hope that you have had a good 2019 and want to thank you for your support for the APSR as we work together to achieve our mission and vision of improving lung health in the Asia-Pacific region. It is only through the hard work of us all as proud members that we can help our communities enjoy healthy lungs and clean air.

2019 was a busy year for the APSR, and I have had the wonderful honour and memorable experience of serving the APSR with the much-appreciated support of APSR members, ranging from the senior members of our en bloc societies to our newest members. You have inspired me with your kind care for people with lung disease, with great new ideas and innovations for sustaining the APSR well into the future.

Also, a great thanks to the wonderful Secretariat led by Mr Yasutomi Yamanaka who after many years of incredible service and friendship, will reduce his hours and very deservedly enjoy more time away from work. We are so fortunate that “Yama” has selflessly prepared for the transition by building an incredible team at the Secretariat which will be led by the very talented Ms Suga Konno, working hand in hand with the team and officers and members of our wonderful society. We wish “Yama” all the best for his next adventure now that he will have a bit more time for himself.

In 2020, I will be reflecting how our en bloc countries have shared and inspired me with their hard toil and ideas on how to encourage research, improve clinical practice through teaching and increasing awareness of health problems, and promoting the exchange of knowledge among respirologists in the Asia-Pacific region.

I sincerely hope that 2020 brings you and your loved ones happiness, good health and success, as well as lots of chances to work together in our APSR family to help achieve better lung health for people in our region.

Kwun M Fong

Message from the Co-Editors in Chief of *Respirology*

We presented *Respirology*'s 2019 Annual Report to the Editorial Board and the APSR Executive Committee at the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi.

All parameters indicate that *Respirology* continues to do well and has solidified its position among the other top international respiratory journals. Manuscript submissions continue to increase and are now exceeding 1,000 manuscripts per year, with more than 60% of submissions from the Asia-Pacific region. We continue to improve the efficiency of the review process – authors of rejected papers are notified more quickly by declining them at the pre-screening stage (within 9 days), while the chance of acceptance for manuscripts approved for peer review has increased (53%). We thank the Deputy, Senior and Associate Editors and Editorial Board members for working together to select the best papers for publication from the increasing

number of submissions. Since the last APSR Newsletter, we've welcomed Daniel Kass to the Deputy Editor team, as replacement for Jeffrey Horowitz who we'd like to thank for his excellent service.

In September 2019, *Respirology* published its first Special Issue, edited by Frits Franssen and Jennifer Alison, with review articles on *Rehabilitation in Chronic Respiratory Diseases*. We thank the series editors for bringing together this excellent collection of reviews in a single issue, and we encourage our members with an interest in pulmonary rehabilitation to read and share it with colleagues. We also thank Series Editors Adam Hill and Anne Chang for coordinating a review series on *Paediatric and Adult Bronchiectasis*, and Amanda Piper and Chung-Ming Chu for bringing together a series of reviews highlighting the latest developments in the field of *Non-Invasive Ventilation* – both these series are now available as collections on *Respirology*'s website.

Respirology's readership continues to expand, with more than 550,000 articles downloaded in 2019 (12.5% increase). The growing significance of articles published by *Respirology* is evidenced by the increasing number of citations and associated rise in impact factor. *Respirology*'s latest Impact Factor, announced in July 2019, is 4.756 (up from 4.407 last year) the journal now ranks 11th out of 63 *Respiratory System* journals (Clarivate *Journal Citation Reports*).

At the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi, *Respirology* presented the Fukuchi Award for Best Original Paper published in 2018 to the paper on “*Three-dimensional photography for the evaluation of facial profiles in obstructive sleep apnoea*” (doi.org/10.1111/resp.13261) by a Taiwanese/Australian author team including Shih-Wei Lin, Kate Sutherland, Yu-Fang Liao, Peter A. Cistulli, Li-Pang Chuang, Yu-Ting Chou, Chih-Hao Chang, Chung-Shu Lee, Li-Fu Li, Ning-Hung Chen. We congratulate the authors and thank Dr Ning-Hung Chen for attending the APSR Congress to accept the award on their behalf.

Also at the APSR Congress, Editor Paul Reynolds co-chaired a session on *Scientific Publication and Grant Submission*, together with ERJ Editor Martin Kolb. The session was very well attended and the many questions from the audience indicate that there is strong demand for education in this area. As a service to our members, we have made previous presentations on publishing available via the APSR website, and Editorial Office staff are always here to assist with publishing questions as well (respirology@resphealth.uwa.edu.au).

Finally, we'd like to highlight that *Respirology* will be celebrating its 25th year of publishing in 2020. We will mark the occasion by publishing a 25th Anniversary Issue in January 2020, filled with commissioned commentaries by authorities

in the field looking back over 25 years of developments in respiratory and sleep medicine.

Respirology wouldn't be where it is today without the contributions, commitment and support of the many people involved over the past 25 years including the Editors, Editorial Board members, Editorial Office staff, APSR staff and Wiley. A special thank you goes to the APSR and its members for recognising the value and importance of an own journal and supporting *Respirology* in such an emphatic fashion. We hope that you will enjoy this anniversary with us and will continue to read *Respirology* in the years to come.

Philip Bardin
Paul Reynolds

Message from the Editor in Chief of *Respirology Case Reports*

As we have just reported to the Board at the latest APSR meeting, *Respirology Case Reports* continues to grow and develop. In 2019, we published 9 issues and 104 manuscripts (10% increases compared to 2018).

There has been an increase in the number of submissions and the number of different countries of origin compared to the past year (125 submissions from 26 different countries compared to 93 submissions from 22 countries in 2018). The majority of submissions (>80%) originate from the Asia-Pacific region with Japan (41%) and Australia (14%) as top-submitting countries.

The acceptance rate remains high and stable at about 70% and on average, the authors are informed of a first decision within 30 days of submission. The articles, once accepted are published online within a few weeks and available in PubMed Central a couple of weeks after that.

Respirology Case Reports is strongly supported by the APSR members, who represent about 75% of the manuscripts published. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their support of our journal. The APSR members continue to benefit from a 50% discount of the open access publication charge when their manuscript is published in *Respirology Case Reports* and we hope to see many more members submit cases to our journal. Some other countries in the region, are offered a waiver of the open access publication fee by our publisher, Wiley, so we encourage authors from these countries to take advantage of this opportunity to publish in our journal. For an up-to-date list of countries benefiting from discount or waiver, please visit the journal's website: onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20513380/homepage/article_publication_charges_and_discounts.htm and

authorservices.wiley.com/open-research/open-access/for-authors/waivers-and-discounts.html

For the first time this year, we ran a case report poster award at the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi and the winner was Dr Nai Chien Huan of Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia and his colleagues, Dr Noorasyikin Mohamed Arifin, Dr Teng Sin Khoo and Dr Yean Chen Lai of Labuan, Malaysia for their poster: "Management of massive subcutaneous emphysema using negative pressure wound therapy dressing". Dr Huan and colleagues will receive a waiver of the open access publication fee if their case report is submitted and accepted for publication in *Respirology Case Reports*, as well as editorial assistance to prepare their case for publication.

Many excellent case reports were presented at the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi and we encourage the presenters to consider submitting their work to *Respirology Case Reports*.

Readership remains global and has again increased with the number of downloads reaching over 130,000 (from Wiley's 2018 Annual Report). The list of the top 10 downloaded case reports from Wiley Online library is available on the journal's website.

The journal continues to be widely marketed by Wiley and has electronic table of content (eTOC) alerts. We have continued to advertise the journal on the *Respirology* and APSR websites, as well as those of other societies. There have been advertisements in the WABIP and Wiley's *Respiratory Medicine Newsletters* and flyers at the APSR, ATS and ERS conferences. We send a message on Twitter each time a case report is published and have noticed that some case reports have attracted a lot of comments and activity on this social media.

In 2019, we farewelled our Editorial Board member, Fraser Brims, from Australia, who decided to step down due to other increasing commitments. We are indebted to our Editorial Board members for their work in reviewing all the case reports submitted to the journal and would like to thank each one of them for their expert advice and support and for championing the journal. We also acknowledge our Deputy Editors, Philip Bardin, Peter Eastwood, Gary Lee and Paul Reynolds who provide guidance and support to the journal. There is a hardworking team behind *Respirology Case Reports* who need to be acknowledged and thanked including Dr Lieve Bultynck, Managing Editor, and Dr Christel Norman, Deputy Managing Editor who ensure that the journal runs smoothly on a daily basis, as well as the rest of the Editorial Office staff, the team at Wiley and the APSR Secretariat.

Christopher Lai

Message from the APSR Education Committee

Happy New Year to all members of the APSR.

The APSR has been growing more with new en bloc members in the Asia-Pacific region. There are various levels of medical education activities in each country, but the APSR Education Committee strives to share information. The monthly issued *Respiratory Updates* aggregates topics recently developed in each assembly field into a publication base and adds comments to help understanding.

With the cooperation of each assembly, position papers (PP) have also been issued. Unlike international guidelines, PPs mainly contribute to raising education in the Asia-Pacific region by introducing diagnostic techniques and disease management that are useful in clinical practice with the main purpose of sharing information in the region.

As mentioned above, the Education Committee promotes inter-assembly collaboration for the purpose of sharing educational information.

Another important activity of 2019 was “nurturing and revitalizing young researchers”. For each of the 16 assemblies, awards for excellence of younger researchers were selected based on their abstract score, and the awardees presented 3-minute, 3-slide presentations at each assembly meeting during the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi. Although there was room to improve the selection criteria, it played a major role to encourage young researchers. In addition to ESAP, APSREE, J-ESAP and other educational weapons, the above activities are extremely useful driving forces for the development of the APSR.

Along with further educational activities, Dr Vu Van Giap has been appointed as the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee to adapt to the current wider range of educational work in addition to getting new committee members representing APSR en bloc member societies.

Arata Azuma

Message from the APSR Membership Committee

Happy New Year to the APSR members,

There are currently two types of membership in the APSR, individual and en bloc society membership. There are 618 individual members from 43 countries. En bloc member societies are divided into three tiers. The first tier covers the JRS; Japanese Respiratory Society (12,519

members), the TSANZ; Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (1,020 members), the TSPCCM; Taiwan Society of Pulmonary and Critical Medicine (600 members), the KATRD; Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (500 members), the STS; Singapore Thoracic Society (80 members), and the HKTS, Hong Kong Thoracic Society (167 members). The second tier covers the MTS, Malaysian Thoracic Society (235 members). Then, the third tier covers the PCCP; Philippine Chest College of Physicians (207 members), the ISR; Indonesian Society of Spirology (515 members), the SLCP, Sri Lanka College of Pulmonologists (69 members), the VNSR, Vietnam Respiratory Society (70 members), the BLF, Bangladesh Lung Foundation (166 members), and the MSR; Mongolian Respiratory Society (59 members). I'm proud of learn to increase those en bloc members showing the total number of en bloc membership is currently 16,207.

There are still potential en bloc member societies to become our en bloc partners in the next few years. I hope other national societies in the Asia-Pacific region will join the APSR, and all en bloc members enjoy the membership of the APSR.

May this year become a bright, wealthy, and glorious year for you and your family.

Faisal Yunus

Message from the 24th APSR Congress President

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is a great pleasure for me that the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam held from 14-17 November was great success.

The APSR Congress hosted by the Vietnam Respiratory Society in collaboration with the Asian Pacific Society of Spirology was truly a vibrant scientific forum for speakers, scientists, researchers, doctors and respiratory specialists in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world to participate in reporting, exchanging, learning and sharing in-depth knowledge as well as experiences in respiratory medicine and related fields.



Currently, the alarming level of air pollution, smoking problems, the aging of the population, etc. lead to an increasing proportion of people suffering from respiratory diseases. In the treatment process, we have witnessed many serious cases putting patients at risk with life-threatening reactions, especially cases of severe lung infection and antibiotic resistance. With the development of science and technology, and the diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in the field of respiratory medicine, I hope that the knowledge and ideas shared during the Congress will be the foundation for new advances in the respiratory field and significant improvements in public health.

With the theme of “Sharing updated knowledge and approaches in respiratory medicine”, the Congress attracted more than 2,100 delegates, with 82 keynote speakers, together with 300 oral and more than 500 poster presentations covering all aspects of respiratory medicine. We saw so many interesting and useful presentations during the Congress in 6 Pre-congress Workshops, 3 Plenary sessions, 38 Symposia, and Oral and Poster sessions, from which experiences have been shared and good lessons learned. I strongly believe that the scientific programme of the Congress played a vital role in fostering discussion and creating a solid foundation for new respiratory innovations.



On behalf of the Vietnam Respiratory Society, I would like to express sincere thanks to all authorities, executives of the APSR, speakers, chairs, delegates and friends who enthusiastically supported, attended and generously contributed to the Congress with valuable scientific lectures and reports, in order to improve the respiratory health of communities in the Asia-Pacific region in particular and worldwide in general.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to individuals, many organizations and all sponsors who made a great contribution to the success of the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi.

Chau Ngo Quy



Dr Kazuhisa Takahashi (left) and
Dr Chau Ngo Quy (right)

Awards presented at the 24th APSR Congress

The following awards were presented during the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi.

They include awards named in honour of those members with a long-standing history of teaching and mentorship in their particular field, making significant contributions to respiratory medicine in the Asia-Pacific region.

In addition to these awards, the APSR is proud and honoured to partner with the following eminent physicians, to continue helping future generations of researchers, by supporting Young Investigator attendance and presentation of their work at our annual APSR congress.

The awards are:

APSR/KF-CB Lung Cancer Research Young Investigators Award

The award money is jointly funded by Dr Kwun Fong and Dr Chunxue Bai, two of the most widely-respected specialists in respiratory medicine.

APSR/J Patrick Barron Medical Education Young Investigator Award

This is a new APSR Award to honour the huge contribution made by the late Professor J Patrick Barron, a founding member of the APSR. Very sadly, Prof. Barron passed away on Saturday 17 August 2019 at the age of 71.

Further details of all awards can be seen at apsresp.org/awards/index.html

The awardees at the 24th APSR Congress include:

APSR Medal

Charles Richard William Beasley (New Zealand)

APSR Michiyoshi Harasawa Research Award

Arata Azuma (Japan)

APSR Ann J Woolcock Research Award

Vanessa M McDonald (Australia)

Fukuchi Award for the Best Original paper in Respiriology

‘Three-dimensional photography for the evaluation of facial profiles in obstructive sleep apnoea’

Shih-Wei Lin, Kate Sutherland, Yu-Fang Liao, Peter A. Cistulli, Li-Pang Chuang, Yu-Ting Chou, Chih-Hao Chang, Chung-Shu Lee, Li-Fu Li, Ning-Hung Chen

APSR-ATS Young Investigator Award

Georgios Kitsios (United States)
Eva M. Carmona Porquera (United States)

APSR-ERS Young Investigator Award

Supraja Kalyanaraman (India)
Hana Khairina Putri Faisal (Indonesia)

APSR-TSANZ Young Investigator Award

Jesse Armitage (Australia)

APSR-CHEST Young Investigator Award

Carlos Aravena Leon (United States)

APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award

Naoyuki Kuse (Japan)
Keiji Oishi (Japan)
Koichi Yamaguchi (Japan)

APSR/Peter Sly Paediatric Young Investigator Award

Phuong Nguyen (Vietnam)

APSR/Norbert Berend COPD Young Investigator Award

Thuy Nguyen Thanh (Vietnam)

APSR/Malcolm Winterburn Lung Cancer Young Investigator Award

Indiane Putri Ningtias (Indonesia)

APSR/APTA Young Investigator Award

Md Chowdhury Amanullah (Bangladesh)

APSR/Paul Zimmerman Physiology Young Investigator Award

Khoa Duy Duong (Vietnam)

APSR/KYF Young Investigator Award for Geriatric Respiriology

Buddhi M Gunawardana (Sri Lanka)

APSR / KF-CB Lung Cancer Research Young Investigator Award

Hongxia Duan (China)

APSR / J Patrick Barron Medical Education Young Investigator Award

Andrew Yunkai Li (Singapore)

APSR Travel Award

Atika Budhy Setyani (Indonesia)
Hammad Ghafoor (Pakistan)
Binh Thi Cam Nguyen (Vietnam)
Gladys Judynil Brandares Daba (Philippines)
Phuong Thi Bich Nguyen (Vietnam)
Yong Fan (China)
Yun Feng Shi (China)
Elda Putri Rahardini (Indonesia)
Muhamad Fajri Adda'i (Indonesia)
Jianqing She (China)

APSR Young Investigator Travel Award

Yunxia Wang (China)
Yosuke Wada (Japan)
Donghui Zhang (China)
Yijue Zhong (China)
Ferry Dwi Kurniawan (Indonesia)
Ryosuke Imai (Japan)
Mithi Kalayaan Solis Zamora (Philippines)
Jeong Uk Lim (Korea)

Kazuki Hamada (Japan)

Nhat Son Bui (Vietnam)

APSR Assembly Education Awards

APSR Assembly Education Awards started in 2019, giving an opportunity for Young Investigators to experience presenting at an APSR Congress, and get immediate feedback and advice from APSR experts.

Clinical Respiratory Medicine

Nai Chien Huan (Malaysia)
Hoang Anh Duc (Vietnam)
Thanh Hai Ngo Nguyen (Vietnam)
Abdel-Tazer Yusop Mohammad (Philippines)
Ed-Marvin Chua Hilario (Philippines)
Dawpadee Lochana Dharmasena (Sri Lanka)

Cell and Molecular Biology

Miranda Ween (Australia)
Hien Thanh Duong (Vietnam)
Hironobu Tsubouchi (Japan)
Thang Huu Nguyen (Vietnam)

Clinical Allergy & Immunology

Dinh Van Nguyen (Vietnam)

Environmental & Occupational Health and Epidemiology

Gihani Jayaweera (Sri Lanka)
Ratih Dwi Ary Merdekawati (Indonesia)
Youlim Kim (Korea)

Respiratory Infections (non-tuberculous)

Takehiko Kobayashi (Japan)
Wonjun Ji (Korea)
Blake Warren Coloma Ang (Philippines)
Thanh Duy Vo (Vietnam)
Nhu Quynh Thi Nguyen (Vietnam)

Tuberculosis

Lam Nguyen Ho (Vietnam)
Jim Paulo Pantas (Philippines)
Han Loong Tan (Malaysia)
Tamaki Kakuwa (Japan)

COPD

Naoki Ijiri (Japan)
Kashish Gupta (India)
Trang T. Thu Vu (Vietnam)
Suniti Yadav (India)
Sun Hye Shin (Korea)

Lung Cancer

Kohei Fujita (Japan)
Yuko Tanaka (Japan)
Herman Herman (Indonesia)
Ngoc Minh Duong (Vietnam)
Ungky Agus Setyawan (Indonesia)
Luan Van Pham (Vietnam)

Asthma

Martin Kristoffer Elises Ogbac (Philippines)
Hitoshi Sasano (Japan)
Boon Hau Ng (Malaysia)
Binu Krishnan (India)
Son Bao Vu (Vietnam)

Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep

Qingshi Chen (China)
Muhammad Hanis Muhammad Hamidi (Malaysia)
Hyeon Hui Kang (Korea)
Hoang Nguyen Huu (Vietnam)

Critical Care Medicine

Cary Amiel Gil Villanueva (Philippines)
Nguyen Minh Nguyen (Vietnam)
Hoang Minh (Vietnam)

Sugeesha Wickramasinghe (Sri Lanka)
Zhizhi Wang (China)
Marian Dimabuyu (Philippines)

Bronchoscopy and Interventional Techniques

Arpan C Shah (India)
Hiroshi Takumida (Japan)
Du Nguyen Ngoc (Vietnam)
Mary Claire Reyes Orden (Philippines)
Ji Soo Choi (Korea)

Paediatric Lung Disease

Mohammad Moshir Rahman (Bangladesh)
Joshua Edrian Gomez Robiño (Philippines)
Phuc Ngoc Nguyen (Vietnam)

Respiratory Structure and Function

Hiroshi Shima (Japan)
Manilyn Lejos-Sabado (Philippines)
Krislyn Panugayan (Philippines)
Geak Poh Tan (Singapore)

Pulmonary Circulation

Aisya Natasya Musa (Malaysia)
Aulia Rahman (Indonesia)

Interstitial Lung Disease

Takeshi Masuda (Japan)
Takuma Katano (Japan)
Tome Kamgo (India)
Harshana Bandara (Sri Lanka)

Message from the 25th APSR Congress President



Dear APSR members
and friends,

It is my great pleasure
to announce that the
25th Congress of the
Asian Pacific Society
of Respiriology (APSR
2020) will take place at
the Kyoto International
Conference Center,
located in the World
Heritage Site of Japan's

ancient capital "Kyoto", which will be held at the
beginning of the beautiful autumn season on 15-
18 October 2020.

Key planning

We are making plans for APSR 2020 by shedding
light on "Come Together" to discuss "Our
Future". Firstly, symposia organized by young
doctors, called "Emerging Talent Symposia",
to nurture and encourage them. Secondly,
symposia for discussing career plans that can
provide all individuals with equal opportunities.
Thirdly, symposia at which experts from industry,
government and academia can come together
to debate current and future strategies for
uncovering mechanisms and providing therapy
for various respiratory diseases. And finally,
symposia for debating environmental health.

We intend to ensure APSR 2020 is an innovative
and beneficial event that will cover issues
including training and development of the next

generation of respirologists, not only harnessing
the vigor present in academia but also in
industry, and the dissemination of information
from the Asia-Pacific region to the rest of the
world.

Kyoto

In the calm and serene setting of the ancient
capital, Kyoto, as the leaves start changing colour
in the autumn, we hope the APSR 2020 will help
everyone contemplate their future, the future
of respirology and find inspiration to take a step
forward to reach future aspirations.

Abstract submission

The online abstract submission will open on 4
February and close on 11 May.

We are sincerely awaiting your active participation.

Sincerely yours

Shu Hashimoto

~ Reports from the APSR Congress award winners ~

APSR/KYF Geriatric Respirology Young Investigator Award

I managed to attend the APSR 2019 Congress
in Hanoi amongst my busy work schedule as
an intern doctor, and wasn't even sure whether
I could actually attend the event. The senior
researchers in my research group, however,
encouraged me and supported me in all ways
possible, to go and attend the conference and
also see the beautiful country, Vietnam. And I
am very glad that I did.



Dr Takahide Nagase (left) and
Dr Buddhi M Gunawardana (right)

The Vietnam National Convention Center
was a wonderful venue and the conference
in itself promoted the exchange of both local
and international knowledge. It was very well
organized and the sessions that I attended

taught me valuable lessons in pulmonology and furthered my interest in the field. It was once in a lifetime experience to hear from the authors of some major researches in the field of pulmonology.



Poster presentation of my research, with Dr Amarasiri

ageing by itself or the functional and cognitive impairment associated with ageing. I am very much honoured to have received this prestigious award, and it was a great encouragement for me to carry out future research work.

The Gala Dinner was absolutely fantastic and over a delicious dinner to meet the other young investigator award winners, where we were able to share our cultural experiences. I also enjoyed travelling to Halong Bay, taking bike taxi rides, the Vietnamese cuisine, and most of all the amazing hospitality of Vietnamese people.

Overall it was a life-changing experience to be in Hanoi at the APSR Congress. The lessons



Buddhi M Gunawardana

learned, experiences that I had and the people that I met would be cherished forever. I would like to thank everyone who supported me in this endeavor, especially Dr Lakmali Amarasiri and the academics at the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo.

APSR/Paul Zimmerman Physiology Young Investigator Award



Dr Ian Yang (left) and Dr Khoa Duy Duong (right)

It was such an impressive international experience, right there in Vietnam, in South East Asia.

My name is Duong Duy Khoa (my given name is Khoa and my family name is Duong). I am from Saigon, Vietnam (officially called Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam). I am a physician and lecturer at the Department of Internal Medicine, University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City (UMP-HCMC).

It was my honour to receive the APSR/Paul Zimmerman Physiology Award. My study was “Multi-center study to adapt STOP-Bang questionnaire to Vietnamese population”. It was a collaborative work of Ha Noi Medical University and UMP-HCM focusing on adapting an international tool for local people. My study revealed that a much lower BMI cut-off (25 kg/m²) should be used for screening of obstructive sleep apnea in Vietnam. I believe the spirit of collaboration and regional/ local relevance are two of the key features of the APSR among other international conferences in the field of respirology.



It was not my first time to visit Hanoi, but it was my first international respiratory conference organized right here in Vietnam. I was impressed by both the scale and the depth of the programme, by both the international and the regional nature of the conference. I learned a lot from other doctors and professors in the field. I

acquired the information and experience that I knew would be applicable or relevant to my daily practice. I believe in the future development of the field in the Asia-Pacific region through the conference.

My wishes for the future conference are that we will have more research networking events and other educational events. For my study, I would love to collaborate with other researchers from the region to perform a meta-analysis. The aim is to find out the optimal cut-off of BMI and neck size for the Asia-Pacific region and to assess the role of craniofacial characteristic in diagnosing obstructive sleep apnea. Our region is blessed with many young and inspiring researchers.



I would like to express my deepest gratitude toward the APSR for many reasons. Thank you for choosing Vietnam as the host country for the APSR Congress 2019 and for giving me the opportunity and the honour to present my work. I would like to send my deepest gratitude to my professors and mentors: Dr Lê Thượng Vũ, Dr Trần Văn Ngọc, Dr Vũ Văn Giáp and Dr Ngô Quý Châu, for their support and guidance. Finally, I would like to say thank you to my family and my beloved ones.

Khoa Duy Dương

APSR/Peter Sly Paediatric Young Investigator Award

I am Dr Phuong Nguyen – paediatric pulmonologist at Da Nang Hospital for Women and Children, Vietnam. It was an honour to receive the APSR/Peter Sly Paediatric Young Investigator Award – the prize for best paediatric paper at the APSR Congress 2019 in



Dr Anne Goh (left) and Dr Phuong Nguyen (right)

Hanoi, Vietnam. The prize should significantly contribute to my research resume.

The ARSR Congress 2019 was a great experience where I had a chance to present my work to an international and local audience. We met with leaders/colleagues in the respiratory field and enjoyed Hanoi a lot. The APSR Congress covered a variety of respiratory topics with a focus on updates and cutting edge diagnosis, treatment and prevention. One of the interesting talks was ‘Asthma epidemics: thunderstorm, wildfires’ by Dr Guy Marks. It emphasized how climate change could affect our health. Without good prediction and preparation, a medical healthcare system might be overwhelmed by an asthma epidemic. Dr Eric Bateman provided the rationale and evidence-based changes in GINA 2019 for asthma prevention, and Dr Peter Gibson gave an update on neutrophilic asthma. I truly enjoyed the talk ‘Update on treatment of community acquired pneumonia’ given by Dr Francesco Blasi. He concluded that broad spectrum antibiotics should be reserved for severe pneumonia or cases that not responsive to narrow spectrum antibiotics. I think this is a main key conclusion of pneumonia management currently, especially in Asian countries where antimicrobial resistance is rising significantly.

Oral presentation was also an interesting section. Presenters with different topics contributed to the success of the congress. Colleagues from Bangladesh and India brought studies on cystic fibrosis to Vietnam. We previously thought this kind of disease would not be common in Asian populations, but we might be wrong. I had an opportunity to introduce a proposed pragmatic algorithm, which hopefully reduces the unnecessary hospitalisation and antibiotic use among children hospitalised with pneumonia in Vietnam. Receiving feedback and interest from colleagues and the chairman should pave the way for validation the algorithm in different settings in Vietnam. The poster discussion was an important section to make the congress successful. I had good discussions with a lady who is working on tuberculosis in India, and working on evaluating the contribution of blood culture to the diagnosis of tuberculosis



in children. There is still a huge burden of tuberculosis morbidity and mortality in the Asia-Pacific region that requires more attention from pulmonologists.

An additional positive point for the APSR Congress this year was a big and well-equipped conference venue. There were a couple of local souvenir shops located inside the venue that were useful for buying gifts to take home. The food and weather in Hanoi were really enjoyable.

I hope to attend the APSR Congress 2020 in Kyoto next year and would love to see more variety of paediatric respiratory sections, where pediatricians can enjoy presentations focusing on children.

Thank you again and best regards.



Dr Phuong Nguyen and her colleagues

Phuong Nguyen

APSR Young Investigator Travel Award



I was very honoured and grateful to receive the APSR Young Investigator Travel Award at the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi. This was the first time for me to attend the APSR Congress and I was impressed by various topics and recent studies from all over the world.

My presentation was about reduction of antioxidant activity in rats of emphysema, with pulmonary hypertension induced by SU5416/Hypoxia. Male Sprague-Dawley rats were injected subcutaneously with SU5416 on days 1, 8 and 15, and exposed to hypoxia for 6 weeks. Pulmonary hemodynamics was measured on day 42 of the first SU5416 injection, and then the rats were sacrificed for the histological examination and lung tissue sampling. The airspace size was quantified by the mean linear intercept (MLI).



Dr Chau Ngo Quy (left) and Dr Yosuke Wada (right)

Serum antioxidant activity was measured by the bio antioxidant power (BAP) test and Diacron-Reactive Oxygen Metabolites (d-ROMs) test using the Free Radical Elective Evaluation FRAS4 system. The VEGF level in lung tissues was measured by ELISA. The SU5416/hypoxia rats showed enlargement of airspaces, suggesting formation of emphysema in comparison to the control group. As expected, the rats treated with SU5416/hypoxia presented pulmonary hypertension with increased mean pulmonary arterial pressure. Moreover, the serum antioxidant activity was significantly decreased with the significant reduction of VEGF levels in lung tissues in these SU5416/hypoxia rats. The rats treated with VEGF receptor inhibitor and concomitantly exposed to hypoxia developed emphysema with pulmonary hypertension. The reductions of antioxidant ability and VEGF level may involve with the mechanisms of the emphysema with pulmonary hypertension in the model of SU5416/hypoxia rats.

During the Congress, not only our oral session, but also many sessions such as posters, lectures and symposia, gave me a new perspective of target molecules, prognostic factors and therapies of respiratory diseases. Again, I appreciated that the APSR gave me this wonderful and precious experience as well as the honour of a travel grant of this Young Investigator Award.

I sincerely hope to attend the APSR Congress again in the future.



Yosuke Wada

APSR-ERS Young Investigator Award



Dr Thierry Troosters, President of the ERS (left) and Dr Hana Khairina Putri Faisal (right)

I was very honoured to receive the APSR-ERS Young Investigator Award at the APSR Congress 2019. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR) for this opportunity. My deepest appreciation goes to Dr Eiso Hiyama and Dr Noboru Hattori of Hiroshima for their tremendous support. I would not be able to present the advances of

our research in lung cancer biomarkers without their generous help. I would also like to deliver my gratitude to my co-authors, staff of Natural Science Center and Basic Research Development (NBARD), doctors of Department of Molecular and Internal Medicine Hiroshima University, and Dr Faisal Yunus of the University of Indonesia for the astounding encouragement and support.

In the Young Investigator Award session, I had a wonderful experience to share our work on cell-free DNA as a prognostic factor in lung adenocarcinoma. After the presentation, I received valuable feedback and encouragement which will reinforce our future study. I gained new motivation after meeting with other researchers and hearing their enthusiasm when explaining their work. Furthermore, attending the APSR Congress allowed me to meet great leaders and pillars of respiratory medicine from around the globe and hear them speak about new findings, updates, and guidelines in respiratory medicine.

During this congress, I was able to look around the city. Hanoi was truly a wonderful city with very kind and friendly citizens. It was my first time to visit Hanoi and I had a really great time



Dr Hana Khairina Putri Faisal with doctors from the University of Indonesia and the APSR leaders

staying there. I am very thankful to the ERS and the APSR for this award that provided me such a precious and once in a lifetime experience. I look forward to being part of future APSR congresses.



Dr Hana Khairina Putri Faisal with doctors from the University of Indonesia

Hana Khairina Putri Faisal

APSR-ATS Young Investigator Award



The APSR Congress in Hanoi was an amazing experience for me, full of very memorable moments. The meeting gave me the opportunity to network and meet amazing clinical and research experts of the field of pulmonary, sleep and critical care.

The meeting had many educational talks, talks that promote my curiosity on new subjects and motivate me to go deeper in their understanding, and talks that improved my knowledge. I was also able to present some of our most recent work in the field of laboratory diagnostics in fungal disease as well as review the main treatment of fungal infections in the immunocompromised host. Being a speaker on behalf of the ATS was a great honour and allowed me to meet the chair and co-chairs of the session as well as the other speakers which sparked great questions and possible collaborations in the near future. Furthermore, I really enjoyed mingling with many other attendees and presenters to discuss their practice and clinical questions, and contrast them with my own. I learned a lot.

The venue was well-organized and the social programme was a highlight for me. It included traditional music and dance as well as local artists who would make beautiful art work with traditional Vietnamese calligraphy or paintings of your choice. I attended the opening and closing ceremonies as well as the Gala Dinner and was really impressed with the programme and the food. Everyone was attentive, professional and friendly.

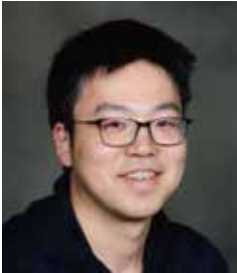
I also had time to discover the city and some of

the beautiful nearby places and fell in love with the country; especially the people of Vietnam.

I'm forever grateful to the APSR and the ATS for giving me the opportunity to participate in this meeting. I would love to attend again.

Eva M. Carmona Porquera

APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award



I am very honoured to have received the award to attend the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi.

I would like to thank all the staff who evaluated me. This time I participated in the APSR Congress with two other young doctors.

The APSR Congress was very exciting for young doctors.

I have been studying collagen vascular disease associated with interstitial lung disease (ILD) for a long time at Gunma University Hospital. Especially, I'm focused in dermatomyositis (DM) and ILD. I graduated from Gunma University in recognition of clinical research on anti-MDA-5 antibody-positive DM and got a PhD last year. Anti-MDA5 antibody positive DM is often complicated with rapidly progressive ILD (RP-ILD) which has a high mortality rate. Recently, triple therapy comprising corticosteroids and calcineurin inhibitor, intravenous cyclophosphamide is known to be effective for RP-ILD. However, we still don't know the clinical characteristics of patients under triple therapy. I have seen many of these patients and think I need to report the clinical course.

Currently, I continue to study clinical research at multiple facilities about various types of DM. I think this research is conducted by many colleagues. I would like to thank everyone who cooperated again.

I had a speech at the APSR Congress about the association between anti-MDA5 antibody positive DM patients and the relapse of ILD. There were few reports about the features of relapse patients. There are many patients with DM in my hospital,



and I would like to continue to accumulate cases and report them in the future.



Dr Koichi Yamaguchi and his colleagues

I had the opportunity to talk with people from various countries this time. I could also talk about research with young Japanese doctors, which was very exciting. It was an opportunity for me to maintain great motivation. I also felt the need to improve my English skills.

Hanoi was very comfortable with a warm climate. Thanks to the APSR staff, I was able to spend a pleasant time.

Finally, I thank my boss, colleagues, and my wife for supporting my research.

Koichi Yamaguchi

APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award



Dr Yasuhiko Nishioka (left) and Dr Naoyuki Kuse (right)

I am very honoured to have been chosen to receive the APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award and to attend the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi. The presentation in this conference was a very exciting and meaningful experience. The title of my presentation was "The safety of transbronchial lung cryobiopsy (TBLC)

via flexible bronchoscope with combination of radial endobronchial ultrasonography (R-EBUS) and fluoroscopic guidance in diagnosis of diffuse parenchymal lung disease in Japan."

We focused on verifying whether our combination method was safe or not. Previous reports indicated that severe bleeding and pneumothorax were known as serious complications of TBLC. We showed that the support for R-EBUS and fluoroscopic guidance might reduce the risk of these complications. One of the reasons for using R-EBUS is to accurately grasp the target lesion and to detect

the significant vascular structures near the target lesions. Therefore, we think that appropriate samples could be taken and the risk of serious bleeding might be reduced. In addition, the use of fluoroscopic guidance might prevent the occurrence of pneumothorax.

I appreciate all the questions and comments from the audience, which became a great opportunity for learning and exchanging ideas for our future research plan.

In addition, we obtained many important new findings of the basic and clinical science of respiratory medicine at the APSR Congress.



Hanoi was a very beautiful and friendly city and I enjoyed eating Vietnamese traditional food in Hanoi. I hope that further APSR Congresses will be held there again in the future.

Finally, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to my boss Dr Izumo, and my colleagues in our department. I know that I wouldn't have had this great opportunity if it weren't for their support. In addition, I hope I can contribute to the further medicine progress.

Thank you again, APSR, for the opportunity and support.



Naoyuki Kuse

APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award

I am very honoured to have been chosen to receive the APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award at the APSR Congress 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam. I had a wonderful opportunity to present our recent work. The title of my presentation was "Imaging biomarkers of the small airways disease



Dr Yasuhiko Nishioka (left) and Dr Keiji Oishi (right)

in asthmatics".

Small airways disease may have an important role in asthma. However, imaging biomarkers of the small airways disease in asthmatics remains to be established. Recently, a novel analysis method called the parametric response mapping (PRM), which is a voxel-based imaging technology using inspiratory and expiratory computed tomography (CT) imaging, has been introduced to indirectly assess the functional effects of small airway disease. PRM can quantitatively evaluate the functional small airways disease (fSAD) in patients with COPD. We hypothesized that PRM^{fSAD} is useful as an imaging biomarker to evaluate the small airways disease in asthma. Therefore, we prospectively evaluated the PRM analysis in patients with asthma and examined its correlations with clinical and physiologic variables. The median of PRM^{fSAD} was 26.0%. PRM^{fSAD} was negatively correlated with BMI and positively correlated with %RV/TLC. PRM^{fSAD} in the high-FeNO group had a tendency to be higher than that in the low-FeNO group. After my presentations, I had really good feedback from the audience and chairperson, which will reinforce our future study. I'd like to say a warm thank you to everyone.

During the congress, I acquired many important new findings of respiratory medicine. At the Gala Dinner, I was able to talk with many participants. During my stay in Hanoi, I was deeply moved by the rich cultural, historical heritage, excellent food, and delightful people.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who joined and helped this study, particularly Dr Kazuto Matsunaga, Dr Tsunahiko Hirano and Dr Takehiro Shiinoki. Thank you for everything.



Dr Keiji Oishi (left) and Dr Kazuto Matsunaga (right)

Keiji Oishi

Assembly Reports

Assembly reports are available via www.apsresp.org/about/assemblies.html (members only access)

Councillor Reports

Council reports are available via www.apsresp.org/about/councils.html (members only access).

~ Sad News ~



Very sadly, J Patrick Barron, a member of the APSR Strategic Planning Committee and one of the associate editors of APSR Newsletter, passed away on Saturday 17 August 2019 at the age of 71.

He was Professor Emeritus at Tokyo Medical University and Adjunct Professor at

Seoul National University Bundang Hospital.

Professor Barron was also an editorial board member for Chest and an editor or editorial consultant for a wide range of journals including *Respirology*. He had been Secretary General of the World Association for Bronchology, Vice President of the World Bronchology Federation, Secretary General of the International Photodynamic Association which he had helped to found, Vice Chairman of the Board of the Japanese Society for Medical English Education, and founder of The Medical Interpreters and Translators Association.

He was a consultant for the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus for 32 years since its founding, and also a consultant to the International College of Surgeons Japan Chapter, director of several medical societies, and ex officio member of the Executive Committee of the APSR.

No one can forget his great contributions to the APSR

May he rest in peace.

Forthcoming Meetings

2020

The 4th Indonesia Asian Intensive Reading of Radiograph for Pneumoconioses According to ILO Classification

16-18 February

Jakarta, Indonesia

Email: pipkrparu@gmail.com

Website: www.pulmo-ui.com/index.php/pipkra

39th Annual Chest Convention of the Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP)

3-6 March

Mandaluyong City, Philippines

Email: secretariat@philchest.org

Website: www.philchest.org

129th Conference of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (KATRD)

11 April

Yeosu City, Korea

Email: katrd@lungkorea.org

Website: eng.lungkorea.org/

60th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS)

24-26 April

Nagoya, Japan

Email: 60jrs@jrs.or.jp

Website: www.jrs.or.jp/jrs60/en/index.html

World Asthma Day: Asthma & COPD Outpatient Care Unit (ACOCU) Network Day

17 May

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Email: acocu.vn@gmail.com

Website: www.hoihendumdlstphcm.org.vn

Scientific conference with updates from The Congress of American Thoracic Society (ATS) 2020 (VNRS)

29-30 May

Hanoi, Vietnam

Email: Hoihohapvietnam@gmail.com

Website: hoihohapvietnam.org

Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS) 2020 Annual Congress

16-19 Jul

Nusajaya, Johor, Malaysia

Email: m.thoracicsociety@gmail.com; secretariat@mts.org.my

Website: www1.mts.org.my/

Annual Scientific Congress of Ho Chi Minh City Society of Asthma, Allergy & Clinical Immunology

26 July

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Email: acocu.vn@gmail.com

Website: www.hoihendumdlstphcm.org.vn

Respire 12 Annual Academic Sessions of Sri Lanka College of Pulmonologists (SLCP)

29-31 July

Kandy, Sri Lanka

Email: pulmonologychest@gmail.com

Website: www.slcp.lk/


The 16th National Congress Indonesian Society of Respirology in conjunction with 1st Indonesia Chronic Lung Disease International Meeting (ICLIME)

23-26 September

Makassar, Indonesia

Email: konasdpi2020@gmail.com
Website: www.konasdpi2020.org

Scientific conference with updates from The Congress of European Respiratory Society (ERS) 2020 (VNRS)
25-26 September
Hanoi, Vietnam
Email: Hoihohapvietnam@gmail.com
Website: hoihohapvietnam.org

25th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology 15-18 October Kyoto, Japan	
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The Congress of International Lung Health and World COPD Day 2020 (VNRS)
5-7 November
Hanoi, Vietnam
Email: Hoihohapvietnam@gmail.com
Website: hoihohapvietnam.org

130th Conference of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (KATRD)
12-13 November
Seoul, Korea
Email: katrd@lungkorea.org
Website: eng.lungkorea.org/

The Annual Congress of Vietnam Respiratory Society 2020 (combination of VNRS Congress and Association Franco-Vietnamienne De Pneumologie) and Pre-congress Workshop on Bronchoscopy
13-15 November
Da Nang city, Vietnam
Email: Hoihohapvietnam@gmail.com
Website: hoihohapvietnam.org

World COPD Day: Asthma & COPD Outpatient Care Unit (ACOCU) Network Day
15 November
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Email: acocu.vn@gmail.com
Website: www.hoihendumdltstphcm.org.vn

2021
61st Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS)
23-25 April
Tokyo, Japan

26th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology 18-21 November Seoul, Korea	
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5th Congress	Sydney	1998	J. Paul Seale
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7th Congress	Taiwan	2002	Kwen-Tay Luh
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12th Congress	Gold Coast	2007	Christine Jenkins
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16th Congress	Shanghai	2011	Chunxue Bai
17th Congress	Hong Kong	2012	David Hui
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20th Congress	Kuala Lumpur	2015	Roslina Abdul Manap
21st Congress	Bangkok	2016	Sumalee Kiatboonsri
22nd Congress	Sydney	2017	Jane Bourke, Mathew Peters
23rd Congress	Taipei	2018	Chong-Jen Yu
24th Congress	Hanoi	2019	Chau Ngo Quy
25th Congress	Kyoto	2020	Shu Hashimoto
26th Congress	Seoul	2021	Ki-Suck Jung

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