



Newsletter

Editor: David CL Lam
Associate Editors: Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, Chul-Gyu Yoo, Suga Konno

Message from the President



This summer, in the Asia-Pacific region, we are faced with a transition to normalcy after the COVID-19 pandemic; now that the WHO has tuned down the COVID-19 emergency response to the endemic level.

Wonderful as it is now we can all travel free and can meet face-to-face with colleagues, without further reliance on online meetings by talking through the computer screen. At the recent American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference in Washington DC, we witnessed the powerful reunion and exchange with colleagues not only from the ATS, but also colleagues from the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and other members from the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS).

I was very hopeful and grateful to see colleagues and made new friends at international conferences, which were so thought stimulating. With the stand-down of COVID-19 emergency response, some old issues returned while new challenges developed.

COVID-19 has not left us or disappeared. The Asia-Pacific region is no exception and we in the region are faced with the sequelae of COVID-19 infection or the socio-economic impacts of it. With the return towards normalcy, old issues that turned less burdening during the pandemic period are becoming apparent again. Other than the conventional Big Five respiratory diseases, namely asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, respiratory infections, tuberculosis and lung cancer, the overarching environmental conditions including air pollution, climate change and tobacco control, are expected to get worse again, unless we take timely actions to tackle them. Efforts to improve the health impacts and burden of these respiratory diseases and environmental conditions have to be internationally collaborative.

The APSR will continue to take an active and leading role in the Asia-Pacific region through coordination of Research and Education activities, and by liaison and collaboration with sister societies in FIRS. As in the past, World Lung Day 2023 has been set on 25 September, and the theme of this event is:

Access to effective prevention and treatment for all: Leave no one behind

Through this theme, we always remind ourselves of the importance of working together to achieve this goal, and ultimately leave no issue behind that is undealt with.

Happy Summer!

David CL Lam

Message from the President-Elect

Dear APSR members,

Social activities in various countries have become vibrant to the extent that we can say we have moved beyond COVID-19. In line with this, academic organizations are also holding academic meetings in physical formats. The APSR's annual congress was successfully held in a physical format in 2022 after a gap of three years, with the participation of many members. It was a joy to see many members meeting face-to-face and enjoying conversations after a long time. We hope that the number of participants in the APSR annual congress will continue to increase, but we still have some concerns as the environment for attending overseas conferences varies from country to country.

To further enhance one of the APSR's important goals, education, the APSR is securing educational materials and diversifying education programmes using webinars. We have received positive feedback from members in various countries, which is promising. Academic activity is also a significant objective, with many research findings being presented at the annual congress. *Respirology*, the APSR's official journal, has published many excellent studies. Communication among researchers is just as important as presenting research results. Personal communication and mutual understanding among researchers with similar academic interests are essential for the realization of large-scale collaborative research involving many researchers. The APSR encourages such large-scale collaborative research by supporting research funding through APSR Multi-Society Research Projects. The annual congress of the APSR serves as a platform for fostering such communication. This year's annual congress is scheduled to be held in Singapore, and we hope that many members will participate in the APSR 2023 Singapore Congress to meet researchers in person, exchange interests, and foster collaboration.

Personally, one aspect that I find regrettable while participating in the APSR is the lack of member engagement. During the process of selecting Assembly leaders, the number of Assembly members participating in the voting was insufficient, requiring a re-vote. Now that COVID-19 is receding, I kindly request more active participation from members in APSR activities and encourage you to share your valuable opinions at any time.

Wishing you all good health and happiness.

Chul-Gyu Yoo

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

In May, we received Wiley's 2022 Publisher's Report which highlights the continued high performance of *Respirology*. *Respirology* articles received above average views compared to other Respiratory Medicine journals published by Wiley. More articles are being accepted for publication, with a faster turnaround time from submission to acceptance, and from acceptance to publication. There has been a doubling in the number of articles that are published open access, which ensures that authors' work can be accessed by a wider audience, and increases exposure. Many authors can now rely on their institutions to cover the cost of open access publication thanks to special agreements between these institutions and Wiley. To see whether your institution covers your open access to publish in *Respirology* please visit this webpage: <https://authorservices.wiley.com/author-resources/>

[Journal-Authors/open-access/affiliation-policies-payments/institutional-funder-payments.html](https://authorservices.wiley.com/author-resources/journal-authors/open-access/affiliation-policies-payments/institutional-funder-payments.html)

If you're investigating the effects on lung health of indoor/outdoor air pollution, smoking or vaping, please consider submitting your original research work to *Respirology* for review, and be considered for the annual [APSR Clean Air Research Award](#). The Award was initiated by Past APSR President Dr Yoichi Nakanishi and is supported by Dr Nakanishi together with the APSR. A panel of expert judges is in the process of assessing eligible 2022 publications for the inaugural award, which will be presented at the 27th APSR Congress in Singapore this November.

In response to the global demand for evidence-based research and expert opinion on the effects of vaping, *Respirology* has published a collection of articles on smoking, vaping and e-cigarettes published in the journal over the last 5 years. The collection is available as a virtual issue on the journal website: [https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1440-1843.health-impact-of-smoking-vaping-and-e-cigarettes](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/(ISSN)1440-1843.health-impact-of-smoking-vaping-and-e-cigarettes) and we hope it will contribute to an informed debate on this important lung health issue.

Our new *Personal Reflections* column is in full swing. Starting in January, we've published three column pieces per monthly issue, with interesting perspectives on a range of topics such as [medicine's carbon footprint](#), and [language concordance in healthcare](#), and [spirometry's image problem](#), and [the benefits of philanthropy](#), to name a few. We also feature personal reflections in the monthly APSR Bulletin so members don't miss them.

To make sure you receive the newest *Respirology* articles in your inbox as soon as they're published online, and before they appear in an issue, there is now an easier way to sign up for Content Email Alerts. You no longer have to create an account – instead, you can simply enter your preferred email address on the [Respirology homepage](#), where it says 'Sign up for email alerts' (top right-hand corner).

We remain enormously grateful to our exceptional [team of expert editors and editorial board members](#), whose input and commitment are invaluable. Since our last newsletter, we have welcomed Cecilia Prêle (Australia) as Deputy Editor, Christopher Gilbert (USA) and Daniel Steinfort (Australia) as Associate Editors, and Qingling Zhang (China) as an Editorial Board member. Our sincere thanks go to Lonny Yarmus, Noriaki Kurimoto and Kjetil Ask who have stepped down after many years of excellent service to the journal. We'd also like to extend our thanks to the many manuscript reviewers. We are acutely aware that reviewers receive many invitations to review these days, from many different journals, and we greatly appreciate your contributions to *Respirology*. The list of 2022 *Respirology* reviewers is now available on our [website](#), and a special

thank you goes out to our top two reviewers David Fielding and Masahide Oki.

We look forward to catching up with many of our Editors, Editorial Board members, reviewers, authors, and APSR members at the 27th APSR Congress in Singapore. To help promote the congress widely, *Respirology* is dedicating its journal cover for the next few issues to images of the host city Singapore. We're planning to organize a Meet-the-Editor session for prospective authors who are interested in submitting to *Respirology*. The annual meeting will be an excellent opportunity to meet face-to-face and thank all our supporters including APSR members, staff and leadership.

Philip Bardin
Paul Reynolds

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

I have just received from Wiley the 2022 annual publisher's report, and I am pleased to see that *Respirology Case Reports* continues to grow and perform well. The number of downloads remained at over 360,000, and the Journal's readership continues to be international.

After a large increase in submission in 2020, experienced by many Journals due to the global pandemic, our Journal has kept receiving a high number of submissions in 2021 and 2022 and this trend is continuing so far this year.

I invite you to access the list of the articles that were most downloaded in 2022: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20513380/homepage/mostaccessed.html>, COVID-19 remained the most accessed topic (8/10). All published COVID-19 related manuscripts are available on our Journal website as a special [COVID-19 collection](#) as well as on the APSR website: <https://www.apspresp.org/archive/covid-19/covid-19.html>

Our Journal is gathering a lot of followers on Twitter and I encourage you to follow us on this platform to keep updated on our latest publications: <https://twitter.com/RespirologyAPSR>

I am delighted to announce that the case report that won the *Respirology Case Reports* Poster award for the best case report poster presented at the APSR 2022 was recently submitted to our Journal and we are awaiting the outcome of the peer-review. We wish the authors all the best. Many excellent case reports were presented at last year's APSR Congress in Seoul and we encourage the presenters to consider submitting their work to *Respirology Case Reports*.

Since January, we welcomed Young Ae Kang, Panwen Tian and Yuanlin Song to our team of

Associate Editors. We also farewelled Fu-Qiang Wen who had been an Associate Editor with the journal since its beginning, and Priya Daniel who had stepped in as Associate Editor for 18 months to help our infectious diseases team. We are indebted to our team of Editors (see the full team here) for their hard work and dedication to the Journal and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their work and support of our Journal.

As you no doubt know, many Journals are facing increasing issues with securing reviewers to help with the peer-review process, and *Respirology Case Reports* is not immune to these challenges. If you would like to help our Journal and our Associate Editors by either volunteering as a reviewer yourself or recommending junior doctors in your group to be invited as reviewers, please contact Christel Norman at the editorial office: respcasereports@resphealth.uwa.edu.au

Finally, I would like to thank you, the members of the APSR, for your support of the Journal since you continue to contribute a large portion of the articles that we published last year. Don't forget that APSR members benefit from a 50% discount of the open-access publication charge for case reports and case series. Make sure that you indicate that you are an APSR member upon submission. Please do not hesitate to contact the Editorial Office if you need any assistance with manuscript submission: respcasereports@resphealth.uwa.edu.au

Keiko Kan-o

Message from the APSR Education Committee Chairperson

Dear friends,

It is finally here. The WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom announced on 10 May that the COVID-19 pandemic is no longer a public health emergency of international concern. However, most clinicians know that the virus has not disappeared at all and we still have to contend with patients with fever, PCR, intubation and hopefully not, ECMO. It sounds like this is the New World that we live in nowadays.

In 2023, the Education Committee started a series of free online webinars lasting an hour each called Grand Rounds. During each session, three real-life cases are presented by our colleagues in the Asia-Pacific region with an emphasis on teaching points and audience participation. The first two Grand Rounds, in February and April, received excellent feedback and I want to thank the various contributors, including the APSR Secretariat (especially Rina, Eriko and Suga) for their outstanding work.

The APSR Cappuccino Chat, a series of interviews with various APSR members has been going on for almost a year now. It is carried by the APSR Bulletin and has received a very warm response. We continue to ask that members who have interesting hobbies, stories, encounters, etc. to come forward.

On a different note, we find that for historical reasons, only 1,300 out of the 18,000 members currently have an APSR user-id and password. Not having one prevents you from unlocking a wealth of resources available to members; like the APSR Teaching Library, APSR *Respiratory Updates* and the Grand Rounds. I urge you to get one today. You can find 'How to register to access APSR members-only pages' in this issue.

Philip Eng

APSR Educational Webinars: APSR Grand Rounds for APSR members

The APSR offers a regular series of Grand Rounds for APSR members where three cases are presented on clinical problems in Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine. The emphasis is on teaching points which we hope the audience will find educational and useful.

For more information: [APSR Webinars](#)

Past webinars

1st Grand Rounds: Monday, 27 February 2023

Speakers and Co-Chairpersons: Dr Philip Eng (Singapore), Dr Jennifer Ann Wi (Philippines)
Speakers: Dr Cynthia Chee (Singapore), Dr Lalaine Mortera (Philippines)

2nd Grand Rounds: Monday, 24 April 2023

Speaker and Co-Chairperson: Dr Philip Eng (Singapore)

Co-Chairperson: Dr Grace Sin-Man Lam (Hong Kong)

Speakers: Dr Joyce Ka-Ching Ng (Hong Kong), Dr Macy Lui (Hong Kong)

3rd Grand Rounds: Monday, 26 June 2023

Co-Chairpersons: Dr Grace Sin-Man Lam (Hong Kong), Dr Amitha Fernando (Sri Lanka),

Speakers: Dr Anthony Pak-Yuen Yau (Hong Kong), Dr Low Su Ying (Singapore), Dr Lakmini C. Dassanayake (Sri Lanka)

Upcoming webinar

4th Grand Rounds; 14:00-15:00 Singapore time (UTC+8) Saturday, 16 September 2023

Co-Chairpersons: Dr Anne Goh (Singapore), Dr Chang Keun Kim (Republic of Korea)

Speakers: Dr Oon Hoe Teoh (Singapore), Dr Daniel Ng (Hong Kong), Dr Anna Nathan (Malaysia)

Message from the 27th APSR Congress President



Dear colleagues and friends,

The 27th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR 2023) will take place in Singapore, on 16-19 November 2023. On behalf of the Local Congress Committee, I am excited to welcome you to an engaging congress with cutting-

edge science, valuable learning opportunities and connecting with peers to stay abreast of the latest developments.

For this upcoming APSR 2023, we will have pre-congress workshops conducted by prominent experts. This will be a great opportunity for attendees to gain knowledge through various educational activities such as lectures, interactive education sessions and practical sessions.

We are excited to share that there will be keynote speeches from internationally renowned experts in health care and leadership. Deep knowledge in respiratory diseases, health care and vision for future medicine will be shared, making APSR 2023 the event of the year which should not be missed.



We are working vigorously to offer a high-quality academic programme. This includes scientific symposiums, plenaries and interactive educational sessions delivered by renowned experts. Attending the APSR 2023 Congress is not only a great way to stay up to date on advancement in respiratory topics and global development on respiratory health, it is also a platform to exchange ideas, network with peers and build lasting relationships.

I encourage you to register for the congress as soon as possible. Please visit our website: www.apsr2023.sg for the programme, pre-congress workshops, abstract submission, registration, social programme and exhibition details.



We promise a unique programme for the unique city state of Singapore. Together, we share knowledge through our collaborative efforts of laying building blocks of Current Practice, we shall achieve new insights to enhance Future Care. Your interest and participation will be greatly appreciated.



Albert Yick Hou Lim

Reports from APSR en bloc societies

Hong Kong Thoracic Society (HKTS)

Casebook of Interstitial Lung Disease

With the aim of raising clinicians' awareness of interstitial lung diseases and bringing together colleagues interested in the topic, the Hong Kong Thoracic Society, CHEST Delegation Hong Kong and Macau and Hong Kong Lung Foundation jointly published the "Casebook of Interstitial Lung Disease" in March 2023. Hard copies were distributed at the Annual Scientific Meeting 2023, and a soft copy was made available to its editors and authors. The production of this Casebook was led by chief editors Dr Grace Lam, Dr Elaine Sze and Dr Wing-Ho Yip, and editor/advisor Dr Jones Kwok. The cases were contributed by respiratory physicians and trainees from respiratory units across Hong Kong.

Annual Scientific Meeting 2023

The Annual Scientific Meeting, jointly organized by the Hong Kong Thoracic Society, CHEST Delegation Hong Kong and Macau, and Hong

Kong Lung Foundation, was successfully held on 12 March 2023. This event marked the milestone of resuming the solely physical meeting format since the outbreak of COVID-19. The meeting received 317 registrations and 92% attendance. Local and world-renowned speakers were invited to deliver lectures on important updates and the management of asthma, COPD, interventional pulmonology and lung cancer. Professor Nan-Shan Zhong delivered the keynote lecture about the three coronavirus infections (SARS, MERS, COVID-19) in the past two decades. Dr David Lam also shared his research on lung cancer in the Donald Yu Lecture. The symposium for allied health professionals focused on the development of telemedicine and the incorporation of modern technologies in the care of patients with respiratory conditions. The "Casebook of Interstitial Lung Disease" conjointly published by the three societies was also distributed during the meeting. We sincerely appreciate the great effort of the organizing committee for this successful meeting that gave every attendee a fruitful and enjoyable Sunday.



Hybrid Symposium

Date: 7 February 2023

Topic: Selection of Biologics for Severe Asthma

Speaker: Dr Ken KP Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Topic: Anti-IgE Remains Important in the Management of Severe Asthma

Speaker: Professor Humbert Marc, France

Attendance: 100 (71%)

Date: 23 March 2023

Topic: Evolving Management in COPD

•GOLD 2023 Update

•Evolving Therapy in COPD Management – Earlier Intervention and Exacerbation Prevention

Speaker: Professor Klaus Rabe, Germany

Attendance: 108 (76%)

Webinar Lecture

Date: 25 April 2023

Topic: Innovation of Treating Moderate to Severe Asthma

Speaker: Professor John Blakey, Australia

Attendance: 77 (64%)

Hybrid Meeting

Date: 15 June 2023

Topic: When you ventilate, re-evaluate the

antibiotic!

Speaker: Dr Ricard Ferrer, Spain

Surgical Mask Competition 2022

Aiming at increasing public awareness and their motivation in infection control and fighting against COVID-19 pandemic, as well as promoting lung health, the Hong Kong Lung Foundation, Hong Kong Thoracic Society, and CHEST Delegation Hong Kong and Macau co-organized a surgical mask design competition recently. The response was overwhelming! We received an impressive submission from around 1,200 contestants, coming from over 110 schools from primary and secondary school groups. The surgical mask designed by champions of each group (Primary School Group, Secondary School Group, and Open Group) would be mass produced for charity sale. We hope Hong Kong people will all wear the beautifully designed surgical mask with a big smile “笑住戴·COVID Bye Bye”.



From SARS to COVID-19 Health Exhibition

The Hong Kong Lung Foundation, Hong Kong Thoracic Society, and CHEST Delegation Hong Kong and Macau co-organized the "From SARS to COVID-19" Health Exhibition and was successfully held on 11-12 March 2023 at the CityWalk 2, Tsuen Wan. This was the first Mega Event held by the three respiratory societies since the COVID-19 pandemic. It highlighted the two major viral epidemics in Hong Kong over the last 20 years; SARS and COVID-19, and provided health education to the general public on their relationship with other chronic respiratory diseases



and their long term health impact. A miniature artwork “Victoria Harbour” was displayed with a brand new animation on “Fighting against COVID-19” to symbolize the conjoint effort of health-care professionals and everyone in Hong Kong battling against COVID-19. Distinguished guests were invited to the opening ceremony held on 11 March 2023, who shared their experiences during the two epidemics.

13th “Quit to Win” Contest cum Smoke-free Community Campaign

Dr Yeung Yiu-Cheong, Dr Fanny Ko and Dr Law Wai-Lam, the Presidents and the Vice-President of our three respiratory societies, attended the territory-wide 13th “Quit to Win” Contest cum Smoke-free Community Campaign organized by the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) on 21 March 2023. This was a smoke-free promotion activity to spread the smoke-free message and encourage smoking cessation. The Campaign attracted more than 1,200 smokers to join the Contest and spread the smoke-free message to over 80,000 members of the public. Successful quitters shared their inspiring quit stories at the ceremony.

World Asthma Day Exhibition

On behalf of our three respiratory societies, Dr Fanny Ko, Dr Yeung Yiu-Cheong and Dr Jenny Ngai joined the “World Asthma Day Exhibition” on 29 April 2023 in Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza. This Exhibition was organized by The Hong Kong Asthma Society to echo the theme "Asthma Care for All" for World Asthma Day this year to promote public awareness of asthma.

Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS)

MTS 2022 Annual Congress

The MTS 2022 Annual Congress was held at Setia SPICE Convention Centre, Penang on 13-16 October 2022. The MTS 2022 Organising Committee was led by Dr Lalitha Pereirasamy, while the Scientific Committee was co-chaired by Dato’ Dr Rus Anida Awang (paediatric programme) and Dr Tan Jiunn Liang (adult programme). The congress recorded a total of 561 participants, from all around Malaysia.

The congress kick started with three full-day workshops on 13 October 2022, which were attended by 136 participants in total. The adult track had 2 workshops addressing Pulmonary Hypertension and Respiratory Support for Acute Respiratory Failure. “The Colourful World of Paediatric Thoracic Radiology” was the unique title for the paediatric workshop. The main congress comprised of 3 plenary lectures and 8 symposiums, covering a wide spectrum of topics on respiratory diseases in both adults and children. The topics addressed various updates in respiratory medicine and aimed to cater for the needs of all delegates ranging from general physicians to respiratory subspecialists. The faculty of speakers consisted of eminent local and overseas experts. Although

MTS 2022 was essentially a physical event for delegates, the virtual platform was maximised for international experts. In addition to the topic symposia, there were 2 sunrise sessions in the adult track and multidisciplinary case discussions. The congress concluded with a debate addressing the controversies on treating mild asymptomatic patients with obstructive sleep apnoea.

MTS 2022 marked another milestone in supporting the Penang state government's green initiative by introducing E-poster stations and we went completely digital! Paper posters and banner printing were totally avoided. Delegates prepared E-posters, while presentation and judging took place at the E-poster terminals for the very first time. There was a total of 28 original scientific poster papers, 56 case reports and 5 oral presentations. The Lung Foundation of Malaysia supported the prize money and awards were given to all 5 oral presenters, the best 6 scientific poster paper presentations and 1 best case report. MTS 2022 had huge support from industry sponsor companies and partner organisations. The Malaysian Convention and Exhibition Bureau (MYCEB) and the Penang Convention and Exhibition Bureau (PCEB) provided sponsorship and experiential support respectively. Our congress participants enjoyed substantial discounts for all Malaysia Airlines flights, flying to and from Penang to attend MTS 2022. It was an initiative to promote travel and tourism after a two-year hiatus.

10th Year Celebration, MTS Spirometry Education and Training Programme

The MTS Spirometry Certification Programme has been organised annually since 2014 in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. The main objective of the programme is to provide standardised basic knowledge and skills for all healthcare personnel involved in spirometry, either in hospital or primary care settings. The provider course consists of three phases, at the end of which participants can be certified as Spirometry Providers by the Malaysian Thoracic Society and Ministry of Health Malaysia. Less intensive spirometry courses have been held for primary care practitioners over the years and in 2023 the MTS will start spirometry courses for occupational health doctors in collaboration with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Ministry of Human Resources.

Paediatric Grand Ward Rounds

The virtual Paediatric Grand Ward Rounds were continued for a third consecutive year and the recorded proceedings have been uploaded as educational modules on the MTS Education website.

Lung Cancer Symposium

Amongst a host of educational events, a successful Lung Cancer Symposium was held on 12-13 March 2023 in Kuala Lumpur. It was co-organised with the Malaysian Oncological Society and Lung Cancer

Network Malaysia.

MTS Annual Congress 2023

The MTS 2023 Annual Congress will be held in Connexion Conference & Event Centre, Nexus, Bangsar South, Kuala Lumpur on 24-27 August 2023. Dr Asiah Kassim has been appointed as Organising Chairperson. Associate Professor Dr Ahmad Izuanuddin Ismail heads the Adult Scientific Committee and Dr Noor Ain Noor Affendi heads the Paediatrics Scientific Committee.



10th Year Celebration - MTS Spirometry Training and Education, 14 May 2023

Prepared by Hooi Lai Ngoh, Hon Secretary

Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP)

Adapting and Rising to Changing Challenges

The Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP), like other professional societies, faced tremendous challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and took it upon itself to evolve to be more responsive to local realities and regional demands. Certainly, this entailed some form of introspection by reviewing its goals, mission and thrusts. The Board of Trustees convened selected members from the chapters, councils, committees, and past presidents in a Strategic Planning Workshop. The session revisited the College's current strategy comprising three Wildly Important Goals (WIGs) which shall focus on the fields of advocacy, training, and research. This also included translating the strategies into operational plans for implementation from 2023-2025 and with monitoring systems in place. This exercise was indeed crucial at this stage in order to prioritize projects and commitments as well as more efficient use of resources.

With the Department of Health's (DOH) renewed emphasis of the Universal Healthcare (UHC) Law, the PCCP is in the process of updating and enhancing its clinical practice guidelines on various pulmonary diseases with an appropriate section on primary health. The College is also updating its membership directory and mapping of practice. This will ensure access to qualified pulmonologists in the country as well as accepted standards in respiratory care. The PCCP has been a staunch partner and collaborator of DOH

| Activity | YouTube link |
|--|---|
| Legacy Trail – Nurture a Grove | https://youtu.be/3KU3DlhqoOE |
| Pneumonia Awareness Campaign | https://youtu.be/LCis8cgAXKQ |
| Patient Education on Pneumonia | https://youtu.be/CftzSpCj8y4 |
| Lay Forum on Lung Cancer | https://youtu.be/6RbPpS9sU48 |
| National Lung Month and World Lung Day | https://youtu.be/oYY4co1b2U0 |
| Ang Panawagan | https://youtu.be/wCzCLF5Hju0 |
| Real Talk about Asthma | https://youtu.be/6sVMisJYAE8 |

especially in its field of advocacy focusing on anti-smoking efforts, tuberculosis control, and clean air. With its 20 accredited training institutions and 10 chapters, localized efforts will be easier to cascade with a more palpable effect at the frontlines.

Recognizing our role in society as advocates of pulmonary health care in the country, the College continuously engages in various activities with a common goal of promoting and enhancing lung health in our country. Advocacy videos can be accessed from the above YouTube link.

Research has also been a consistent priority of the college. Its 13 councils which tackle specific lung disorders, have always been open to collaborative investigations as well as in the forefront of crafting relevant local practice guidelines. The PCCP also has invigorated its own journal, the *Philippine Journal of Chest Diseases*. This entailed renewed commitments from the editorial board as well as conducting needed workshops and research seminars. To further entice trainees in research, travel grants and support, as well as research awards, were generously given to members and training institutions.

Training and CME-related activities also had to continuously evolve. Virtual platforms were the main vehicle for updates. This presented unique opportunities for more nationwide involvement and international networking with other respiratory societies. The PCCP will be forever grateful to our partners such as the APSR, American Thoracic Society (ATS), and European Respiratory Society (ERS) who were generous enough to share their perspectives and expertise. Now, we are trying to transition to more face-to-face opportunities which we feel are more engaging and will allow more interaction. Our Annual Convention held in March 2023, was conducted in this manner and was very well-received by all delegates.

The PCCP will always embrace its role as the acknowledged respiratory expert in the country. We realize that this will entail acknowledgement of local realities and willingness to evolve to adapt to the changing times in order to be more relevant. We will be steadfast in our mission to uplift the Philippines' pulmonary health condition.

The PCCP is proud to announce that the College will host the 29th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR) on 13-16 November 2025 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Manila. We are looking forward to renewing our ties with our friends from the various APSR countries/regions. See you all in Manila in 2025!

Prepared by Jubert P. Benedicto, Secretary

Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ)

TSANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting

The highly successful Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) of the Australia and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science and the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand took place in Christchurch, New Zealand on 22-28 March 2023, delivering our first face-to-face ASM in three years due to COVID-19. We were delighted to host over 1,000 delegates at the Meeting. This year's theme was "Disparities in Health" with some fantastic national and international invited speakers, a range of expertly designed postgraduate courses, networking options as well as many social activities.

We achieved equal gender representation of women and men amongst our speakers, and the disciplines and craft groups of these speakers are representative of the members that make up the TSANZ.

In partnership with the Lung Foundation Australia and National Asthma Council Australia, the TSANZ presented over ten awards totalling more than AU\$150,000. At the 2023 ASM, we also announced the TSANZ Awards by Nomination,



and the TSANZ Ann Woolcock New Investigator Award winner at the TSANZ Gala Dinner. A full list of 2023 award winners can be found [here](#)

Next year’s Meeting is scheduled for 22-26 March 2024 at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre. The theme is “A new era in healthcare (Innovation)”.

Education Hub

The first joint TSANZ and ANZSRS Education Hub took place on 14-15 October 2022 in Sydney attracting over 407 attendees. TSANZSRS Education Hub delivered a range of clinical and research sessions featuring three short courses, including Occupational Lung Disease, Complex Asthma Across the Lifespan, and ANZSRS Physiology. In addition, there were various half-day postgraduate workshops and breakfast sessions covering Interstitial Lung Disease, Pleural Diseases, Paediatric Respiratory Conditions, Research Skills, Tobacco Cessation Treatment, Women in



Respiratory Health, and Laboratory Accreditation Training updates.

A total of 98 speakers presented at the Education Hub with a 50/50 split of gender balance. Speakers were invited from all Australian states and around the world including New Zealand, USA, UK, and Canada.

TSANZ Advocacy

The Thoracic Society’s Policy and Advocacy team is committed to elevating the voice of our membership to improve lung health across Australia and New Zealand. Over the last 12 months we have produced [45 proactive advocacy pieces](#) including submissions to government consultations and public enquiries, support to like-minded organisations, and media releases. We have seen success over the last year including the Australian Government’s ban on non-pharmaceutical e-cigarettes, the Commonwealth unanimously agreeing to explore an import ban on engineered stone, and the recent funding announcement for the National Targeted Lung Cancer Screening Program. Our proactive advocacy efforts have cemented the establishment of a severe asthma clinical network in New Zealand as part of a wider national respiratory network governed and supported by Te Whatu Ora, the national health services authority. The Thoracic Society is committed to improving the wellbeing of individuals affected by respiratory conditions and will continue to promote better lung health for all Australians and New Zealanders.

TSANZ Clinical Guidelines & Position Statements

The TSANZ has published four papers in the last 12 months.

| Clinical Guideline/Position Statement | Published Date | Journal | Link |
|--|----------------|-------------|---|
| Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) position statement on chronic suppurative lung disease and bronchiectasis in children, adolescents and adults in Australia and New Zealand | 2 March 2023 | Respirology | https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/resp.14479 |
| “The COPD-X Plan: Australian and New Zealand guidelines for the management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease” by Lung Foundation Australia’s COPD Guidelines Committee and Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand. | October 2022 | | https://copdx.org.au/copd-x-plan/ |
| Pulmonary function testing during SARS-CoV-2: An ANZSRS/TSANZ position statement | 10 August 2022 | Respirology | https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/resp.14340 |
| Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Position Statement: Respiratory nursing | 29 June 2022 | Respirology | https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/resp.14322 |

Reports from award winners who participated in the ATS International Conference



I am deeply humbled and grateful to have been selected for the Young Investigator Award from the APSR for the ATS 2023 International Conference. This award has given me the opportunity to share my research with a wider audience, and it has inspired me to continue my work. I am excited to see what the future holds

for me as a young scholar, and I am confident that I will be able to make a positive contribution to the field of pulmonary medicine.

As part of the award, I was invited to make a brief presentation on my research at the ATS international colloquium, which was held on 20 May 2023 at the Walter E. Washington Conference Center in Washington DC. I was nervous about giving a talk in front of a large audience in English, but was also excited to share my work with my peers coming from all around the world. My talk focused on my research on how the gut microbiome signature predicts early treatment response of patients with *Mycobacterium abscessus* complex pulmonary disease. It was a valuable experience to summarize the rationale, methods, results, and key takeaways of my research into a 3-minute pitch. It was also great to receive a lot of positive feedback and comments afterwards. I was thoroughly impressed by the works that are being done by the people I befriended at the colloquium and I am excited to see what they will accomplish in the years to come.



I stayed at the Homewood Suites, which is a hotel located close to the conference centre. I had a wonderful stay, with a great breakfast and a

comfortable room for one person. The hotel was very quiet, which allowed me to prepare for the presentation I had to give on 22 May during a session titled, "The Happy Couple: Bronchiectasis and Nontuberculous Mycobacteria". I did not have enough time to prepare during my regular working hours in Seoul, so I needed some preparation time during the ATS Conference. The hotel was the perfect place to be for this.

During my presentation, I was able to get through all the points I wanted to make, and there were some great questions about the use of probiotics, the probable mechanism of how the organism I discovered can affect the response to treatment, and the significance of other clinical factors.

In the session where I presented, about half of the presenters were from Asian countries. I was proud to see that the research being done by APSR member countries is leading the field of NTM and bronchiectasis. I hope that this trend continues, and look forward to seeing great works coming out of the Asia-Pacific region.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude once again to the APSR and especially to the APSR Research Committee for giving me this opportunity. I promise to continue to work hard and grow so that I live up to the expectations placed on me. I will strive to conduct research that will improve the lives of patients. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dr Joong-Yub Kim (left) and Dr David CL Lam (right)

Joong-Yub Kim (Republic of Korea)



I was deeply honoured to receive the APSR Young Investigator Travel Award to the ATS International Conference 2023 in Washington D.C. It was my pleasure to participate in the ATS International Conference for the first time in three years.

Unlike a virtual meeting, face-to-face conversation enabled a more fluid and dynamic exchange of ideas and collaboration. It was an amazing experience to share my work with everyone and to learn more about the research in various fields.

I presented our research work entitled “Monocyte-derived interstitial macrophages stimulate angiogenesis to promote lung regeneration following pneumonectomy” in the international scholar poster colloquium. This colloquium provided only 3 minutes to share our research findings with international scholars who have different interests. Although it was challenging, I tried to catch the audience’s attention, highlight the main points in our research, and have a summary to restate the importance of our work. It was an excellent opportunity to train my research communication skills. In addition, I had enough chances to meet the young physicians and we could learn from each other. Everything was fresh and exciting to me.

This was my first presentation at a mini symposium at the conference. During my presentation, I met some key scientists and experts in my field of interest and received many questions and comments that will help me improve my research work. I built a strong research network and stayed in touch with them after the conference. I was also impressed by the many presentations and posters from global experts. I learned a lot of novel findings and technologies from other researchers; they helped me to widen my visions and increase my knowledge. I indeed enjoyed the discussion with them. This conference enabled me to explore new places and new fields.

Again, I would like to show my gratitude to the APSR for their generous support and wholehearted hospitality. It was a wonderful and valuable experience for me. I look forward to participating in the ATS International Conference every year.

Satoshi Watanabe (Japan)

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Forthcoming Meetings

2023

Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP) 23rd Midyear Convention
26-28 July
Palawan, Philippines
Email: secretariat@philchest.com

ERS International Congress 2023
9-13 September
Milan, Italy (Hybrid)

Korean Academy of Tuberculosis & Respiratory Diseases (KATRD) International Conference (KATRDIC)
8-10 November
Seoul, Republic of Korea
Email: info@katrdic.org
Website: <https://www.katrdic.org>

27th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
16-19 November
Singapore
Website: apsr2023.sg



The 27th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology

2024

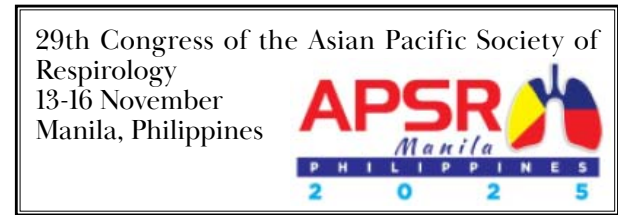
Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP) 43rd Annual Chest Convention
5-8 March
Manila, Philippines
Email: secretariat@philchest.com

The 64th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS)
5-7 April
Yokohama, Japan
Email: 64jrs@jrs.or.jp
Website: jrs.or.jp/jrs64/en/index.html

ATS 2024 International Conference
17-22 May
San Diego, USA



2025



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