

"NEW BEGINNING NEW SCIENCE"



Annual Scientific Meeting of **MSGH**

G U T 2022

19th to 21st August 2022

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

www.msgh.org.my

MSGH BULLETIN 2022 SUPPLEMENT

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MSGH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2021-2023

President Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh

President-Elect Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan

Immediate Past President Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

Honorary Secretary Dr Haniza Omar

Honorary Treasurer Dr Sattian Kollanthavelu

Executive Committee Members Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi

Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon Dato' Dr Mahendra Raj Dr Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim Datuk Dr Ryan Ponnudurai

Coopted Executive Committee Members Dr Abraham Mathew George

Dr Soon Su Yang Dr Tan Soek Siam

Dr Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chair, Organising Committee & Chair, Scientific Committee

Co-Chair, Organising Committee Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan

Co-Chair, Scientific Committee Dr Haniza Omar

Committee Members Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali Dr Sattian Kollanthavelu

Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon Datuk Dr Ryan Ponnudurai Dato' Dr Mahendra Raj

Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi Dr Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim Dr Abraham Matthew George

Dr Soon Su Yang Dr Tan Soek Siam

Dr Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues, Friends and Biomedical Industry Partners

The Organising Committee of **GUT 2022** with the theme "**New Beginning, New Science**" welcomes you to join us on 19th to 21st August 2022 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (**KLCC**) for the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH). This year marks a New Beginning post-pandemic, and there are many New Sciences in the field, thus the theme for GUT 2022. As we transit into the 'old normal' post-pandemic, we have decided to hold GUT 2022 as a fully physical meeting to enable interaction

and the bonding of fellowship and camaraderie which will not be possible with a virtual event.

The scientific highlights and sessions will all be recorded and will be made available to registered participants for a limited period after the meeting. The scientific content will not only feature the latest sciences highly relevant to clinical practice but also clinical topics tailored for busy clinicians. Essentially, the programme is designed for everyone with an interest in gut health including primary care practitioners, family physicians, scientists, surgeons, general physicians and gastroenterologists. As a regular feature, the meeting also welcome submissions of high-quality research papers and authors will stand a chance to win our prestigious Young Investigator Awards. In addition, we will have our industry partners at their physical booths welcoming you to their latest offerings in innovative products and other latest information.

I hope to meet up with you in-person.

Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh

President, MSGH 2021-2023 & Organising Chair GUT 2022

22ND MSGH ORATION PROFESSOR DR GOVIND K MAKHARIA

Citation by Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi



"Celiac Disease: Opportunities and Challenges"

Professor Dr Govind K Makharia is a Professor in the Department of Gastroenterology and Human Nutrition, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India. He received his training from the prestigious Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, India. He has trained 96 fellows in gastroenterology and nine PhD students. He has published 305 articles in indexed journals, 42 book chapters and edited a handbook on celiac disease. He has a h-index of 52 and his publications have been cited 11,000 times. He has been listed amongst the top two

percent of research scientists globally (2021).

Professor Dr Makharia holds many important positions including being the Secretary General of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology; Chair of the Clinical Research Committee, World Gastroenterology Organization; Governing Council Member of the World Gastroenterology Organization; Council Member of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology and Coordinator of the DBT Consortium on Celiac Disease. In addition to this, he is also the co-inventor of a device for fecal incontinence and a liver biopsy needle (Bioscoop).

Professor Dr Makharia has received many awards including the BMJ South-East Asia Research Paper of the Year Award in 2016, ISG Om Prakash Memorial Award, ISG-Zydus Oration, SR Naik Memorial Award and AlIMS Excellence Awards. He has successfully organised a Young Clinician Programme for the last 11 years involving approximately 900 GI trainees and the first Train-the-Trainers programme on behalf of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology. He has initiated and participated in the development of many global, Asian and Indian practice guidelines on various diseases. His main area of research is Celiac Disease.

In terms of his personal life, Professor Dr Makharia is the loving son to Shyam Lal Makharia and Savitri Makharia and has been blessed with a lovely wife, Dr Suman Lal, who is an obstetrician and gynaecologist. They have a beautiful daughter who is also a doctor; Dr Archita Makharia. He recently expanded his family with Dr Archita's recent marriage with Dr Archit Gupta who is a GI surgeon. His interests outside medicine include travel and music.

Although his illustrious academic career is self-evident, a truly distinguishing feature of Professor Dr Makharia is his warmth, generosity and absolute dedication to patient care and teaching. His lectures have always been outstanding, and I have learned greatly from him over the years; as have a multitude of others. I cannot think of anyone more deserving to present this year's 22nd MSGH Oration; Celiac Disease: Opportunities and Challenges.

19TH PANIR CHELVAM MEMORIAL LECTURE PROFESSOR DR JUSTIN CHE-YUEN WU

Citation by Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh



"Functional GI Disorders in Asia: The Past and the Future"

Dr Panir Chelvam, was known for being highly successful in his gastroenterology practice but also a caring family man and a kind friend. Professor Dr Justin Wu fits a similar personality. Having known him for several years now, and from a couple of working opportunities with him, I am greatly delighted to read his citation today.

Professor Dr Justin Wu graduated from the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) with Distinction in Medicine in 1993. He then underwent internal medicine and gastroenterology training under the supervision of Professor Dr Joseph Sung, much regarded as his close mentor

and a friend. With his deep interest in GI motility, he later pursued further training at the Royal Adelaide Hospital under the supervision of Professor Dr John Dent and Professor Dr Richard Holloway in the year 2000.

Professor Dr Justin Wu joined CUHK as an Associate Professor in 2006 and was then promoted to Professor just three years later. During his tenure, he has academic and clinical focus in the field of functional GI disorder (now termed disorders of gut-brain interactions or DGBIs) and gastroesophageal reflux disease with over 300 publications in top medical journals including the New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet and Gastroenterology with H-index above 50. He is a current member of the Working Group of Chicago Classification for esophageal motility disorders.

Professor Dr Justin Wu held several key leadership positions in many local and international professional organizations. He is the current President of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE), Past President of Hong Kong Society of Gastroenterology (HKSGE), President of APDW 2017, and the Scientific Committee Chairman of Asia Neurogastroenterology and Motility Association (ANMA). He has served as the managing director of Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (JGH), and International Associate Editor of American Journal of Gastroenterology (AJG).

As the Associate Dean (Health Systems) of Faculty of Medicine and the Chairman of CUHK Medical Services, he is responsible for development of collaborative network with private health systems, businesses and industry partners in Hong Kong, Greater Bay Area and beyond. He is former Chief Operating Officer of CUHK Medical Centre, the private teaching hospital of CUHK; the founding director of Asia's first "Global Physician-Leadership Stream" (GPS) of MBChB programme; and the founding director of Hong Kong Institute of Integrative Medicine with the mission of fostering cooperation between Western and Chinese medicine in the health system.

Having a pleasant personality, it is not surprising that Professor Dr Justin Wu is an eminent teacher with eight teaching awards of medical education included the Vice-Chancellor Exemplary Teaching Award, Master Teacher, and Teacher of the Year Awards in CUHK Medicine. He has also actively contributed to the development of medical innovations in Hong Kong. He is serving as director and advisor of numerous biomedical technology companies and investment funds.

Last but not least, he is a caring father who will spend any available time out of his busy schedule with his daughter, Jasmine. There is no doubt that his success is not possible without his supportive spouse, Lily Heung. His outstanding academic achievement, exemplary leadership qualities and continuous pursuit of innovations have brought significant contributions to the field of gastroenterology. We are truly honoured to have Professor Dr Justin Wu to deliver the 19th Panir Chelvam memorial lecture.

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Time Date	19 th August 2022 (Friday)	20 th August 2022 (Saturday)	21 st August 2022 (Sunday)
0830 - 0900	SYMPOSIUM 1 The MSGH Consensus		SYMPOSIUM 6
0900 - 0930		SYMPOSIUM 3 Inflammatory Bowel Disease	New Science Series 2: Joint WGO-MSGH Symposium - Green
0930 - 1000	Statements on MAFLD		GI Practices and Planetary Health
1000 - 1030	LECTURE 1 22 nd MSGH Oration	LECTURE 2 19 th Panir Chelvam Memorial Lecture	LECTURE 3
1030 - 1100	Break		
1100 - 1130	V 1 A 14	SYMPOSIUM 4 Chronic Hepatitis B: New	Tea Satellite Symposium 3
1130 - 1200	Young Investigator Award 1 Best Oral Paper Presentations		SYMPOSIUM 7
1200 - 1230		Treatment Paradigm	Grand Round Series 2: Overlap Functional GI Disorders
1230 - 1300	Lunch Satellite Symposium 1	Lunch Satellite Symposium 2	Functional Gl Disorders
1300 - 1330		Lunch Satellite Symposium 2	CLOSING CEREMONY
1330 - 1400	Break / Friday Prayers	Young Investigator Award 2 & Best E-Poster Award Presentations	
1400 - 1430	bleak / Fliday Flayers	Graduation Ceremony	
1430 - 1500	SYMPOSIUM 2 New Science Series 1: Latest Science in Gut Microbiota	SYMPOSIUM 5 Grand Round Series 1 (Joint	
1500 - 1530		Session with PRO-EURO DILI Network): Drug Induced Liver	
1530 - 1600	Latest Science in Gut Microbiota	Injury	
1600 - 1630	Break		
1630 - 1700	Tea Satellite Symposium 1	Tea Satellite Symposium 2	
1700 - 1800		iea sateinte symposium 2	
1900 - 1930	OPENING CEREMONY Opening of Exhibition & Launching of MSGH Website	MSGH Annual General Meeting	
1930 - 2200	APPRECIATION DINNER FOR GUT 2022 & APDW 2021 (By Invitation Only)		

DAILY PROGRAMME

19th August 2022 (Friday)

0830 - 1000 SYMPOSIUM 1 | The MSGH Consensus Statements on MAFLD

Chairpersons: Haniza Omar / Chan Wah Kheong

Introduction

Chan Wah Kheong (Malaysia)

Assessment and Referral Pathway for Metabolic Dysfunction Associated Liver Disease (MAFLD)

Tan Soek Siam (Malaysia)

Current and Emerging Therapy in MAFLD

Vincent Wai-Sun Wong (Hong Kong)

Improving Metabolic Outcomes in MAFLD

Chan Siew Pheng (Malaysia)

Role of Primary Care in the Management of MAFLD

Anis Safura Ramli (Malaysia)

MAFLD - A Public Health Perspective

Feisul Mustapha (Malaysia)

A&Q

1000 - 1030 **LECTURE 1**

22nd MSGH Oration

Citation: Ida Normiha Hilmi

Celiac Disease: Opportunities and Challenges

Govind K Makharia (India)

1030 - 1100 Break

1100 - 1230

Young Investigator Award 1

Best Oral Paper Presentations

DAILY PROGRAMME 19th August 2022 (Friday)

1230 - 1330 Lunch Satellite Symposium 1 (Abbott)

Chairperson: Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

An Extensive Approach to Manage Overlapping FGID Symptoms (Virtual)

Tim Vanuvtsel (Belgium)

Expert Dialogue Session: Addressing Cultural Gaps in Treating FD-GERD (Virtual)

Tim Vanuytsel (Belgium)

O&A

1330 - 1430 Break / Friday Prayers

1430 - 1600 SYMPOSIUM 2 | New Science Series 1: Latest Science in Gut Microbiota

Chairpersons: Mahendra Raj / Raman Muthukaruppan

Gut Microbiota Dysbiosis in COVID-19: Epiphenomenon or a Meaningful Association?

Uday C Ghoshal (India)

Gut Microbiota in Colorectal Cancer

Wei Shu-Chen (Taiwan)

H.pylori and Gastric Cancer

Hidekazu Suzuki (Japan)

Fecal Microbiota Transplantation

David Ong Eng Hui (Singapore)

Q&A

1600 - 1630 Break

DAILY PROGRAMME 19th August 2022 (Friday)

1630 - 1800 Tea Satellite Symposium 1

Chairperson: Goh Khean Lee

The Evolving Face of Reflux-Like Symptoms & Its Management (Reckitt)

Peter James Kahrilas (United States)

Chairperson: Goh Khean Lee

The Latest ACG Clinical Guideline for Diagnosis and Management of GERD (AstraZeneca)

Lawrence Ho Khek Yu (Singapore)

Chairpersons: Ida Normiha Hilmi / Lee Yeong Yeh

IBD Monitoring Reimagined: Innovation in IBD Care (Ferring)

Alex Leow Hwong Ruey (Malaysia)

1900 - 1930 **OPENING CEREMONY**

Exhibition Hall

- Opening of Exhibition
- Launching of MSGH Website
- IBD Preceptorship & IBD App

1930 - 2200 APPRECIATION DINNER FOR GUT 2022 & APDW 2021 (By Invitation Only)

Mandarin Oriental Hotel

DAILY PROGRAMME

20th August 2022 (Saturday)

0830 - 1000 SYMPOSIUM 3 | Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Chairpersons: Ida Normiha Hilmi / Raman Muthukaruppan

COVID19 and IBD - What have we Learned so Far?

Gilaad G Kaplan (Canada)

Isolated Ileocecal Crohn's Disease: Is it Time to Swing the Pendulum Back to Surgery?

Yes: Khong Tak Loon (Malaysia) **No:** Govind K Makharia (India)

Case 1: How to Position Small Molecules and Biologics in IBD?

Nazri Mustaffa (Malaysia)

Case 2: Management of Acute Severe Colitis

Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim (Malaysia)

Q&A

1000 - 1030 **LECTURE 2**

19th Panir Chelvam Memorial Lecture

Citation: Lee Yeong Yeh

Functional GI Disorders in Asia: The Past and the Future

Justin Che-Yuen Wu (Hong Kong)

1030 - 1100 Break

1100 - 1230 SYMPOSIUM 4 | Chronic Hepatitis B: New Treatment Paradigm

Chairpersons: Haniza Omar / Sattian Kollanthavelu

Can we do More with Current HBV Treatment with Nucleoside Analogues?

Vincent Wai-Sun Wong (Hong Kong)

Debatable Among Global Hepatitis B Guidelines: How do we Manage Patients?

Teerha Piratvisuth (Thailand)

An Overview of Emerging Therapies for Functional Cure

Lim Seng Gee (Singapore)

Asian Pacific Association for the Study of Liver (APASL) Guidelines: Hepatitis B Virus in Pregnancy

Manoj Kumar Sharma (India)

Q&A

DAILY PROGRAMME 20th August 2022 (Saturday)

1230 - 1330 Lunch Satellite Symposium 2 (Takeda)

Chairperson: *Raja Affendi Raja Ali*Are we doing Enough in Treating GERD? *Daphne Ang Shih Wen (Singapore)*

Paving the Way Towards Disease Modification in Crohn's Disease

Wei Shu-Chen (Taiwan)

Q&A

1330 - 1430 Young Investigator Award 2 & Best E-Poster Award Presentations

Graduation Ceremony

1430 - 1600 SYMPOSIUM 5 | Grand Round Series 1 (Joint Session with PRO-EURO DILI Network):

Drug Induced Liver Injury

Chairpersons: Tan Soek Siam / Jayaram Menon

Introduction to PRO-EURO-DILI Network

Raul J Andrade (Spain)

 $\label{lem:condition} \textbf{Approach and Management of DILI in Real-Life Practice - The Asian Experience}$

Harshad Devarbhavi (India)

Approach and Management of DILI in Real-Life Practice - The European Experience

Raul J Andrade (Spain)

Case 1: COVID-19 Vaccine Induced Liver Injury

Hoo Chai Zhen (Malaysia)

Case 2: Immunotherapy-Associated Liver Injury

Raul J Andrade (Spain)

Q&A

1600 - 1630 Break

DAILY PROGRAMME 20th August 2022 (Saturday)

1630 - 1800 Tea Satellite Symposium 2

Chairperson: Lee Yeong Yeh

The Impact of Antibiotics on the Gut Microbiota and Role of Probiotic (Servier)

Kok-Ann Gwee (Singapore)

Chairperson: Lee Yeong Yeh

Define and Optimize the Role of Lenvatinib in HCC Management (Eisai)

Teerha Piratvisuth (Thailand)

Chairperson: Chan Wah Kheong

Mounting Evidence with Immunotherapy in Unresectable HCC (Roche)

Lim Seng Gee (Singapore)

1800 - 1900 MSGH Annual General Meeting

DAILY PROGRAMME

21st August 2022 (Sunday)

0830 - 1000 SYMPOSIUM 6 | New Science Series 2: Joint WGO-MSGH Symposium - Green GI Practices and Planetary Health

Chairpersons: Jayaram Menon / Abraham Mathew George

The Global Gastroenterology Community to Meet the Challenge of Climate Change

Geoffrey Metz (Australia)

Discussion Forum:

Chairperson: Abraham Mathew George

Moderators: Javaram Menon / Raja Affendi Raja Ali

Green Endoscopy

Andrew Veitch (United Kingdom)

GI Society Survey

Desmond Leddin (Canada)

GI Carbon Footprint

Geoffrey Metz (Australia)

Moving Forward

Bishr Omary

Discussion / Q&A

1000 - 1030 LECTURE 3 (Johnson & Johnson)

Chairperson: Raja Affendi Raja Ali

Stages of Global Evolution of Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Gilaad G Kaplan (Canada)

1030 - 1100 Break

1100 - 1130 Tea Satellite Symposium 3 (Johnson & Johnson)

Chairperson: Abraham Mathew George

Real World Effectiveness and Safety of Ustekinumab in IBD

Ooi Choon Jin (Singapore)

DAILY PROGRAMME 21st August 2022 (Sunday)

1130 - 1300 SYMPOSIUM 7 | Grand Round Series 2: Overlap Functional GI Disorders

Chairpersons: Soon Su Yang / Lee Yeong Yeh

 $\label{thm:conditional} \mbox{How do I Approach Overlap Functional GI Disorders in Practice?}$

Justin Che-Yuen Wu (Hong Kong)

Case 1: FD-GERD

Hidekazu Suzuki (Japan)

Case 2: FD-IBS

Kok-Ann Gwee (Singapore)

Case 3: FD-Pancreatic Dysfunction

Seiji Futagami (Japan)

Case 4: FD-Constipation *Uday C Ghoshal (India)*

Q&A

1300 - 1330 CLOSING CEREMONY

- Award Presentation
- Lucky Draw

MODERATORS / CHAIRPERSONS

Abraham Matthew George

KPJ Johor Specialist Hospital Johor

Chan Wah Kheong

University Malaya Medical Centre Kuala Lumpur

Goh Khean Lee

Universiti Malaya and CENGILD Medical Centre Kuala Lumpur

Haniza Omar

Selayang Hospital Selangor

Ida Normiha Hilmi

University Malaya Medical Centre Kuala Lumpur

Jayaram Menon

Pantai Hospital Ayer Keroh Melaka

Lee Yeong Yeh

Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia Kubang Kerian, Kelantan

Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

Pantai Hospital Kuala Lumpur Kuala Lumpur

Mahendra Raj

Pantai Hospital Kuala Lumpur Kuala Lumpur

Raja Affendi Raja Ali

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre Kuala Lumpur

Raman Muthukaruppan

Hospital Queen Elizabeth Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Sattian Kollanthavelu

Tuanku Ja'afar Hospital Seremban Negeri Sembilan

Soon Su Yang

KPJ Kuching Specialist Hospital Sarawak

Tan Soek Siam

Selayang Hospital Selangor



Raul J Andrade

Professor Dr Raul J Andrade is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Department of Medicine at the University of Malaga, Head of the Gastroenterology Service, University Hospital. He is the Founder and Director of the Spanish Drug Induced Liver Injury Registry (www.spanishdili.uma.es) of the Spanish Latin-American DILI Network and the Prospective European DILI Registry awarded by the EASL. He is Chairman of the EASL Clinical Practice Guidelines on Drug Induced Liver Injury; Chair of CIOMS (Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences) working group on DILI 2017; Chair COST ACTION CA17112; Member of the Steering Committee of SIG in Hepatotoxicity (AASLD) and the expert panel of the EFSA. Invited speaker in over 50 international Conferences. Professor Dr Andrade is Associate Editor of Liver International (Q1) and Frontiers in Pharmacology (Q1) and member of the editorial board of Hepatology (2012-2016) (D1) and Journal of Hepatology (D1) (2020-2023). He published over 300 articles in peer-review journals, and 43 book chapters. He has an h-index of 52 and 12602 total citations by 8143 documents. The AASLD elected him Fellow (2016) for his significant contribution to the science and practice of hepatobiliary diseases.



Daphne Ang Shih Wen

Dr Daphne Ang graduated with MBBS (Honours) from the University of New South Wales (Australia) in 1999 and subsequently returned to Singapore where she underwent further training in internal medicine and gastroenterology.

After obtaining her MRCP (UK) in 2003 and specialist accreditation in gastroenterology in 2006, she was awarded the HMDP scholarship by the Ministry of Health to pursue subspecialty training in neurogastroenterology in Belgium and Zurich. Her areas of interest include gastroesophageal reflux disease and GI motility disorders. She is regularly invited to speak at international scientific meetings. She has published in both local and international journals, book chapters and conducts workshops on oesophageal motility.



Anis Safura Ramli

Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli is currently the Deputy Director and Principal Fellow at I-PPerForM, a research Centre of Excellence (CoE) in UiTM. Her research niche area is in cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention and management of multiple cardiovascular risks - particularly hypertension, diabetes, hypercholesterolaemia, obesity and metabolic syndrome. She has published numerous scientific research papers in international high impact journals. Her Scopus h-indexed is 15. She has vast experience in leading research team as a principal investigator of national and international grants. She has won several research and innovation awards at national and international levels, including UiTM Best Researcher Award 2020 and Gold Medal Award at ITEX 2021. She is an active member of her profession having served in the councils of the Academy of Family Physicians of Malaysia (AFPM), Family Medicine Specialist Association (FMSA) and the Malaysian Society of Hypertension (MSH). She has been invited as a plenary and symposium speaker at various national and international scientific conferences.



Chan Siew Pheng

Dr Chan Siew Pheng graduated from Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. She is a Consultant Endocrinologist, currently holding an Honorary Professorship at the Department of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She also practices at Subang Jaya Medical Centre, Selangor, Malaysia.

As an academician, she has conducted research in the field of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Osteoporosis. She was the Chairperson of the 2020 Malaysian Clinical Practice guidelines for Management of Type 2 Diabetes mellitus. She continues to actively publish in international and regional journals. She is the current President of the Malaysian Endocrine and Metabolic Society (2020-2022).



Chan Wah Kheong

Professor Dr Chan is Professor of Medicine at the Universiti Malaya and Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist at the University Malaya Medical Centre and the University of Malaya Specialist Centre. He is a member of the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. He was the Scientific Co-Chair for the Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2021. He is a member of the Asia-Pacific Working Party on Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, the Gut and Obesity in Asia (GO ASIA) Workgroup, the CAP Prognosis Study Group, and the Global NASH Council. He is Associate Editor for the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, a member of the Editorial Board for Clinical and Molecular Hepatology and is a reviewer for several international journals. He has published numerous full papers in peer-reviewed journals and presented in both local and international conferences. His main area of research interest is metabolic dysfunction associated fatty liver disease.



Feisul Mustapha

Dr Feisul Mustapha is a consultant public health physician best known for his leadership in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Malaysia. His special areas of interest include diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, cancers and obesity. At the Ministry of Health Malaysia, he is the Deputy Director (NCDs) at the Disease Control Division, and his main roles include policy and programme development, and strategic implementation of interventions for the prevention and control of NCDs. In addition, Dr Feisul has special interest in leveraging on technology in catalysing behavioural modification to reduce the exposure to NCD risk factors.

He combines his high-level experiences in the government with active engagement of civil society and multilateral institutions. Dr Feisul is currently Chair of the Scientific Advisory Group for the Monash University South East Asia Community Observatory (SEACO). In addition, he is a Board Member for the Advisory Board of the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), a Member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on the Prevention and Control of NCDs (STAG-NCD) for WHO Geneva, and also a Member of the Policy Advisory Group of the World Cancer Research Fund International (WCRF).



Seiji Futagami

Professor Dr Seiji Futagami graduated from Nippon Medical School in 1990. His interests include subject matter on Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders, Functional Dyspepsia and Chronic Pancreatitis. He has co-authored many publications related to this. Professor Dr Seiji Futagami is an outstanding researcher and has won multiple awards including JGES Awards in 1999, JSGE Awards in 2009 and JGA Awards in 2010. Currently he holds the position as Chief of Division of Gastroenterology of Nippon Medical School as well as Vice President of Nippon Medical School Musashi Kosugi Hospital Kanagawa, Japan.



Govind K Makharia

Professor Dr Govind K Makharia is presently a Professor in the Department of Gastroenterology and Human Nutrition, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India. He has received his training from prestigious Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh. He has trained 96 fellows in gastroenterology and 9 PhD students. He has published 305 articles in the indexed journals, 42 chapters for different books and edited a handbook on celiac disease. The h-index of his publications is 52 and his publications has been cited by 11,000 times. He has been listed amongst the top two percent research scientist globally (2021).

Professor Dr Govind Makharia is the Secretary General of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology; Chair, Clinical Research Committee, World Gastroenterology Organization; Governing Council Member of World Gastroenterology Organization; Council Member of Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology; Coordinator, DBT Consortium on Celiac Disease; Co-inventor of a device for fecal incontinence and a liver biopsy needle (Bioscoop). He has received many awards including BMJ South-East Asia research paper of the year award 2016, ISG Om Prakash Memorial award, ISG-Zydus oration, SR Naik Memorial award, and AIIMS Excellence Awards (three times). He has successfully organized Young Clinician Programme for the past 11 years involving approximately 900 GI trainees and the first Train-the-Trainers programme on behalf of Indian Society of Gastroenterology. He is initiator and participants in development of many global, Asian and Indian practice guidelines on various diseases. The main area of his research is Celiac disease.



Kok-Ann Gwee

Professor Dr Kok-Ann Gwee, MBBS, MRCP, PhD, is Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at the National University of Singapore, and Consultant Gastroenterologist at Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore. He obtained his PhD from University of Sheffield for his thesis on Post-infection IBS. His research includes epidemiology and Asian socio-cultural perspectives of GI diseases, and the roles of inflammation, gut microbes, probiotics, sleep disturbance and psychological factors in FGID. A founding member and past president of the ANMA, Professor Dr Gwee was a member of the Rome IV committees. He is leading an APAGE working team to develop guidelines for the management of overlapping FGID.



Harshad Devarbhavi

Professor Dr Harshad Devarbhavi started his medical training in Belgaum, India. He then pursued the specialty of Internal medicine in Madras Medical College, Chennai, India. He then subspecialized in Gastroenterology in LTMMC, Mumbai, India. He has also completed Advanced Fellowship in Hepatology & Liver Transplantation at the Mayo Clinic, USA in 2004. His interests are in the area of DILI, Wilson Disease, ALF, ACLF and Pregnancy Specific Liver Disease and has multiple publications related to this topics.

Professor Dr Devarbhavi is Professor of Gastroenterology at St. John's Medical College and Hospital, Bangalore, India where he has been the Head of the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology since November 2005. He is in the editorial board of Hepatology International, Hepatology Communications and an Associate Editor of Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hepatology (JCEH). He is also an active member of Member AASLD, AGA, INASL, ISG and MNAMS.



Lawrence Ho Khek Yu

Professor Dr Lawrence Ho is Professor of Medicine, National University of Singapore; Senior Consultant, National University Hospital; and Director, Centre for Innovation in Healthcare, National University Health System.

Besides being an accomplished endoscopist who has been invited to perform live case demonstrations in numerous international endoscopy workshops, he is an established international key opinion leader, being conferred the honorary International Life Membership of the Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of India in 2013. He was made Fellow of the Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society in 2019, to recognise his significant contributions to the field of gastrointestinal endoscopy.

Experienced in spearheading collaboration between experts in Asia, he was elected as the Founding Chair of the Asian Endoscopic Ultrasound Group (AEG) in 2012. AEG is one of the most successful interest groups dedicated to endoscopic ultrasound training and professional development of endosonographers in Asia. He is also recognised internationally as an authority in Barrett's esophagus. Because of his expertise in this field, he was appointed by the U.S. National Cancer Institute as the Founding Chair of Asian Barrett's Consortium (ABC) in 2008. The ABC aimed to bring together Asian experts in gastroesophageal reflux disease to understand Barrett's esophagus and its related cancer in Asia. He was also the Co-Chair, Education Committee, International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus in 2019. With the emergence of obesity in Asia, the Gut & Obesity in Asia ("Go Asia") Workgroup was established under the auspices of the Asia Pacific Association of Gastroenterology in 2015, to study relationship between obesity, gut and liver, and he was its Founding Co-Chair.

A proven clinician innovator and experienced entrepreneur, he co-invented the ground-breaking technology of the Master and Slave Transluminal Endoscopic Robot (MASTER), which was used to successfully perform the World's first robotic endoscopic resection of gastric tumor in human patients. The product has since been spun-off into the start-up, Endomaster Pte Ltd. He also founded two other start-up companies, Endofotonics Pie Ltd, a molecular Al based realtime diagnostic system, and Endopil Pte Ltd, an ingestible weight loss balloon capsule. He received the Singapore President's Technology Award in 2012. He has held 6 US-granted patents in medtech products.

As Professor of Medicine, he has continued to be academically productive. To date, he has published more than 270 peer-reviewed papers (H index Google Scholar, 65; Scopus, 50), more than 15 book chapters, and co-edited 4 books. His regional standing as an academic leader is exemplified by invitation as Orators in the Nihal Marcus Memorial Oration (Sri Lanka Gastroenterological Association, 2012), Francisco Roman Memorial Lecture (Joint Annual Convention of the Philippine Society of Gastroenterology and Philippine Society of Digestive Endoscopy, 2013), Macau Society of Digestive Endoscopy Lecture (2013), and Panir Chelvam Memorial Lecture (Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, 2017). In 2010, He was conferred the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Foundation Emerging Leadership lecturer in Asia Pacific Digestive Week. He was also appointed visiting professors and consultants in many regional institutions.

He is the immediate past Vice Dean (Research), School of Medicine, National University of Singapore. He was President of Gastroenterological Society of Singapore in 2005. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the medical profession as a leading expert, the Ministry of Heath Singapore awarded him the prestigious Distinguished Senior Clinician award 2017. He was conferred the National Day Award 2017, Public Administration Medal (Bronze), for his distinguished service to public administration.



Hoo Chai Zhen

Dr Hoo Chai Zhen, graduated in 2011 with MB BCh BAO (NUI) and BMedSci from Penang Medical College. After obtaining MRCP (UK), she began her career as a physician in 2016. In 2019, she joined subspeciality training in Hepatology and Gastroenterology in Kuala Lumpur Hospital and subsequently in Selayang Hospital and is now a final year fellow. She is a budding hepatologist and is a keen learner.



Peter James Kahrilas

Professor Dr Peter J Kahrilas is the Gilbert H. Marquardt Professor in Medicine at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, USA, where he has worked since 1986. His research is on esophageal pathophysiology, on which he has published more than 450 original papers. He has done extensive editorial work and is or has been on the editorial boards of *Gastroenterology, CGH, GUT, AJP, NGM, and AJG*. He has served on the AGA Council and Governing Board, as president of the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus, and is currently president of the American Foregut Society. He was elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation in 1998 and the Association of American Physicians in 2015. He was the recipient of the William Beaumont Prize for lifetime achievement in academic gastroenterology from the American Gastroenterological Association in 2020.



Gilaad G Kaplan

Professor Dr Kaplan is a Professor in the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary. He is a gastroenterologist who is internationally renowned for studying the global epidemiology of IBD. He is the past chair of the Scientific and Medical Advisory Counsel of Crohn's and Colitis Canada, as well as the co-chair of the National COVID-19 and IBD Task Force. He is an Associate Editor of Gastroenterology (Impact Factor 23, 2020). In 2019, Dr Kaplan was elected to the International Organization of the Study of IBD (IOIBD). In 2020 and 2021, Clarivate, Web of Science named Professor Dr Kaplan a Highly Cited Researcher in recognition of being in the top one percent of cited researchers. In 2021, Professor Dr Kaplan received Crohn's and Colitis Canada's Research Leader Award and was inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. He is a Killam Laureate, receiving the Killam Annual Professor Award in 2022.



Khong Tak Loon

Associate Professor Dr Khong Tak Loon is the current Head of Unit and Associate Professor in Colorectal Surgery, Department of Surgery, University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) since February 2019. He is a colorectal surgeon and routinely delivers surgical care to patients with colorectal cancer (CRC) and benign bowel conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease, diverticular disease and perianal conditions. His research interests include:

• Determining barriers preventing timely access to diagnostic tests and appropriate surgical care for patients with bowel pathology.



Desmond Leddin

Professor Dr Desmond Leddin graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and did postgraduate training in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology at Queens University, Canada and at the University of Toronto before completing a Masters in Physiology at Queens University on Intestinal Inflammation. He chaired the Royal College of Canada examination board in Gastroenterology and is a past President of the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology. Research interests are inflammatory bowel disease, colon cancer screening, and climate change. He has authored or co-authored several of the apers laying out the implications of climate change for digestive health. He has chaired the WGO Training Centers committee, the WGO research committee and is current chair of the WGO climate change working group education subcommittee. He is Professor of Medicine at Dalhousie University, Canada.



Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

Dr Alex Leow is Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist in Pantai Hospital Kuala Lumpur and is Honorary Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist to University Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He previously worked as Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the Universiti Malaya. He is currently a member of the Asian EUS Group, Chairman of the Malaysian IBD Special Interest Group, the past Secretary General of the Organising Committee of the Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2021 and Executive Committee Member of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology for since 2017.

His areas of interest are diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy, Helicobacter pylori, inflammatory bowel disease and has authored and co-authored in numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals and presented in both local and international conferences.



Lim Seng Gee

Professor Dr Lim Seng Gee is Director of Hepatology at the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, National University Health System, Singapore, and was previously Chief of Division. He graduated in 1980 from Monash Medical School and completed his research MD at the Royal Free Hospital. He is a member of the editorial boards for Liver International, Journal of Viral Hepatitis, Hepatology International, Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology, and Evidence Based Internal Medicine Solutions. He is also on the advisory board of Gilead Sciences, Roche, Arbutus, Assembly, Springbank, Eisai, Abbvie and Abbott Diagnostics.

Professor Dr Lim is currently chairman of the Singapore Hepatology Conference and Science of HBV Cure Conference, and was previously the Chairman of the Asia Pacific Association for Study of the Liver (APASL) Liver Week 2013 Congress. He served as Governing Council member from 2014-2018 of the International Association for Study of Liver (IASL), and has been appointed to the AASLD Asia Pacific Regional Advisory Council in 2018. He is also governing council board member of International Coalition for Eradication for Hepatitis B (ICE-HBV) and a co-chair of the HBV Forum combination therapy committee. He is faculty at the Asia Pacific EBM workshop.

His research includes clinical trials of new treatments for chronic hepatitis B and C, and translational research in viral hepatitis, involving molecular biology and immunology of hepatitis B. He has published 253 peer reviewed publications and secured peer review grant funding worth >SGD \$48 Million (>USD\$35M), including the award of a SGD \$25 million National Translational Clinical Research grant in 2015 to investigate eradication of HBV, which was recently renewed. In 2018 he was awarded the NMRC Clinician Scientist Award for research in HBV. His h-index is 58.



Geoffrey Metz

Professor Dr Geoffrey Metz trained in general medicine in Melbourne before undertaking five years training in gastroenterology at Central Middlesex Hospital, London, under Sir Francis Avery-Jones.

He was Chairman of Continuing Education and at the Royal Australasian College of Physicians for several years before becoming President-Elect and then President of the College.

Professor Dr Metz has been involved in development of medical education internationally through the World Gastroenterology Organisation over the past twenty years and is currently President-Elect of the WGO.

In 2021, Geoffrey was awarded Officer of the Order of Australia for Services to Medicine.



Nazri Mustaffa

Associate Professor Dr Nazri Mustaffa received his MBBS from the University of Adelaide. Following this he acquired his Master of Medicine (Internal Medicine) qualification from Universiti Sains Malaysia. He then obtained his National Specialist Registration in Gastroenterology following attachments at the University Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur as well as Concord Repatriation General Hospital, Sydney. He subsequently received his PhD from the University of Sydney for his research on flow cytometric evaluation of T-cell populations in patients with inflammatory bowel disease. He is currently an Associate Professor and Consultant Gastroenterologist as well as Deputy Chair, Human Research Ethics Committee at the School of Medical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia in Kubang Kerian, Malaysia.



Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim

Dr Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim is a Consultant of Gastroenterology and Hepatology based at Hospital Serdang, Selangor. She graduated from University of Leicester Medical School and continued her further studies in Internal Medicine through the Masters of Medicine Programme at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. She then completed the Fellowship of Gastroenterology and Hepatology programme under the Ministry of Health Malaysia. Her interest includes Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Colorectal Cancer and Viral Hepatitis.



Bishr Omary

Professor Dr Bishr Omary is the Henry Rutgers Professor of Biomedical Sciences at Rutgers University (United States), and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research for the Rutgers health-related campus. He was president of the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) (2021) and *Gastroenterology* editor-in-chief (2011-2016), is member of the World Gastroenterology Organization Climate Change (CC) Working Group, member of the US GI multisociety (AASLD/ACG/AGA/ASGE) task force on CC, and is involved in establishing the Center for CC, Health, and Healthcare at Rutgers University. His laboratory studies diseases caused by mutations of intermediate filament cytoskeletal proteins and heme biosynthesis enzymes.



David Ong Eng Hui

Dr David Ong is a senior consultant gastroenterologist at the Mount Elizabeth Orchard Medical Centre. His area of sub specialty interest is in inflammatory bowel disease with a focus on colorectal cancer surveillance and the gut microbiome.

Prior to this appointment, Dr Ong was the Head of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the National University Hospital (NUH), Singapore and founded the IBD unit there. He was also the first to perform a fecal microbiota transplant (FMT) in Singapore, on a patient with recurrent clostridium difficile colitis in 2014 and has since set up Southeast Asia's first and only stool bank known as the Asian Microbiome Library.

Dr Ong holds an Adjunct Associate Professorship at the Department of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS), where he remains as a visiting senior consultant.

Nationally, Dr Ong serves as the President of the Gastroenterological Society of Singapore (GESS), the honorary secretary of the Chapter of Gastroenterology, Academy of Medicine, Singapore and a member of the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) Complaints Panel since 2016.



Ooi Choon Jin

Dr Ooi Choon Jin obtained his MBBS from National University of Singapore and attained his higher degree from the Royal College of Physicians, United Kingdom. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh and the Academy of Medicine Singapore. From 1998 to 2000, he trained at the Center for the Study of Inflammatory Bowel Disease at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

He is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Duke-NUS Medical School and practices at Gleneagles and Farrer Park Medical Centres. He previously served as Chairman of the Chapter of Gastroenterologists, Academy of Medicine Singapore and President of the Gastroenterological Society of Singapore. He is the Vice President of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) and the lead for APAGE Working Group on IBD.



Teerha Piratvisuth

Professor Dr Teerha Piratvisuth is Professor of Medicine at the Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Thailand. He completed his medical degree with first class honor, at the Prince of Songkla University in 1985. During 1993-1994 he studied as a Clinical Fellow in Hepatology at King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry in London, UK. In 1995 he moved to the US where he spent a further year as a Clinical Fellow in hepatology and endoscopy at the University Texas, Houston Medical School. He currently holds the positions of Vice Dean at Prince of Songkla University and Director of the NKC Institute of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. Professor Dr Piratvisuth was President of the Liver Society of Thailand 2011-2012. He was President of APASL 2011, Vice President of APDW 2012, Scientific Committee Chairman of APLD 2016, Scientific Committee Chairman of Gastro 2018 and Honorary President APASL 2021. He is a member of the steering committee of APASL.

Professor Dr Piratvisuth has an extensive publication history on liver disease particularly hepatitis B&C and is on the editorial board of Hepatology International, Korean Journal of Gastroenterology and Chinese Journal of Infectious Disease and is a reviewer for the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, the Journal of Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, the Journal of Hepatology, Hepatology, Liver International, Hepatology International, the Journal of Viral Hepatitis, Antiviral Therapy and Journal of Antimicrobial chemotherapy.



Manoj Kumar Sharma

Professor Dr Manoj Kumar Sharma is currently the Professor and Head of Department of Hepatology and Liver Transplantation at the Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences, New Delhi, India. His area of interests are Hepatitis B, Metabolic Associated Fatty Liver Disease, Quality of life and sleep disorders in cirrhosis, Portal Hypertension, and Hepatocellular Carcinoma. He has published 145 articles on these topics and has done 58 publication reviews to date. He currently hold multiple posts which includes Secretary General cum Treasurer as well as Chairman of Guidelines Committee, APASL. He is also the Associate Dean APASL School of Hepatology. Professor Dr Manoj Kumar Sharma is the Assistant Director, World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO) New Delhi International Training Center at Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi and part of Board of Directors for Asia Pacific Digestive Week (APDW) Federation.



Hidekazu Suzuki

Professor Dr Hidekazu Suzuki completed his medical school studies in 1989 from Keio University School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan and subsequently completed his postgraduate course at the same university. He then became the post-doctoral research fellow at the University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA. He served as Professor at Medical Education Center, Keio University School of Medicine before he left for his current post in 2019 as the Professor at the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Department of Internal Medicine, Tokai University School of Medicine. Apart from that, he is also Guest Professor, at the School of Basic Medical Sciences, Peking University and Visiting Professor at Department of Internal Medicine, Tokyo Dental College.

Professor Dr Hidekazu Suzuki is also part of the Asian Neurogastroenterology and Motility Association (ANMA) Governing Council, President of the Japanese Society for Microcirculation and International Committee Member of American Gastroenterological Association (AGA).



Tan Soek Siam

Dr Tan Soek Siam is senior consultant in the Department of Hepatology, Selayang Hospital, Selangor, Malaysia. She was the head of department and head of hepatology service in MOH up until 2017. Dr Tan graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, with honours in Medicine. She did her fellowship in hepatology in the Institute of Liver Study at King's College Hospital, United Kingdom and also received training in Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong and University of Michigan, USA. She had received several awards for her clinical service and her research work from local and international bodies.

Dr Tan's research interests include acute liver failure, acute-on-chronic liver failure, chronic hepatitis B and C, autoimmune liver disease, non alcoholic fatty liver disease and liver transplantation. She is the principal investigator of numerous viral hepatitis B and C and non alcoholic fatty liver disease clinical trials. She had won several grants for research and clinical trial funding. She is a member of the Asia Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL)-ACLF working party, the APASL-ACLF Research Consortium (AARC). She had authored more than fifty publications in peer review journals, Asia Pacific regional clinical practice guidelines, a few book chapters and a reviewer for several peer review journals.

She is a member of the editorial board of the journal Hepatology International. She is the Past President of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology 2017-2019, pass Council Member of the College of Physicians, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, Fellow of the Academy and a member of the Malaysian Transplant Society. She was the deputy chair and scientific co-chair (hepatology) of the Asian Pacific Digestive Week 2021.



Uday C Ghoshal

Professor Dr Uday C Ghoshal is Professor in the Department of Gastroenterology, faculty-in-charge of the Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology and Motility Laboratory, Adjunct Professor of the Centre for Biomedical Research, SGPGI Campus, Lucknow, India. He has published more than 342 research papers. He is a member of Rome-Asian Working Team, Rome Working Team on Multinational, Cross-Cultural Research and Intestinal Microenvironment and FGIDs committee of Rome Foundation, Fellow of Rome Foundation and Co-Chair of Rome Research Committee. He is a Fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology, and a member of Indian Society of Gastroenterology, Indian National Association of Study of Liver, Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of India (Governing Council Member) and Association of Physicians of India. He is a founder member and the Secretary General of Asian Neurogastroenterology and Motility Association and Honorary Secretary of Indian Motility and Functional Bowel Disease Association.

Professor Dr Ghoshal is currently an associate editor of J Neurogastroenterology and Motility, editorial board member of J Gastroenterol Hepatol, World J Gastroenterol and American J Robotic Surgery. He is also a peer reviewer to 35 international journals. He is in the advisory board of Nature Reviews Gastroenterology and Hepatology. He is the National Coordinator of Indian Society of Gastroenterology Task Force on IBS. He is also the Chair of Epidemiology and Infection section of Asian IBS Consensus and Asian Dyspepsia Consensus Teams and member of Asian Barrett's Consortium. He has received 33 awards and orations including 8 gold medals during MBBS study. He was a visiting clinician to Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, USA, Hamad Medical Corporation, Doha, Qatar, and WHO Fellow in Prince of Songkhla Univeristy, Hat Yai, Thailand.



Tim Vanuytsel

Professor Dr Tim Vanuytsel graduated in 2007 from Leuven University Medical School, Belgium. He obtained a PhD degree in biomedical sciences in 2014 with a thesis on the role and mechanisms of intestinal permeability in functional gastrointestinal disorders.

Professor Dr Vanuytsel currently holds a position as a consultant gastroenterologist in Leuven University Hospitals with a clinical focus on functional gastrointestinal disorders and patients with intestinal failure. He is the co-founder and medical director of the Leuven Intestinal Failure and Transplantation center (LIFT), which is the largest intestinal failure center and the only small bowel and multivisceral transplant center in Belgium.

Professor Dr Vanuytsel's research interest lies in the pathophysiology and treatment of functional gastrointestinal disorders and intestinal failure and transplantation. He has published >150 original research articles and reviews in international peer-reviewed journals on both clinical and basic science aspects of gastroenterology. He is the (co-)supervisor of 15 PhD students. He is the editor in chief of Acta Gastroenterologica Belgica, associated editor of the GI section of Current Opinion in Pharmacology and member of the editorial board of Neurogastroenterology and Motility.



Andrew Veitch

Professor Dr Andrew Veitch is a gastroenterologist, and Honorary Professor of Gastroenterology in Wolverhampton, UK, and is President of the British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG). He has published widely on endoscopic practice and guidelines, and more recently on environmental sustainability in gastroenterology. He is leading on Climate Change and Sustainability for BSG, leads the World Gastroenterology Organisation Green Endoscopy Group, and has led the quality improvement programme in endoscopy services for the European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, contributing to their green endoscopy policy.



Wei Shu-Chen

Dr Wei Shu-Chen graduated from the Institute of Clinical Medicine from the National Taiwan University in 2004, and received the research fellowship training in Dr Podolsky's Lab (MGH, Boston) from 2006 to 2008. Her research interest includes colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel disease, and more shifted to IBD recently. Dr Wei served as the Secretary General for the Taiwan Society of IBD from 2014 to 2019, the Secretary General of the 7th AOCC meeting in 2019. She is currently the Executive Director of TSIBD, the representative of Taiwan for AOCC, and also as the governing board member of AOCC.



Vincent Wai-Sun Wong

Professor Dr Vincent Wong is Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine and head of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. His research focuses on viral hepatitis and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), in particular the use of non-invasive tests for screening and diagnosis. He has over 500 publications in international medical journals, and his latest h-index is 91. Together with the Asia-Pacific Working Party, he wrote the Asia-Pacific Guidelines on the Management of NAFLD in 2018. He is an associate editor of *Alimentary Pharmacology* and *Therapeutics* and an editorial board member of the *Journal of Hepatology, Hepatology, JHEP Reports* and *Clinical and Molecular Hepatology*. He served as the President of the Hong Kong Association for the Study of Liver Diseases from 2015 to 2017 and is currently the Chairman of the Subspecialty of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, the Hong Kong College of Physicians. He has received research awards from the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver, Asian Pacific Digestive Week Federation, British Society of Gastroenterology, Hong Kong College of Physicians and the Food and Health Bureau.



Justin Che-Yuen Wu

Professor Dr Justin Wu is the Associate Dean (Health Systems) of Faculty of Medicine and the Chairman of CUHK Medical Services, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). He is responsible for the development of collaborative network with private health systems, business and industry partners in Hong Kong, Greater Bay Area and beyond. He graduated from CUHK with Distinction in Medicine in 1993. He underwent internal medicine and gastroenterology training under the supervision of Professor Dr Joseph Sung. He pursued GI motility training in Royal Adelaide Hospital under the supervision of Professor Dr John Dent and Professor Dr Richard Holloway in 2000.

Professor Dr Wu joined CUHK as an associate professor in 2006 and was then promoted to professor in 2009. He has academic and clinical focus in the field of functional gastrointestinal disorder and gastroesophageal reflux disease with over 300 publications in top medical journals including New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet and Gastroenterology and a h-index of 50. He is a member of the Working Group of Chicago Classification for esophageal motility disorders. He is serving as leader in many local and international professional organizations, which include the President of Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology, Past President of Hong Kong Society of Gastroenterology, President of APDW 2017, and Scientific Committee Chairman of Asia Neurogastroenterology and Motility Association. He served as the managing director of Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and International Associate Editor of American Journal of Gastroenterology.

Professor Dr Wu is the former Chief Operating Officer of CUHK Medical Centre, the private teaching hospital of CUHK; the founding director of Asia's first "Global Physician-Leadership Stream" (GPS) of MBChB programme; and the founding director of Hong Kong Institute of Integrative Medicine with the mission of fostering cooperation between Western and Chinese medicine in the health system. He is an eminent teacher with 8 teaching awards of medical education, which include Vice-Chancellor Exemplary Teaching Award, Master Teacher, and Teacher of the Year Awards in CUHK Medicine. He also actively contributes to the development of medical innovations in Hong Kong. He is serving as director and advisor of biomedical technology companies and investment funds.

WHEN IS POEM TRULY EQUIVALENT TO LHM? A COMPARISON OF COMPLICATION RATES DURING THE LEARNING CURVE

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INTRODUCTION: Per-Oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) has been shown to be an effective treatment for Achalasia, but the endoscopic technique required is complex and not routinely performed. We believe that, for any new procedure, competency can be demonstrated when the complication rate of a new procedure (POEM) equals that of an established one, ie Laparoscopic Heller's Myotomy + Fundoplication (LHM+F).

METHODS: A multicentre, retrospective cohort, comparing complication rates during the learning curve of POEM to a historical cohort of LHM+F, was conducted. A direct head-to-head comparison was performed, followed by a population pyramid of complication frequency. Case sequence was then divided into blocks of 5, and the complication rates during each block was compared to the historical cohort.

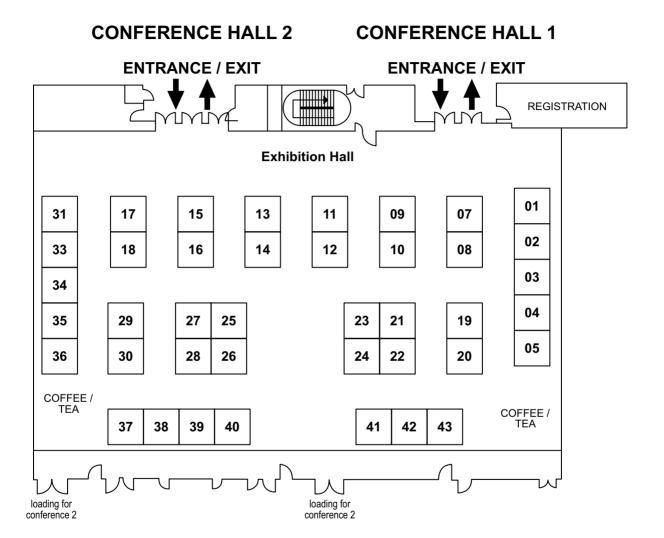
RESULTS: A total of 123 cases (LHM+F n=60, POEM n=63) were analysed. Mean age was lower for the POEM group (41.7 years vs 48.1 years, p = 0.03), but there was no difference in gender nor type of Achalasia. The POEM group recorded a shorter overall procedural time (125.9 minutes vs 144.1 minutes, p = 0.023) and longer myotomies (10.1cm vs 6.2cm, p = 0.023).

Complication rates were higher in the POEM group (20.6% vs 10.0%, p=0.10), but was not statistical significant. Complication frequency tapered off dramatically after the 25th case in the sequence, and subsequently equalled that of LHM+F. Length of stay was shorter for the POEM group (3.4 days vs 4.8 days, p = 0.014). The post-procedural findings favoured LHM+F, with the post-procedural Eckardt scores significantly lower (0.4 vs 1.6, p < 0.001) and the usage of PPIs lower in this group (20.7% vs 39.4%, p = 0.03).

CONCLUSION: POEM is challenging even for experienced endoscopists. From our data, complication rates between POEM and LHM+F equalize after approximately 25 POEMs.

Keywords: 3rd-space endoscopy, surgical endoscopy, surgical education, POEM

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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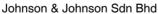






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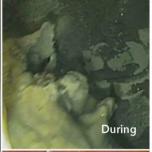
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