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**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**Akhtar Qureshi**



The MSGH Committee for 2015-2017 would like to thank you all for the continued support in making these last two years a huge success in terms of educational support. It has been an eventful two years with much accomplishment by the council.

In April 2017, we hosted the Endoscopy 2017 with Professor Dr Ida Hilmi as the Course Director. The Workshop continues to be a collaborative effort between the MSGH and the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. The procedures were performed at the Endoscopy Centre, Menara Selatan, University Malaya and transmitted to the Auditorium. The theme was "Redefining Therapeutic Endoscopy".

A renowned faculty from around the world was assembled

- Dr Seiichiro Abe (Japan), Dr Vinay Dhir (India), Dr Haruhiro Inoue (Japan), Dr Hiroyuki Isayama (Japan) and Dr Martin Keuchel (Germany).

The Society was a partner in the Singapore Hepatitis Conference and Best of EASL held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 at the Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, Singapore. Associate Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong presented on "Identifying Patients at Risk for NAFLD". In May 2017 there was the Meet the Expert Session - "Raising the Bar in the Treatment of Unresectable HCC: 10 Years" by Professor Dr Josep M Llovet (Spain) in Kuala Lumpur in collaboration with Bayer.

In June 2016, the MSGH was informed of the acquisition of the land and thus the building by the Government for the building of the MRT 2 line. The original deadline was for the stake holders and the medical specialist societies to vacate the building by end of December 2016. An appeal was made and the deadline was extended to 15<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The MSGH paid a purchase price of RM600,000.00 for the office suite and has been compensated an amount of RM1,051,200.00 comprising the compensation for the office suite and other claims in February 2017. The MSGH has now relocated to Lot 2.4, Enterprise 3, Technology Park Malaysia, Jalan Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur. This will be rental free for two years starting from May 2017. The moving costs were also borne by the Board of Management which was running the Medical Academies Building.

It is that time of the year again where we all get to meet old friends and make new acquaintances at the GUT 2017 in the Pearl of the Orient - Penang. The Organising Committee, with Dato' Dr Tan Huck Joo as the Scientific Chairman, has put together an attractive scientific programme in bringing you the very latest in the field of Gastroenterology and GI Surgery. We have an impressive list of local and world renowned speakers invited for the conference, with a focus on practical points to take home.

At the Annual General Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017, a new Committee will be elected with Dr Tan Soek Siam as the incoming President. I hope that you will continue to support the new Committee in the same manner as you have done in the past. I would also like to thank Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi for his vision to successfully elevate the status of the Bulletin MSGH to where it is today.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

**Tan Soek Siam**

I welcome you to the GUT 2017, the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology! As always, an excellent programme focusing on important areas of clinical practice had been put together by our capable scientific chairman and committee. As important as the scientific contents, please also take this opportunity to network, collaborate, reconnect with past friends and meet new ones too.

It is with great pleasure to announce in GUT 2017, we are honouring an esteemed colleague Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon, Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sabah. Let's come together in the award ceremony to show our appreciation for all his contributions to our Society, the fraternity and community at large.

After GUT 2017, I am honoured and humbled to assume the role of the new president of MSGH (2017-2019). First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the past presidents, immediate past president Dr Akhtar Qureshi, committee members, individual members and the supporting staff for all the good work that had made tremendous achievements and secured a strong foundation for the Society. For us to continue growing as a Society which represents the fraternity locally and internationally, I call on your unwavering support and active participation in the activities of MSGH.

The field of gastroenterology and hepatology had made major therapeutic and diagnostic advancements. Gastrointestinal and liver diseases have become more treatable and even curable. This will certainly affect our daily clinical practice and change the landscape of therapy in many diseases.

MSGH will continue to organize and facilitate educational or training programmes to update our members. We hope the provision of travel and research grants by MSGH and our partnering with international organizations will continue to benefit our members.

Let's reflect on our shared responsibilities to our patients, how we can best take care of them.

I like to call on everyone to come forward as representative of the Society and make contributions in your area of expertise locally and internationally. Together we can achieve much more and climb to greater heights.

In September 2017, a bidding committee from the MSGH will bid for APDW 2020 to come back to our shore. By that time, it will be a decade since our successful APDW 2010 in KL. With a new generation of gastroenterologists and hepatologists on board, the team has exciting programmes lined up and it will be one with an interesting twist. Wish us the best of luck.

We will update you on upcoming activities in our websites and facebook. Keep watch and we hope to be able to give you the important announcement soon!

I welcome your comments and new ideas as I attempt to do my best to continue to fulfill the mission and vision of MSGH.



## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

Welcome to the second issue of MSGH Bulletin for 2017! In this issue, brief reports of the MSGH activities in particular Endoscopy 2017 are presented along with nice photos.

As an editor, I realize that the involvement of our entire gastro-hepatology community will help the society to grow and let us synergize together our clinical, endoscopic, teaching and research experiences to ensure the real expansion of our fast-growing society.

As of July 2017, MSGH has 806 members and I am sure many of us can contribute to our society in many ways. Dr Akhtar Qureshi, the president of MSGH from 2015 to 2017 who has 'surgical-colorectal' style of excellent leadership is being take over by Dr Tan Soek Siam from 2017 to 2019 who will carry the baton of MSGH presidency and she might apply a 'physician-hepatology' style of leadership for our society!

Our MSGH office has recently relocated to Technology Park Malaysia, in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur due to acquisition of the land and Medical Academies Building for the construction of MRT station and of course our sweet memory at the building will be remembered by many of us.

Recently, we were saddened by the passing of our past president of MSGH 2005-2006, the late Dr Mohamad Nazim Dato' Hj Salleh and there is no doubt that he had contributed a lot to our Society. May God bless his soul and he will be always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.

I have the honour to have known Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon for many years and count him as a friend, confidante and advisor and he himself over the last three decades or so, has tirelessly contributed to clinical excellence and academic pursuits in the field of gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopy nationally, regionally and internationally. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him as a recipient of the MSGH Excellence Service Award 2017 and also wish him very well for his retirement and all the best in his future endeavors and knowing him I am sure he can still contribute to the MSGH in the future!

I look forward to more constructive and productive contributions as well as feedback from all the members to the MSGH Bulletin in the future and please do not hesitate to contact me at [draffendi@ppukm.ukm.edu.my](mailto:draffendi@ppukm.ukm.edu.my) with your ideas and contributions!

A tribute to my mentor - Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon  
by Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan



When I was asked to pen a few lines about Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon, I suddenly realised that I was not sure where to start from. Nevertheless, everyone of us had to start from some beginning. That for me started when I first joined medical department and gastroenterology unit of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu back in early 2004 as a gastroenterology fellow and my trainer cum mentor was none other than Dato' Dr Jayaram Menon. He was one of the reasons made me to travel the distance to the 'Land Below The Wind', for which I will always be thankful and remember fondly for the rest of my life.

Fast forward almost 14 years, here we are at the brink of his retirement from public service, which is due in November this year. He is completing a mammoth 36 years of service in Ministry of Health (MOH), a large part of this being in Sabah, East Malaysia. He is presently the head and senior consultant physician and gastroenterologist at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, a position he has held since December 1990.

Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon is no stranger to all of us in the fraternity of gastroenterology. He was instrumental and responsible for the creation of the current Gastroenterology Fellowship Programme in the MOH. He was appointed as national head of Gastroenterology services and chairman of Gastro fellowship training programme of MOH from 2002 to 2012. He has worked tirelessly in raising and maintaining the standards of this fellowship programme even up to today. He will be best remembered for being the one who championed the post basic Gastrointestinal Assistant (GIA) formal training programme in Malaysia. He initiated this post basic training programme based in Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) with the blessings of MOH back in 2009. This programme received tremendous support and recognition from both public and private hospitals throughout the country. This endoscopy nursing programme, the first of its kind in South East Asia, has produced close to 500 GIAs since its inception in 2009.

Among the many positions he has held over the years, include the prestigious President of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) and a member of the OMED Working Party on the American Association for Primary Care Endoscopy (AAPCE) Policy on Credentialing for GI Endoscopy. He was also the national head of Internal Medicine from 2012-2014.

Gastroenterology unit of Queen Elizabeth Hospital has been among the best training centres, producing many gastroenterologists, now posted all over the country. It is also an endoscopy centre of excellence with high volume of cases in the Ministry of Health, thanks to the leadership of Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon.

No one knows him better at work than me, who have been under him for past 13 over years. He has been my teacher and mentor and last but not least my fellow consultant and colleague in this fantastic unit of ours. I must say that I still look up to him even now. He has been truly inspirational and a role model for many of us in this unit and hospital. His tireless dedication and contribution in the field of Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology in particular, will be appreciated and remembered always by his colleagues and patients. After all he is someone who believes giving the best!

We in Sabah (and his peers throughout the country) will surely miss 'Big J' as he is fondly known, on his retirement. I am taking this opportunity on behalf of all in wishing him and his beloved family, life's best and happiness with good health always.

Adios amigo!

**PRESIDENT**

Dr Mohd Akhtar Qureshi

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Dr Tan Soek Siam

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva

**HON SECRETARY**

Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

**HON TREASURER**

Dr Tee Hoi Poh

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Dato' Dr Tan Huck Joo

Associate Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong

Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh

Dr Hamizah Razlan

Dato' Dr Raman Muthukaruppan

Dr Ramesh Gurunathan

Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee



*From left to right: Hamizah Razlan, Goh Khean Lee, Ramesh Gurunathan, Lee Yeong Yeh, Tan Soek Siam, Akhtar Qureshi, Raman Muthukaruppan, Sanjiv Mahadeva, Tan Huck Joo, Raja Affendi Raja Ali, Chan Wah Kheong and Tee Hoi Poh*

## The Singapore Hepatology Conference and The Best of EASL 2017



*Dr Tan Soek Siam with the group of trainees in the perceptorship*

MSGH has been invited to partner this meeting since 2015. This partnership has been growing in strength as evident by the increasing number of participants from the local fraternity and more of our local trainees had been accepted as perceptees. A total of 12 perceptees were chosen to attend this meeting and two committee members of MSGH were in the faculty this year, Associate Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong and Dr Tan Soek Siam were invited to share their insights on fatty liver and chronic hepatitis C.

## Endoscopy 2017 - Re-Defining Therapeutic Endoscopy

by Dr Ruveena Bhavani Rajaram and Associate Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong  
Photos by Alex Leow Hwong Ruey

Endoscopy 2017 was held at the University of Malaya Medical Centre from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017. This annual therapeutic GI endoscopy workshop, jointly organized by the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and the University of Malaya, received an overwhelming response with a record 600 delegates. The opening ceremony was graced by Tan Sri Professor Dr Mohd Amin Jalaluddin, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malaya, Professor Dr Tunku Kamarul Zaman, the Director of the University of Malaya Medical Centre and Professor Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya.

Themed "Re-Defining Therapeutic Endoscopy", Course Director Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi and her Co-Course Directors Associate Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong and Dr Ho Shiw Hooi lined up an outstanding faculty for the workshop who included world renowned endoscopists, Professor Dr Haruhiro Inoue (Showa University Northern Yokohama Hospital, Japan),

Dr Vinay Dhir (Baldota Institute of Digestive Science, Mumbai, India), Associate Professor Dr Hiroyuki Isayama (University of Tokyo, Japan), Dr Seiichiro Abe (National Cancer Centre, Tokyo, Japan) and Dr Martin Keuchel (Bethesda Hospital, Bergedorf, Hamburg, Germany).

Two special hands-on workshops were held on the first day at the state-of-the-art animal laboratory facility at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. During the Advanced EUS Workshop, participants performed EUS-guided drainage of pancreatic fluid collection in ex-vivo animal models under the tutelage of world-class expert Dr Vinay Dhir and Associate Professor Dr Hiroyuki Isayama. This was followed by the per oral endoscopy myotomy (POEM) workshop in the afternoon, where participants learnt how to perform the POEM procedure under the guidance of Professor Dr Haruhiro Inoue, the founder of the procedure himself. Running concurrently on the first day was the MSGNMA Course



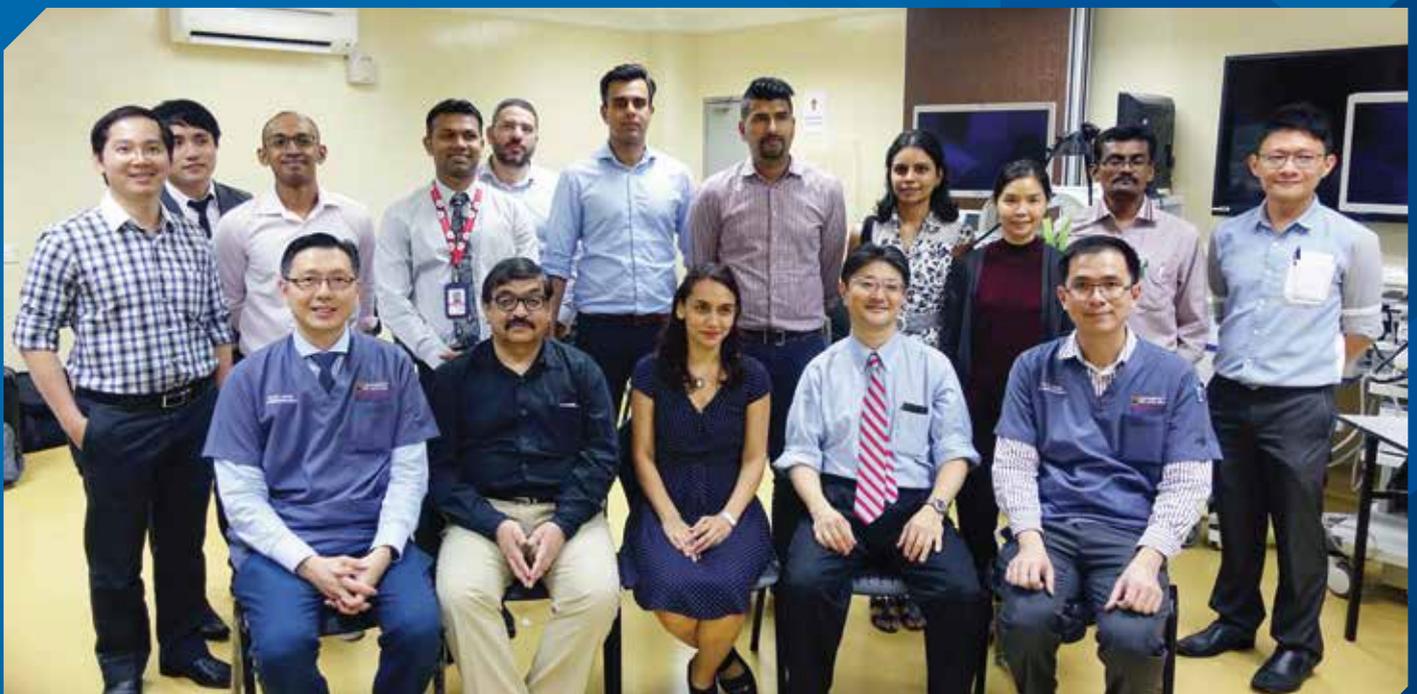
*Endoscopy 2017 group photo*

(previously known as GIA course), with interesting lectures and quiz pertinent to the MSGNMA fraternity.

The subsequent two days were filled with state-of-the-art lectures and live demonstrations of therapeutic GI endoscopy procedures. Professor Haruhiro Inoue delivered the MSGH and University of Malaya Distinguished Lecture entitled "Re-Defining Therapeutic Endoscopy - 20 years of Innovation". Throughout the live demonstration sessions, close to twenty cases were shown which highlighted special techniques and new devices such as cholangioscopy, per oral endoscopic myotomy, anti-reflux mucosectomy, and therapeutic EUS procedures such as EUS-guided rendezvous ERCP, EUS-guided RFA, etc. Similar to the previous years, the live demonstration sessions were transmitted live on YouTube. A trade exhibition with over thirty companies showcasing their products was also held throughout the period of the

workshop. Delegates also had the opportunity to make new friends and to catch-up with old ones during the MSGNMA "Get Together" Dinner and the Workshop Dinner. The final day of the workshop concluded with the Young Consultants and GI Fellows Workshop on Small Bowel Capsule Endoscopy and Enteroscopy. During the workshop, Dr Martin Keuchel imparted his knowledge on disease pertaining to small bowel and how to effectively read, interpret and report on capsule endoscopy.

Overall, Endoscopy 2017 was a great success, due to the excellent work by the distinguished faculty, the great effort from the organising committee including the many coordinators, moderators, doctors, nurses and support staff, the strong support from the sponsors and last but certainly not least the participation of the delegates.



*Satisfied participants having a group photo with Dr Vinay Dhir and Associate Professor Dr Hiroyuki Isayama after the Advanced EUS Workshop.*



*A big turnout for the MSGNMA Course*



*Professor Dr Haruhiro Inoue sharing the tips and tricks of performing POEM at the POEM workshop moderated by our local expert, Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva.*



*Professor Dr Haruhiro Inoue performing anti-reflux mucosectomy during the one of the live demonstration sessions.*



*Therapeutic EUS expert, Dr Vinay Dhir in action!*



Group photo with Dr Martin Keuchel after the Young Consultants and GI Fellows Workshop on Small Bowel Capsule Endoscopy and Enteroscopy

## Postgraduate Training in Gastroenterology & Hepatology

The MSGH has set up a committee comprising representatives from all the stake holders. This committee has been spearheaded by Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva and Datuk Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan along with Dr Rosaída Md Said, Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi, Dr Tee Hoi Poh, Dr Soon Su Yang, Associate Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali and Dr Haniza Omar. The committee has finalized the GI training curriculum which is a combined system for both universities and the Ministry of Health. Many candidates were recently interviewed by the committee and 11 candidates have been accepted and recently started their training at the chosen hospitals.

## MSGH Research Grants

The MSGH research grant have been awarded to Dr Shasha Khairullah, UMMC; Dr Nur Atiqah Nik Abeed, UKMMC, Dr Boodhun Minakshi, HUSM and Dr Ridzuan Md Said, UKMMC who are being supervised by Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva, Associate Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali, Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh and Associate Professor Dr Ngiu Chai Soon respectively. Each recipient received a total of RM7,500 and MSGH is committed to fund the research which is pertinent to our community.

## In Memoriam

Dr Mohamad Nazim Dato' Hj Mohd Salleh MD, FRCP (1957 - 2017)  
by Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee

The Malaysian Gastroenterology and Hepatology fraternity lost a dear friend, Dr Mohamad Nazim Dato' Hj Mohd Salleh on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Dr Mohamad Nazim passed away peacefully after a long illness with pulmonary fibrosis. Dr Mohamad Nazim was born in 1957 and studied medicine at the University Kebangsaan Malaysia. Following graduation, he worked in several places in Malaysia and abroad and subsequently took up a faculty position at the Universiti Sains Malaysia. He was known to many of his former students as a greatest teacher in clinical medicine. In 2005, he then left USM for private practice and worked at the Damansara Specialist Hospital, Petaling Jaya as a consultant gastroenterologist until his untimely demise.

I remember the late Dr Mohamad Nazim well as a loyal member of our gastro fraternity. He became president of the MSGH from 2005 to 2006 a position he held with honor and distinction. He is indeed a very responsible and caring person.



*Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee and his wife visited the late Dr Mohamad Nazim (centre) in 2015.*



*The late Dr Mohamad Nazim Salleh (4<sup>th</sup> from left, at the front)*

Dr Mohamad Nazim Dato' Hj Mohd Salleh has always been the towering figure in the field of gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopy in Malaysia. From his academic days until his private practice period, he has always been very inspirational to his colleagues and the juniors. A man with a strong principle but with kindness and compassion to everyone that knows him. He made many great contributions to the MSGH and the society and he will

be greatly missed. It is an honour to be able to know and work with him even for a short period of time. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

**Dr Mohd Shamsul Amri Ismail**

Consultant Gastroenterologist and Colleague at KPJ Damansara Specialist Hospital



# EndoQE'2017

16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> November

4<sup>th</sup> International Endoscopy Workshop  
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu,  
Sabah, Malaysia

*"Exploring new frontiers in Endoscopy: From Lumen to 3<sup>rd</sup> space"*



## Invited Faculty:

- Amit Maydeo (India)
- Amol Bapaye (India)
- Dong Wan Seo (South Korea)
- Rajvinder Singh (Australia)
- Sun Si Yu (China)
- Pradermchai Kongkam (Thailand)
- Christopher Khor (Singapore)
- Krishnan Raman (Malaysia)
- Ryan Ponnudurai (Malaysia)
- Sharmila Sachithanandan (Malaysia)
- Lee Yeong Yeh (Malaysia)
- Ngiu Chai Soon (Malaysia)

## Highlights:

- State-of-the-art lectures
- Hands-on Workshop for GI fellows (EUS & ERCP)
- Live Endoscopy: Interventional EUS & ERCP
- EUS-guided biliary drainage
- Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM)
- Stretta procedure (GERD)
- Advanced Imaging of Colorectal Polyps
- Upper GI Motility Workshop
- GIA (Endoscopy Nursing) Workshop

### ENQUIRIES

Endoscopy Unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah  
Tel : +60 16 4215356 (Gew Lai Teck), +60 12 2762873 (Ng Chui Yann),  
+60 16 2976899 (Tan Phei Oon), +60 10 5435881 (Savio Sanggang),  
+60 16 8615523 (Nelson Jerry), +60 16 8383584 (Hendrita Malidin)  
Email : HQEEndoscopy@gmail.com

### SECRETARIAT

MSGH, Unit 1.6, Level 1, Enterprise 3B, Technology Park Malaysia (TPM)  
Jalan Inovasi 1, Lebuhraya Puchong - Sungei Besi, Bukit Jalil  
57000 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan  
Tel: +603 8996 0700, 8996 1700, 8996 2700  
Fax: +603 8996 4700  
Email : secretariat@msgh.org.my



## NATIONAL EVENT

### **4<sup>th</sup> International Endoscopy Workshop EndoQE 2017; Exploring new frontiers in endoscopy: from lumen to 3<sup>rd</sup> space**

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Venue: Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sabah  
Malaysia

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

### **Asia Pacific Digestive Week (APDW)**

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Venue: Hong Kong

### **World Congress of Gastroenterology**

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Venue: Orlando, Florida, USA

### **The American Association Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD)**

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Venue: Washington, USA

### **United European Gastroenterology Week (UEGW)**

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> October - 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017

Venue: Barcelona, Spain