



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Respected members, friends and colleagues

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) for the term 2023-2025, I would like to express our

gratitude to all the members for the continued support, trust and confidence in us to take MSGH to greater heights. It has been an eventful two years with much accomplishment by Exco. I have had the honour and privilege of serving as President of MSGH. It has been an incredibly satisfying and rewarding journey, and I am deeply humbled and appreciate the trust and confidence given to me and the Exco throughout our term of office. To all our respected members, thank you for your encouragement and continued engagement all these years.

Our notable activities and achievements this year includes organising the prestigious 6th Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) Clinical Forum on Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) 2025 on 16th to 17th May 2025 at Penang Marriot Hotel. APAGE/JGH Foundation Young Clinicians Course: A Primer in Clinical and Research Medicine was held as a pre-conference event on 15th May 2025. Both events were successfully organised by MSGH in collaboration with APAGE. The 6th Clinical Forum was attended by 247 delegates from across the Asian-Pacific region and Malaysia. The theme was 'Back to the Beginning: Getting it Right from the Start', a reflection to the inaugural meeting held at Penang in 2014 which was led by the late Professor Dr KL Goh. Among the notable named lectures were KL Goh Memorial Lecture delivered by Professor Jose Sollano (Philippines) on 'The Management of IBD: A Leap to the Future with Lessons from an Imperfect Past'.

MSGH is privileged and proud to be the umbrella body supporting GI fellow training in Malaysia by working closely with the National Gastroenterology and Hepatology Conjoint Training Board, headed currently by Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi of Universiti Malaya, of which I am also a member, representing Ministry of Health. The National Training Programme in Gastroenterology & Hepatology currently has 35 trainees/fellows, from Year 1 to Year 4.

Reimbursement for ESEGH Examination fees was unanimously agreed by members at the AGM 2024 which paved the way to further support our GI fellows who will be our future gastroenterologists. Exco has allowed reimbursement of the exam fees for three years (2025 to 2027) as of now.

The following important activities were conducted:

- Exit Viva Examination for Year 3 Trainees in August 2024 at Kota Kinabalu during GUT 2024 meeting.
- Online interviews for new intake of Gastro & Hepatology trainees for July 2025 was held on 14th March 2025, attended by 11 candidates from MOH and 3 candidates from universities.
- Annual Appraisal
Annual appraisal sessions for all trainees were held virtually on 13th June 2025 via Zoom online platform attended by a total of 24 trainees.
- IBD Preceptorship Programme
The 1st and 2nd IBD preceptorships were conducted on 14th to 18th October 2024 and 16th to 20th June 2025 respectively at UMMC and HCTM, UKM. These were supported by Johnson and Johnson.
- Gastroenterology Subspecialty Training
The Gastroenterology Subspecialty Training Forum was successfully held virtually on 12th November

2025. This online meet-and-greet session was designed for internal medicine specialists and medical officers interested in learning more about the GI training pathway.

- Hepatology Series 1: Prevention of First Decompensation to Management of Decompensated Liver Disease
Hepatology Series 1 took place on 15th February 2025 at Aloft Kuala Lumpur supported by Ferring Pharmaceuticals.
- Tips and Tricks on How to Ace ESEGH
The ESEGH Preparation Online Forum was successfully conducted on 20th February 2025, bringing together approximately 45 trainees. The forum was moderated by Dr Lau Su Yin, provided a valuable platform for trainees to gain insights into effective preparation strategies for the ESEGH examination.
- Hepatology Series 2: Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)
Following the successful completion of Hepatology Series 1, the Hepatology Series 2 was held on 12th July 2025 at the Nexus Connexion Conference and Event Centre, Kuala Lumpur with the support from Roche.

Although the establishment of the Conjoint Committee in Quality and Safety in Endoscopy is still a work in progress, the Endoscopy Training Workgroup has been established with a total of 11 representatives comprising advisors (of whom I am one of the three advisors). Led by Dr Lau Su Yin who is both the chair and prime mover of the workgroup, it has eight Committee Members. The Committee is currently progressing with the implementation of the e-Integrity online training programme and is also advancing discussions and soon to carry out the Basic Endoscopy Skills Course, the development of the Endoscopy Curriculum and Train the Trainer's Course.

Since the revamp of the MSGH website in 2023, the platform has offered an improved and more efficient experience for members. The membership system has been integrated into a new online portal, allowing easier access and better functionality. A new feature which has been added to the website is Climate Change and Green Sustainability.

Members are advised to review and update their personal information, to ensure they continue receiving important communications from the Society.

Another important milestone during my tenure was finalising on a new MSGH office suite which has been long overdue. An Extraordinary General Meeting was convened on 8th June 2025 in a hybrid format, attended

by members and our legal advisor, following the proposal made by the owners of the Medical Academies Malaysia building for a long-term leasing agreement due to non-feasibility of the offer to purchase the office unit. The members at the EGM voted and approved the resolution to lease Unit 4.3 in the Medical Academies Malaysia Building, Precinct 8, Putrajaya, as the permanent premises for the Society, and to authorise the MSGH Executive Committee to negotiate lease terms in the best interest of the Society.

Last but not least, as we gather again for upcoming GUT 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, I am filled with both pride and gratitude. I would like to welcome one and all to this meeting. This meeting, the premier event in MSGH calendar, has been always beyond just scientific conference. It is a reflection of our collective spirit, our pursuit of excellence, and the strings that bind us together as a professional family. This year's GUT meeting brings together a rich scientific programme and endoscopy workshop, all designed to improve our knowledge and bring the best for our patients' care. It is also a time to reconnect, reflect and celebrate how far we have come as a gastro fraternity. I look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new ones over the course of this meeting. May GUT 2025 inspire new ideas, spark meaningful dialogues and reaffirm our shared mission and goal to advance the care of our patients. I would like to take this opportunity also to thank the entire scientific committee headed by Professor Dr Raja Affendi and Professor Dr Ida Hilmi for putting up an attractive programme.

Over the past two years, as the President of the MSGH, I have had the privilege and honour of leading an incredible and hard working Exco members. Thank you for your support, dedication, shared vision and wisdom, for being with me in this rewarding journey of mine. A special mention of thanks to Dr Nik Razima and subsequently Dr Lau Su Yin and her editorial team including Ms Molly Kong for being amazing editors for MSGH bulletins for past two years.

I thank everyone once again for the opportunity to serve. I remain positive and confident that MSGH will continue to grow and flourish in coming years under the leadership of Professor Dr Ida Hilmi, the incoming President for the term 2025 to 2027. I hope that all will continue to support her and the incoming Exco members.

Best wishes and warm regards,

Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Welcome to the 2nd issue of our MSGH Bulletin for the year!

It's been a busy three months since our last issue, with plenty going on within our Society. First off, a big congrats to our 15 fellows who passed the ESEGH exam this April - one of the most demanding exams out there. The ESEGH exam is known for its intensity and to pass it requires not only knowledge but mental rigor and sheer stamina to tackle its 200 challenging questions.

In this issue, our much-loved Fellow's Journey is written by Dr Liew Chiat Fong, who had to make some quick, last-minute changes to his fellowship plans but still managed to turn it into a meaningful and fruitful experience.

We also highlight a few recent events, including the APAGE Clinical Forum in IBD, A-PSDE workshop held at Sarawak General Hospital, our 2nd Hepatology Series on HCC, and HEGAM at Hospital Putrajaya for our gastroenterology fellows.

We hope you enjoy this latest update from MSGH. If you would like to share your experience, insights and hosted events, feel free to reach out to us at secretariat@msgh.org.my.

We also look forward to seeing you at Endoscopy and GUT 2025!

Dr Lau Su Yin



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An Unexpected Journey: Reflections on My Overseas Gastroenterology Training

by Dr Liew Chiat Fong

Hospital Raja Perempuan Zainab II, Kota Bharu, Kelantan

As I reflect on the year 2023, I recall being in my third year of gastroenterology training in Kota Kinabalu while actively preparing for my fourth year overseas fellowship. I had been accepted by a hospital in Australia and was in the midst of making all the necessary preparations for the attachment.

However, in August 2023, just four months before my planned departure, I received an email from my Australian supervisor informing me that he had left the hospital. He advised me to seek a new mentor. It was a moment of shock and disbelief. With such little time left, how could I possibly find a new training centre? Most institutions required a minimum of one year to process training applications.

Determined not to delay my fellowship, I began an urgent search for alternative training centres. After nearly a month of effort, I managed to identify two countries willing to accept me without an extended application timeline.



The first was Thailand. Initially, I had hoped to train under Dr Thawee Ratanachu-ek at Rajavithi Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand one of the largest public hospitals in the country. Unfortunately, their training programme was already full. Dr Thawee kindly referred me to one of his students, Dr Jirat Jiratham-opas, and suggested that I train under him in Hat Yai, Thailand under a similar curriculum.

At first, I was uncertain. I had originally envisioned training in a large, specialised centre. But after careful consideration, I decided to embrace the opportunity with an open mind and accepted the placement in Hat Yai, Thailand.

Hat Yai Hospital is a tertiary centre in southern Thailand. My focus there was on endoscopic ultrasound (EUS), with a particular interest in interventional EUS. Under the dedicated mentorship of Dr Jirat who was generous with his teaching, I received structured guidance in both basic and advanced EUS techniques.

In just six months, under Dr Jirat's supervision, I performed seven EUS-guided pancreatic pseudocyst



drainages, two choledochoduodenostomies, and two gallbladder drainages. In addition, Dr Jirat developed his own EUS drainage simulation model, which proved to be an invaluable training tool. Since clinical cases requiring EUS drainage were relatively limited, this model allowed us to develop procedural familiarity and technical proficiency in a controlled setting, ultimately boosting our confidence in real world application.

Besides EUS, I also received training in ERCP and my learning extended beyond Hat Yai, I accompanied him on visiting stints to various hospitals and participated in Thailand's nationwide colorectal cancer screening programme. Over the course of six months, I traveled extensively, especially to the northeastern regions of Thailand, where I met many local endoscopists. I was deeply touched by their warmth, unity, and hospitality, which made me feel completely at home.

In May, I had the honour of attending the Southeast Asia Endoscopy Conference in Bangkok at the invitation of Dr Thawee. There, I met endoscopists from across the region and participated in a variety of workshops. The experience was truly eye opening and broadened my regional perspective.

In the second half of 2024, I continued my overseas training in Jinan, Shandong Province, China. Although not one of China's top-tier megacities, Jinan is a sizeable and vibrant second-tier city. I chose Jinan with the intention of training under Professor Dr Zhang Kai, a leading figure in the Chinese National ERCP Training Board.



Hands-on training with the EUS hepatogastrostomy simulation model



ERCP training conducted by Dr Thawee Ratanachu-Ek



1st from left: Dr Jirat Jiratham-Opas, 4th from left 4: Dr Sriribon Attasaranya; 4th from right: Dr Thawee Ratanachu-Ek, 2nd from right: Dr Tanyaporn Chantarojansiri



Shandong Provincial 3rd Hospital

The hospital I was attached to served as a referral centre for complex cases from across Shandong Province. I must say it was an incredibly resource rich institution, well equipped with a wide range of accessories, devices, and tools and had a consistently high patient volume.

Professor Dr Zhang's teaching was detailed, disciplined, and precise. He emphasised that ERCP requires a delicate and thoughtful approach. Before every procedure, he would guide us through a thorough discussion of each case and anticipated challenges.

One remarkable aspect of training in China was the number of academic workshops. While participation in all workshops was not always possible, the clarity and

depth of analysis offered by expert instructors were often insightful and enlightening. These sessions significantly enriched my understanding of advanced endoscopic techniques.

Time has flown, and it has now been six months since I returned to Malaysia. From the stressful search for a new training placement to the completion of my overseas fellowship, the journey has been filled with challenges, learning, and growth.

Though Thailand and China are not traditionally common destinations for overseas gastroenterology training, I am grateful to have taken the road less traveled. It may not have been a perfect journey, but it was undoubtedly a meaningful and valuable one. I acquired new knowledge and skills, gained unique insights, and broadened my professional and cultural horizons.



Performing ERCP procedures under supervision of Dr Zhang Kai



Morning briefing and case discussion



ERCP procedures are systematically recorded from four angles: the endoscopist's perspective, the endoscopic view, the fluoroscopic view, and the cholangioscopic view

Reflections from the 13th Asia-Pacific Society of Digestive Endoscopy Local Workshop in Advanced Luminal Endoscopy Workshop at Sarawak General Hospital

by Dr Joash Tan-Loh

Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellow, Sarawak General Hospital, Sarawak

The 13th Asia-Pacific Society of Digestive Endoscopy Local Workshop on Advanced Luminal Endoscopy held from 22nd to 24th May 2025 at the Sarawak General Hospital (SGH) was a landmark event in the development of advanced luminal endoscopic practice in Sarawak. The workshop was organised under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Society of Digestive Endoscopy (A-PSDE), led by Professor Dr Seigo Kitano, President of the A-PSDE and President of Oita University, Japan. The event was also generously supported by

Olympus and Medi-Life whose contributions facilitated both the technical delivery and training logistics of the programme.

Locally, the workshop was spearheaded by Dr Tan Cha Chee, Consultant Gastroenterologist at Sarawak General Hospital (SGH). This was fully supported by the Hospital Director, Dr Ngien Hie Ung, and the Department of Surgery. It drew over 30 participants - gastroenterologists, surgeons, trainees, nurses and endoscopy assistants from across Malaysia and Brunei.

The two-day workshop featured five live procedures, including underwater EMRs, endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD), and gastric cancer screening with image-enhanced endoscopy. Two complex cases - a large colorectal polyp ESD and a (peroral endoscopic myotomy) POEM - were demonstrated in full by esteemed faculty members Dr Noriya Uedo (Vice-Director of the Osaka International Cancer Institute) and Associate Professor Dr Ho Shiaw-Hooi (Universiti Malaya Medical Centre), offering attendees a



Professor Dr Uedo used a 'magic wand' to highlight key endoscopic techniques during a hands-on session



Professor Dr Ho (in white protective gear) performing a live POEM demonstration for a patient with achalasia. The successful procedure was completed under 90 minutes despite ongoing teaching



Professor Dr Ho demonstrating POEM techniques on a training model



Professor Dr Ho demonstrating the techniques of rotating a reloadable hemostatic endoclip



Dr Ho Yoke Fun (Consultant Gastroenterologist, SGH) participating in an ESD under the proctorship of Professor Dr Noriya Uedo

rare insight into high-level therapeutic interventions in real-time.

Complementing the live demonstrations were seven lectures, including techniques optimisation in ESD and POEM, electrosurgical principles, management of complications and training frameworks for skill acquisition in therapeutic endoscopy.

“The workshop was designed with two main aims”, reflected Dr Tan Cha Chee, consultant gastroenterologist and hepatologist, a keen endoscopist himself. “First, to provide proctorship to our young consultants and nurture young fellows in the early diagnosis of GI neoplasms and introduce the therapeutic approaches to these and oesophageal motility disorders. Second, as an expression of gratitude - to Associate Professor Dr Ho, who served as the stepping stone to my career in advanced luminal endoscopy by introducing me to Professor Dr Uedo who has played a pivotal role in guiding my training.

Dr Tan also praised the local support of the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Unit and the Gastrointestinal Assistants (GIAs) in SGH in successfully organising this workshop. “This could not have been

done without the support of the GIAs and Dr Victoria Kok Shing Ling, Head of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Unit, SGH”, he reflected.

The workshop also emphasised introspective learning and mentorship. Associate Professor Dr Ho reminded attendees that in Malaysia, there is a void in the volume of cases in most centres. Endoscopists may not have sufficient experience to master the required skills in a short period. “It will take grit and determination to persevere”, he said, while quoting his alma mater’s motto, he added: “Accomplish, if not, do not begin”.

Professor Dr Uedo shared a parallel observation, “Practice does not make perfect. Practice only makes it permanent. It is conscious practice with feedback that makes perfect”.

This event not only showcased the increasing technical capabilities of SGH, but also reflected the value of international partnerships, structured mentorship, and industry collaboration. It reaffirms Malaysia’s growing role in the Asia Pacific endoscopy community and the importance of investing in structured, skill-based education for the next generation of endoscopists.



Dr Victoria Kok (far left) showing Professor Dr Seigo Kitano (second from left) SGH Endoscopy Suite, accompanied by (Left to Right) Datuk Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira (Head of Medicine, SGH), Dr Ngien Hie Ung (Director, SGH), Dr (Mr) Siow Sze Li (Head of Surgery, SGH), Professor Dr Noriya Uedo, Professor Dr Ho Shiao-Hooi, Dr Tan Cha Chee and Mr Hugo Hideki Nagai (Managing Director, Olympus Malaysia)

PENANG 2025 - 6th APAGE Clinical Forum on Inflammatory Bowel Disease, 16th & 17th May 2025

by Dr Nurul Husna Baharudin

Gastroenterology Fellow, Sarawak General Hospital, Sarawak



Attending a conference is always an enriching experience that broadens horizons, offers new insights, and fosters valuable connections. My recent experience attending the Clinical Forum on IBD, organised by the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) and the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology & Hepatology (MSGH), was no exception. From the moment I arrived, I was greeted by a vibrant atmosphere brought on by professionals, experts, and enthusiasts eager to share knowledge. The sessions were well-organised, covering a wide range of topics on

inflammatory bowel disease, from the conventional to the new emerging and promising therapies. The discussion with expert panels allowed me to deepen my understanding and gained some practical skills.

One of the most rewarding aspects was networking. I met inspiring individuals whose ideas and experiences sparked new perspectives. Engaging in conversations during breaks and social events helped me built meaningful connections that I believe will be beneficial in the future.

The forum also featured innovative presentations and demonstrations, showcasing the latest update and technologies. This exposure to cutting-edge developments was particularly motivating and has inspired me to apply this in my work.

Overall, attending this forum was a valuable experience that not only expanded my knowledge but also invigorated my passion for my profession. I look forward to attending future events and continuing to learn and grow.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to organising committee for all the hard work and sleepless nights to make this event successful.



HCC in Focus: A Resounding Success in 2nd Hepatology Series of the Year

by Dr Lau Su Yin

Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Selangor



On Saturday, 12th July 2025, MSGH proudly hosted the 2nd Hepatology Series of the year titled “Hepatocellular Cancer in Focus” at Nexus, Connexion Conference and Event Centre, Bangsar South, Kuala Lumpur. This

multidisciplinary meeting brought together esteemed speakers and experts from both Malaysia and China, reflecting our commitment to tackling HCC through a collaborative effort.

HCC remains in the top 10 causes of cancer-related deaths both in Malaysia and globally! Its management is best approached through a multidisciplinary team - gastroenterologists / hepatologists, surgeons, interventional radiologists and oncologists.

Setting the Scene: Urgency Amid Progress

The day began with an overview of the Epidemiology of HCC, drawing attention to troubling gaps in surveillance. Despite advances in early detection methods that can offer curative treatment, only approximately 20% had previous surveillance in Malaysia.^{1,2} Although much is known about risks of HCC, up to 84% were not aware of their chronic hepatitis B status.³ This is similar to chronic hepatitis C infection which was found to be as common as 21.6% in prisoners.⁴ Another growing concern is the tsunami of MAFLD. According to NHMS 2023, 3 in 10 Malaysians are living with MAFLD.

International Insights and Local Expertise

We were honoured to welcome Professor Dr Yabing Guo from Guangzhou, China, who shared China's innovative approach to early HCC detection through novel diagnostic biomarkers. Associate Professor Dr Koh Peng Soon, HPB surgeon from UMMC, captivated the audience with videos of complex liver resections, highlighting how surgical boundaries are being pushed with increasingly successful outcomes for larger tumours.

Adding depth to the therapeutic discussion, Associate Professor Dr Nur Yazmin Yaacob, an interventional

radiologist from UKM, delivered a compelling overview of locoregional therapies, reinforcing the value in the MDT framework.

Advances in Systemic Therapy

The oncology sessions were equally enlightening. Professor Dr Ho Gwo Fuang and Associate Professor Dr Wan Zamaniah from Cengild and UM respectively walked us through the evolution of systemic therapies in HCC, where survival outcomes have improved dramatically. We were introduced to the remarkable world of landmark clinical trials, with memorable names: HIMALAYA, COSMIC, CHECKMATE, EMERALD, LEAP and my personal favourite, IMBRAVE.

Real-World Case Discussions

No hepatology meeting would be complete without real-life case discussions. Dr Haniza Omar, Senior Consultant Hepatologist from Hospital Selayang, shared a poignant case of recurrent HCC spanning decades in an otherwise fit and well 86-year-old patient, navigating the complexities of treatment decision-making. Dr Hak Keith Leung from UMMC also presented an equally fascinating case that sparked thoughtful discussion among attendees.

Looking Ahead

This session underscored a clear message: HCC is no longer a death sentence (with a caveat: IF DETECTED EARLY!) As the battle against HCC continues, MSGH remains committed to providing platforms for knowledge exchange, innovation and collaboration.

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4. Suan MAM, Zulkifli AM, Ani NH, Azlan A, Mustafa MF, Ali SMM, Aris SA, Nizar NASM, Fahami FFMN, Othman A, Chan HK, Hassan MRA. Feasibility of a prison-based test-and-treat model for enhancing hepatitis C care in Kedah, Malaysia. *BMC Public Health*. 2025 Mar 26;25(1): 1152

Hepatology - GI Masterclass (HEGAM) 1.2

by Dr Wan Zaharatul Ashikin Wan Abdullah
Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, Hospital Putrajaya, Putrajaya



Event Report: Hepatology - GI Masterclass (HEGAM) 1.2

DATE

14th - 15th July 2025

VENUE

Institut Endokrin, Hospital Putrajaya

ORGANISED BY

CME Committee, Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Ministry of Health Malaysia

CO-ORGANISED BY

Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH)

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

38 (excluding Committee Members)

The learning continues...

HEGAM 1.2 marked the second edition of the Hepatology-Gastroenterology Masterclass series. Held over two full days at Institut Endokrin, Hospital Putrajaya, the course brought together a diverse group of clinicians comprising gastroenterology and hepatology subspecialty trainees (Years 1-3), internal medicine physicians, and medical officers. A total of 38 participants attended the course, reflecting the growing interest in advanced GI and liver care education across the Ministry of Health Malaysia.

This time, the course format was thoughtfully arranged to maximise the benefit for the participants. It began with an introductory session tailored for new subspecialty trainees, followed by focused modules on key clinical areas such as inflammatory bowel disease, liver transplantation, and dysphagia. Additional sessions covered polyp characterisation and *Helicobacter pylori* management - topics that are highly relevant in everyday practice. We were privileged to have esteemed speakers from all over the country who generously shared their knowledge, clinical insights, and experience.





The event commenced with opening remarks by two prominent figures in the fraternity - Dr Firdaus Mohd Salleh, Head of Service for Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Ministry of Health Malaysia, and Professor Dr Ida Hilmi, Chair of the National Conjoint Training Committee for Gastroenterology and Hepatology, as well as the President-Elect of MSGH.

The session continued with a series of comprehensive and insightful talks covering areas in Gastroenterology & Hepatology training, including *Introduction to Hepatology & Hepatology Subspecialty Training* (Dr Victoria Kok), *Introduction to Endoscopy Training* (Dr Lau Suyin) and *ESEGH exam overview* (Dr Wong Mung Seong). The sessions were well-received, and participants actively engaged in the discussions, seizing the opportunity to raise questions and clarify uncertainties about their training journey.

The IBD segment featured expert-led sessions by rising leaders in the field. Dr Shahreedhan Shahrani, a promising young consultant from UMMC, presented on IBD and Pregnancy, offering practical guidance for a complex intersection of care. Dr Fairul delivered two impactful talks - *Monitoring and management of extraintestinal manifestations of IBD* and *Individualised treatment in IBD*. To deepen the knowledge on IBD, we invited an experienced Histopathologist from Hospital Selayang, Dr Isnisyam to share knowledge related to *IBD Mimics: Pathologist Perspective*. Puan Siti Hawa addressed *Nutrition in IBD*, emphasising its central role in holistic patient management. The first day concluded with a lecture by Dr Harisuthan on Polyp Characterisation, equipping participants with practical endoscopic insights for colorectal screening and surveillance.

The second day of the masterclass centered on hepatology, with a particular emphasis on liver transplantation. The participants benefitted from a series of engaging and informative lectures delivered by renowned experts in the field. Dr Tan Soek Siam provided a comprehensive overview of the pre-transplant workup, followed by Dr Haniza Omar, who delivered a detailed overview of liver transplantation in Malaysia. Dr Hoo Chai Zhen then discussed the use of immunosuppressants post-liver transplantation, highlighting current practices and key considerations.

Dr Norhaniza Bahar shared critical updates on the latest guidelines for paracetamol overdose management, an area of increasing relevance in clinical hepatology. This was followed by an insightful session on acute liver failure, delivered by the enthusiastic and dynamic young consultant, Dr Senamjit Kaur.

The final sessions of the day shifted focus to upper gastrointestinal topics. Dr Lau Su Yin addressed the practical management of *Helicobacter pylori* treatment failure, and Dr Wong Mung Seong delivered a clear and structured lecture on the evaluation and management of dysphagia - rounding off the masterclass with content directly applicable to daily clinical practice.

Distinct from the inaugural edition of HEGAM, this second edition introduced a new component - case presentations by the trainees. These sessions fostered engaging clinical discussions rooted in real-world scenarios, encouraging active participation, critical thinking, and peer learning among attendees.

HEGAM 1.2 wrapped up successfully with great vibes and positive feedback all around. Thank you to all who were involved - until the next HEGAM!

***A Heartfelt Farewell to a Hepatology Icon:
Surprise Retirement Celebration for
Dr Tan Soek Siam
- Malaysia's most respected
senior consultant Hepatologist***



During HEGAM, we took the opportunity to have a surprise retirement celebration for Dr Tan Soek Siam on 15th July 2025.

A love celebration!

The celebration began with a specially prepared video tribute, featuring heartfelt messages and memories shared by her peers, mentees, and collaborators from across the country. The video captured not just her extraordinary contributions to hepatology and public healthcare, but also the warmth, humour, and humility that endeared her to so many. The fraternity would like to express the gratitude for Dr Tan's unwavering dedication, mentorship, and decades of service to liver disease care in Malaysia. She has shaped the landscape of hepatology in the country, leaving behind a legacy not just of clinical excellence, but of compassion, leadership and inspiration.





Congratulations to our Fellows for Passing the ESEGH Exams April 2025!

**Ahmad Shahidan
Ang Ban Hong
Cheong Suh Yu
Khairil Khuzaini bin Zulkifli
Kok Wei Hao
Liew Chiat Fong
Mohd Hizami bin Mohamad Nor
Nazihah binti Azis
Noor Purdah binti Abdul Kadir
Ram Prasad a/l Sinnanaidu
Rasnaizam bin Rasdi
Ravindran a/l A Ponnisamy
Subita Sugantal Suparmanian
Tan-Loh Joash
Yong Shih Mun**

**THE EXAM WAS TOUGH,
BUT SO ARE YOU!**

Calendar of Events

**AUG
08**

- 7th to 10th August - GUT & Endoscopy 2025, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 22nd and 23rd August - Singapore Hepatology Conference, Singapore

**SEP
09**

- 3rd to 7th September - Asian Neurogastroenterology & Motility Association (ANMA) / IDW Jakarta, Indonesia
- 11th to 13th September - EUS-ENDO International Live Course, Strasbourg, France
- 20th to 22nd September - World Congress of Gastroenterology (WCOG-AGW), Melbourne, Australia

**OCT
10**

- Liver Cancer Awareness Month
- 4th to 7th October - UEG Week, Berlin, Germany
- 11th and 12th October - Liver, Pancreas & Biliary Tract Cancers Congress, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

**NOV
11**

- 7th to 11th November - AASLD, Washington, USA
- 18th to 22nd November - APDW, Singapore