



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



To my Colleagues and Fellow Members of MSGH

It is my greatest pride and honour to assume the presidency of the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology & Hepatology for 2021 - 2023. I must thank my good friend and colleague,

Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali, who has been instrumental in bringing MSGH to a new height for the past two years. It will be extremely difficult to achieve the same as what the Immediate Past President had done, but I will certainly do my best to serve the Society, along with other newly elected Executive Committee Members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the past Executive Committee Members who have served the Society selflessly. In particular, I would like to mention Professor Dato' Dr Goh Khean Lee and Professor Dr Sanjiv Mahadeva. Both being senior members of the Society, they have not just played the advisory role but also took part actively in numerous activities. I am confident our current Executive Committee with a balanced mix of senior and junior colleagues shall emulate the same.

Over the years, the Society has grown in leaps and bounds. Our membership has increased significantly; we will continue to be inclusive of everyone who has an interest in gastroenterology and hepatology. We do hope more primary care physicians, surgeons, internal medicine physicians, nurses, pharmacists and scientists can join us and help to achieve our cause for the coming future. As a Society and from a personal perspective, I believe education and training will remain the core of what we do and, more importantly, we want our younger members to come forward, not forgetting, of course, our existing members who have been giving us tremendous support over the years. The Society will continue to organise activities, initiate educational projects and provide networking benefits to our loyal members. One such project is to expand our current website to include more educational contents in the

form of an online portal where only members in benefit will be able to login.

I am extremely proud on our recent achievements being the President and also as a member of the Society. The most important is no doubt the successful organisation of Asia Pacific Digestive Week (APDW) 2021, the very first virtual meeting in its history, and held none other than at our home ground, Kuala Lumpur. As the Scientific Chair, the journey was difficult and long but rewarding at the end. The organisation was almost crippled by the sudden arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, but the Organising Committee persevered and delivered among the best scientific content and virtual experience expected of a world-class conference.

The newly elected Executive Committee will continue the legacy, and we have great plans for the coming two years. We will continue to hold our flagship annual meeting, GUT in 2022, and may have partnership with Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology, the largest regional society in the GI field. In addition, we are planning to hold basic research skills workshop for our younger colleagues to assist them in navigating clinical research. Malaysia is moving towards a new biotechnology and digital era, and our reputation in research is gaining attention and traction within the international community. Clinical research will become increasingly important and, thus as a society, we should assume the role as the enabler and to embrace the research culture. Last but not least, as the global community is moving into 'green' initiatives with a particular attention to address climate change, and as a responsible Society, we should do our part to increase the awareness among our members including efforts to reduce personal and workplace carbon footprint.

I am extremely optimistic of the coming two years, and I hope you are too. Let us work towards a common cause.

**Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh**

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Greetings!

To say that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has changed the world would be an understatement. The pandemic has changed how

we work, learn and interact as it has led us to a more virtual existence, both personally and professionally.

As medical practitioners, we too have made radical changes to our day-to-day operations. From the way we treat our patients to how we change priorities to keep patients safe and reduce risks of COVID-19 spread. It

has not been easy for anyone, nor are we anywhere near done.

Nevertheless, medical researches must go on and imparting knowledge remains a key necessity in our line of work. This bulletin will hopefully give you a head-start on that as we share a little bit of our activities.

Also, I would like to express my gratitude to my co-editors, Dr Wong Mung Seong from HUSM and Dr Muhammad Ilham from HUiTM, for their valuable input.

**Dr Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim**

## MSGH COMMITTEE 2021-2023

### PRESIDENT

Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Professor Dr Raja Affendi Raja Ali

### HON SECRETARY

Dr Haniza Omar

### HON TREASURER

Dr Sattian Kollanthavelu

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Datuk Jayaram Menon  
Datuk Dr Ryan Ponnadurai  
Dato' Dr Mahendra Raj  
Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi  
Dr Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim

### COOPTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr Abraham George  
Dr Su Yang Soon



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# MSGH Online Webinar

by Dr Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim

The MSGH hosted a two-day online webinar on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2021 entitled “Metabolic Associated Fatty Liver Disease (MAFLD) - A New Name for An Old Foe”. It was aimed at exploring the what’s and the who’s of these phenomena. It was held in collaboration with the Academy of Family Physicians of Malaysia, the Family Medicine Specialists of Malaysia and the Federation of Private Medical Practitioners’ Associations, Malaysia with an educational grant provided by Viatrix.

Over the two-day sessions, four lectures were given by three distinguished speakers. Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong gave two talks on ‘The Journey from NALFD to MAFLD’ and ‘Lifestyle Interventions and Pharmacological Treatments of MAFLD’. Dr Tan Seok Siam elaborated on ‘Assessment of Liver Disease Severity and Indications for Referral’. Finally, Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli conveyed on ‘Improving Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients with MAFLD’. Two

Gastroenterology and Hepatology subspecialty fellows; Dr Chuah Kee Huat from UMMC and Dr Ng Inn Shan from Hospital Selayang, presented two interesting cases for discussion.

The whole two-day sessions were moderated by Associate Professor Dr Nazri Mustafa from HUSM. The slides and recorded video are available in the MSGH website for review.





Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology & Hepatology

## METABOLIC DYSFUNCTION ASSOCIATED FATTY LIVER DISEASE (MAFLD)

### A NEW NAME FOR AN OLD FOE

# The What's and The Who's

In collaboration with:



Academy of Family Physicians of Malaysia (AFPM)



Family Medicine Specialists' Association of Malaysia



Federation of Private Medical Practitioners' Associations, Malaysia

One MMC CPD point per session

Educational grant provided by:



#### PART 1 (6<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Saturday)

TIME	PROGRAMME
2000 - 2030	Online Registration
2030 - 2035	Welcome Message Dr Nazri Mustafa
2035 - 2045	WHAT'S IN A NAME? The Journey from NALFD to MAFLD Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong
2045 - 2048	WHO NEEDS FURTHER ATTENTION? Assessment of Liver Disease Severity and Indications for Referral Dr Tan Seok Siam
2048 - 2055	Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli / Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong / Dr Tan Seok Siam
2055 - 2065	Case Presentation Dr Chuah Kee Huat
2065 - 2075	Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli / Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong / Dr Tan Seok Siam / Dr Chuah Kee Huat
2075 - 2100	Wrap-Up Dr Nazri Mustafa

**Pre-Register Now!**  
Visit: <https://qrqo.page.link/Sw5ux>  
or Scan the QR Code to Register

#### PART 2 (20<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Saturday)

TIME	PROGRAMME
2000 - 2030	Online Registration
2030 - 2035	Welcome Message Dr Nazri Mustafa
2035 - 2050	WHAT CAN WE DO? Lifestyle Interventions and Pharmacological Treatments for MAFLD Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong
2050 - 2045	WHO'S AT RISK? Improving Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients with MAFLD Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli
2045 - 2055	Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli / Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong / Dr Tan Seok Siam
2055 - 2065	Case Presentation Dr Ng Inn Shan
2065 - 2075	Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli / Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong / Dr Tan Seok Siam / Dr Ng Inn Shan
2075 - 2100	Wrap-Up Dr Nazri Mustafa

**Pre-Register Now!**  
Visit: <https://qrqo.page.link/RQSWk>  
or Scan the QR Code to Register

**MODERATOR:**  
 **Dr Nazri Mustafa**  
 Associate Professor, Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Liver Transplantation, HUSM  
 Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, HUSM, FRCGS (Hepatology)

**LECTURERS:**  
 **Professor Dr Anis Safura Ramli**  
 Consultant Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist & Liver Transplantation, HUSM  
 Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, HUSM, FRCGS (Hepatology)

 **Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong**  
 Consultant Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist & Liver Transplantation, HUSM  
 Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, HUSM, FRCGS (Hepatology)

 **Dr Tan Seok Siam**  
 Consultant Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist & Liver Transplantation, HUSM  
 Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, HUSM, FRCGS (Hepatology)

**PRESENTERS:**  
 **Dr Chuah Kee Huat**  
 Consultant Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist & Liver Transplantation, UMMC  
 Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, UMMC, FRCGS (Hepatology)

 **Dr Ng Inn Shan**  
 Consultant Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist & Liver Transplantation, Hospital Selayang  
 Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Hospital Selayang, FRCGS (Hepatology)

## A Fellow's Journey

by Dr Stanley Khoo

Between January 2020 to June 2020, I had the opportunity to undergo a six-month advanced fellowship training in Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) at the Centre of Excellence in Gastrointestinal (GI) Endoscopy, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital (KCMH), Bangkok, Thailand; under the esteemed mentorship of Associate Professor Dr Pradermchai Kongkam. KCMH has been offering six-month fellowship training programmes for international trainees over the years mainly in the field of Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiography (ERCP) and EUS. The endoscopy centre itself has an area size of 1800m<sup>2</sup> and consists of six general GI endoscopy rooms, two fluoroscopy rooms and one endo-surgery room. It is equipped with the latest state-of-the-art endoscopic facilities and is one of the most advanced endoscopy centres in the Asian Pacific region.



*Dr Pradermchai Kongkam (second from the right) assisting me in performing a case of EUS guided Hepaticogastrostomy (HGS)*

The training curriculum comprises hands-on EUS training and routine clinical work such as clinics and daily ward rounds. The range of cases consists of both diagnostic and therapeutic EUS (mainly EUS guided Biliary and Pancreatic Drainage, EUS guided Radiofrequency Ablation, and EUS guided Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy). Some may wonder that it will be difficult to adapt to a foreign country due to the language difference. However this did not hamper my training process as the local colleagues were extremely helpful in assisting me through my daily work routine in and out of the hospital and making sure I made the best out of the things I did.

I also had the opportunity to visit and perform cases in other district hospitals in Thailand under the EUS outreach programme led by Dr Kongkam. This programme aims to bring EUS training and services to other hospitals in Thailand which lacks EUS expertise in their locality. This has helped to better deliver EUS training to budding endoscopists in district hospitals to

expand and provide EUS services to serve their respective locality.

Dr Kongkam was monumental throughout my training period and was very patient in teaching me on every case that I got to perform. This was especially so during my initial cases of EUS biliary drainage for example, whereby the learning curve was challenging; but with his guidance and encouragement, I was able to perform the procedure with good success and confidence as the number of cases grew under my belt.



*The GI endoscopy team in King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital with Associate Professor Dr Pradermchai Kongkam on my right and Professor Dr Rungsun Rerknimitr on my left as shown in this picture*

It was indeed an eye opening and fruitful training experience, and I am eternally grateful to the dedicated Dr Kongkam for his mentorship and in ensuring that the quality of my training was of the highest standard. I would also extend my gratitude to the GI endoscopy team in KCMH led by Professor Dr Rungsun Rerknimitr who had been instrumental in making my training period a successful one.



*Receiving my certificate Associate Professor Dr. Pradermchai Kongkam upon completion of training*

# Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2021

by Nik Razima Wan Ibrahim

After a year of postponement due to the pandemic, the Asian Pacific Digestive Week 2021 was successfully held, completely virtually in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 19<sup>th</sup> till 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021. There were 2340 participants from more than 60 countries in attendance as they listened to a total of 453 lectures, delivered by prominent speakers worldwide.



Themed 'Vision of Excellence in Digestive Disorders and Science', APDW 2021 kicked off with a pre-congress session (17<sup>th</sup> till 19<sup>th</sup> August) - an introduction to the APDWF-JGH Young Clinician Investigator Programme. The GIA session ran concurrently with the Postgraduate

Course on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021. The subsequent days ran five parallel sessions on endoscopy, luminal, liver and surgical track, among others. The meeting attracted 662 abstract submissions from all over Asia, and the live sessions of both selected oral and poster presentations were done alongside on the conference days.

The live endoscopy workshops were broadcasted from five endoscopy centres of excellence namely;

- 1) University Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia
- 2) Showa University Koto Toyosu Hospital, Tokyo, Japan
- 3) King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand
- 4) Asian Institute of Gastroenterology, Hyderabad, India
- 5) Roeya Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Centre, Cairo, Egypt.



# Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2021



APDWF2021 (20 Aug 2021)

APDWF-JGHF Okuda Lectureship

**Current Perspectives on the Pathophysiology of IgG4-related disease in Hepato-Gastroenterology**

Kazuichi Okazaki  
Department of Gastroenterology & Hepatology,  
Kansai Medical University, Osaka, Japan

The APDWF-JGHF Okuda Lectureship was delivered by Dr Kazuichi Okazaki, and was entitled "Current Perspective in IgG4-related Disease in Hepato-Gastroenterology"



The 18<sup>th</sup> Panir Chelvam Lecture was delivered by Dr Douglas Drossman - "Understanding and managing a Patient with a chronic and severe abdominal pain"

## History of Endoscopic Resection - Challenge to Difficulties and the Future Perspective



Takuji GOTODA, MD, PhD, FASGE, FACC  
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology  
Nihon University School of Medicine



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Distinguished Endoscopy Lecture by Dr Takuji Gotoda - "History of Endoscopic Resection - Challenge to Difficulties and Future Perspectives"

APDWF-JGHF Emerging Leaders Lecture  
APDWF 2021, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Gut Microbiota in Digestive Cancers: Are We Ready for Clinical Applications?

**Dr Sunny Wong**

MBChB, DPhil, FRCP [Edin, Lond], FRCPath, FHKCP, FHKAM

Associate Professor

Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore



The APDWF-JGHF Emerging Leaders Lectureship 1 was delivered by Dr Sunny Wong Hei entitled "Gut Microbiota in Digestive Cancers: Are we ready for clinical application"



The APDWF-JGHF Emerging Leaders Lectureship 2 was delivered by Dr Goki Suda with the topic on "Recent Advances in the treatment of Hepatitis C infection for Special Populations"



The 21<sup>st</sup> MSGH Oration was delivered by Dr Francis Chan Ka-Leung on "Conundrums in the Use of Anti-Thrombotic Therapy"

APDWF 2021

APDWF - JGHF MARSHALL-WARREN LECTURES LECTURER

**PETER GIBSON**



The APDWF-JGHF Marshall-Warren Leaders Lectureship was presented by Dr Peter Gibson on "Diet as a Therapeutic Tool in Chronic Gastrointestinal Disease"

## Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2021



The meeting was supported by 33 industry partners who also furnished the virtual exhibition displaying advances of medicine for participants to indulge and enjoy throughout the conference.

Finally, the meeting concluded by the awards presentation and closing ceremony. The conference presented three MERIT and three APDWF-JGHF Young Investigator Awards, five APDWF Poster Distinction Awards and 24 lucky draw winners.



### APDWF-JGHF Young Investigator Award - MERIT Award

**Dr Surender Singh**  
Pgimer, Chandigarh, India

**Dr Khairul Najmi Muhammad Nawawi**  
National University of Malaysia Medical Centre, Malaysia

**Dr Apirat Angsubhakorn**  
Phramongkutklao, Thailand

# Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2021

## APDWF-JGHF Young Investigator Award



1st  
Place

Real World Experience of AI Assisted Endocytoscopy Using EndoBRAIN

*Dr Goutham Reddy Katukuri*  
AIG Hospitals, India



2nd  
Place

Comparative Effectiveness of Prophylactic Interventions for Post-ERCP Pancreatitis Among Patients with Risk Factors: A Network Meta-Analysis

*Dr Jin Ho Choi*  
Seoul National University Hospital, South Korea



3rd  
Place

A Prospective Study of Fully Covered Self-Expandable Metal Stents for Refractory Benign Pancreatic Duct Strictures

*Dr Bhavik Shah*  
Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals, Kolkata, India

## APDWF Poster Distinction Award

VIRTUAL  
AP  
DW  
2021



**Dr Minwoo Lee**  
Seoul National University Hospital, South Korea



**Dr Nikhil Sonthalia**  
Institute of Gastrosiences, Apollo Gleneagles Hospital, India



**Dr Jeevinesh Naidu**  
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Australia



**Dr Khairul Najmi Muhammad Nawawi**  
The National University of Malaysia Medical Centre, Malaysia



**Dr Ashish Chauhan**  
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, India