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APSR News

Message from the APSR President

Report on the 50th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society
President: Professor Keishi Kubo
April 23 (Fri) - 25 (Sun), 2010, at the Kyoto International Conference Center

I attended the 50th Annual Meeting of JRS as the President of the APSR and would like to report on some new developments that occurred during that Meeting.

The APSR leadership, including Drs. Fukuchi and Fong, met with the ATS leadership and agreed details for reciprocal support for leadership visiting one another's annual international meeting. Also, the detailed procedure for inviting Young Investigators from each Society was clarified. I would like to encourage young APSR members to apply for the benefit of participating in the 2011 ATS International Meeting as APSR Young Investigators.

At an International Societies Meeting, closer cooperation between clinical Assemblies of the APSR, ATS and JRS was discussed with the leadership of the JRS. The APSR is planning to have a meeting of Assembly Heads in New Orleans during the ATS International Meeting.

There was discussion on the scientific programme of the Manila Congress with Dr. Kwun Fong, the Chairman of the Central Congress Committee. Dr. Fong reported that the Western Pacific Regional Office of WHO had offered a postgraduate course on asthma in cooperation with the Manila LCC. The APSR is also planning a Year of the Lung Symposium during the Manila Congress. The JRS invited two Young Investigators from the APSR and speakers for the International Symposium and Year of the Lung Symposium. The title of the Year of the Lung APSR Memorial Symposium was 'The Pulmonary Diseases of Asia'

The list of invited speakers for the International Symposium and the Year of the Lung Symposium, and Young Investigators is as follows:

Invited Lecturer:

Dr. Sumitra Thongprasert
Professor of Oncology, Chiang Mai University

International Symposium:

Dr. Richard Beasley
Medical Research Institute of New Zealand

Dr. Yunsuck Koh
Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Ulsan College of Medicine

Dr. Fiona Lake
Professor of Medicine, University of Western Australia

Year of the Lung JRS-APSR Memorial Symposium

Dr. Wan-Chen Tan
iCapture Center for Cardiopulmonary Research, St. Paul's Hospital
Professor of Medicine, University of British Columbia
Past President of the APSR

Dr. Kwun Fong
Department of Thoracic Medicine, The Prince Charles Hospital
Professor, University of Queensland
Chairperson, Central Congress Committee, APSR

Dr. Jian Kang
Professor of Respiratory Medicine, China Medical University

Dr. Young Hwan Kim
Professor of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University
Head, Clinical Assembly of Non-tuberculous Infectious Diseases

Young Investigators

Dr. Jennifer H Walsh
Research fellow at the West Australian Sleep Disorders Research Institute
The University of Western Australia

Dr. Jae-Joon Yim
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University College
of Medicine

Over 5,400 Japanese pulmonologists attended the Meeting and their responses on the International Symposium were enthusiastic.

The APSR secretariat office operated a booth in the exhibition area and distributed promotional information of the Manila Congress and the Shanghai Congress. I would like to express my appreciation to the Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP), and especially Joan Cala-Silva, for their activity at the APSR booth.

I also would like to report an unforeseen event at the JRS Meeting. Because of the air travel problems caused by the volcanic eruption in Iceland, the ERS leadership and invited speakers were not present at the Kyoto Meeting.

*YoungSoo Shim
President/APSR*

Year of the Lung 2010 activities

Details of local and regional activities to commemorate this Year of the Lung 2010 have been updated and some local activities, such as the APSR/JRS Symposium 'Characteristics of Pulmonary Diseases in Asia', have been held successfully at the 50th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society in April, 2010.

Please visit the APSR Official website: www.apsresp.org/archive/yotl2010/yotl2010.html for regular updating of various APSR activities in support of the Year of the Lung 2010.

The 15th Congress of the APSR 2010, Manila, the Philippines

The 15th Congress of the APSR, to be held in November 22-25, 2010 at the Philippine International

Convention Center, Manila, Philippines will be one major activity of the APSR in celebration of the Year of the Lung 2010. Scientific programmes and various conference activities have been updated on the official website: www.apsr2010.org

The latest announcement is that on November 22, 2010, there will be a pre-Conference Golf Fellowship/Tournament at the Club Intramuros Golf Course located within the Walled City of Intramuros, Manila. For registration and details please visit the website: <http://www.apsr2010.org/?p=social-golf>

Respiratory Updates

APSR Respiratory Updates (Vol 2:5) features **Pleural diseases**:

- Biomarkers of infection for the differential diagnosis of pleural effusions
- Biomarkers of heart failure in pleural fluid
- Thoracic ultrasound in the diagnosis of malignant pleural effusion
- The volume of pleural fluid required for accurate diagnosis of malignant pleural effusion
- Clinical impact and reliability of pleural fluid mesothelin in undiagnosed pleural effusions
- Kinetics of soluble mesothelin in patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma during treatment
- Guidelines for pathologic diagnosis of malignant mesothelioma
- Full postpleurodesis lung expansion and successful outcome after talc pleurodesis
- Pleural procedures and pleuroscopy
- Serum and pleural fluid biomarkers for mesothelioma
- Malignant pleural mesothelioma: an update on biomarkers and treatment
- CT appearances of pleural tumours

A new issue of APSR Respiratory Updates will be published within the next few days and available on the [website](#).

Read your free copy now, at www.apsresp.org/publications/resp-updates.html

Inside Respiriology

Early view of next Issue (Articles online in advance of print):

- Coagulation and inflammation biomarkers may help predict the severity of community-acquired pneumonia ([Abstract](#))
- Metabolic abnormalities in adults with cystic fibrosis ([Abstract](#))
- Creatine supplementation for patients with COPD receiving pulmonary rehabilitation: A systematic review and meta-analysis ([Abstract](#))
- Incidence of hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy associated with primary lung cancer ([Abstract](#))
- Early bronchiectasis in cystic fibrosis detected by surveillance CT ([Abstract](#))
- Indoor exposure to environmental cigarette smoke, but not other inhaled particulates associates with respiratory symptoms and diminished lung function in adults ([Abstract](#))
- Thoracic ultrasound prior to medical thoracoscopy improves pleural access and predicts fibrous septation ([Abstract](#))
- Asthma and insulin resistance in children ([Abstract](#))
- Lung metastasectomy in colorectal cancer: Is this surgery effective in prolonging life? ([Abstract](#))
- The future in paediatric respirology ([Abstract](#))

A new issue of Respiriology will be published soon. See the [website](#) for the latest.



Local respiratory society news

China

The 11th Annual Respiratory Congress, Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases, Changchun, August 19 - 22, 2010, and hot topics and updates on adult and pediatric respiratory medicine are included in the scientific programme. The abstract submission deadline is June 30, 2010. All abstracts should be submitted by email to csrd2008@126.com or online at www.csrd.org.cn.

Korea

The Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases held its Annual Spring Meeting at Busan. About 600 members attended the Meeting, which consisted of a Lung Cancer Symposium and a Year of the Lung Symposium. Professor Philip Thompson, the former Editor-in-Chief of the APSR's official journal *Respirology*, joined the Meeting as an invited speaker. The title of his lecture was 'Phenotypes of Asthma'. The title of the Year of the Lung Symposium was 'Geriatric Pulmonary Medicine'.

*(Reported by Dr. Young Hwan Kim
APSR Councillor from Korea)*



Regional health news

Hong Kong

Hong Kong lowers the influenza response level

Hong Kong lowered the influenza response level from 'Emergency' to 'Alert' on 24th May 2010, after the Emergency Response Level Steering Committee reviewed the most contemporary scientific evidence and assessed the local and global swine flu situation on 11th May 2010. The Human Swine Influenza (HSI) activity in Hong Kong peaked in September 2009 and thereafter showed a steadily declining trend over the following six months. The severity of HSI has remained static in the past few months. As at 12th May 2010, 280 cases of severe HSI had been recorded in Hong Kong. There were 80 fatalities cases, and 85% of them had at least one underlying co-morbidity or risk factor.

After scaling down the response level on 24th May 2010, most healthcare activities in Hong Kong have returned to the pre-HSI status. The Designated Flu Clinics (specialized in looking after patients with flu) will revert to their previous roles as general outpatient clinics. The level of infection control in hospitals and clinics will revert to the appropriate degree in the Alert Response Level. However, the influenza surveillance programme and the influenza vaccination programme will continue to function. The public are advised to stay vigilant and continue to practice good personal and public hygiene, a factor that was considered to be of paramount importance in containing the spread of HSI in the community.

(Submitted by Chun-kong NG, Hong Kong, May 17, 2010)



APSR Membership Status

The APSR membership currently consists of qualified professionals presently working in research or health care related to the field of respirology mainly from the Asia-Pacific Region. The present membership includes individual members and en bloc members. APSR members are also entitled to join the various Clinical Assemblies with the APSR.

APSR Members enjoy the benefits of receiving either online access or a print copy of *RESPIROLOGY*, being the official publication of the APSR, as well as regular dissemination of membership Bulletin, APSR Newsletter and Respiratory Updates.

APSR Members can also register for the APSR Congress and various ESAP activities at a discounted rate, tentative to organization of each activity. APSR Members will also enjoy discount membership fees for dual or even triple memberships with the American Thoracic Society (ATS) and the European Respiratory Society (ERS).

To stay connected with your colleagues in the region and globally, keep your APSR membership active and help build up the strength of APSR by recommending colleagues to join the APSR today.

Further details on membership category and application are available at www.apsresp.org/membership.html



Future Pulmonology Events

Here are the main respiratory events in Asia Pacific for the next few months. You can see our full listing on the APSR [Calendar](#).

- PCCP: Anti-Smoking activities
1st week June 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Cancer Survivor Day
6 June 2010 ([Details](#))
- TBNA/EBUS/Rigid Bronchoscopy Workshop
24 June 2010, Sabah, Malaysia ([Details](#))
- PCCP: Occupational and Interstitial Lung Diseases activities
July 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- PCCP: Lung Infection activities
August 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Immunization Awareness Month
August 2010 ([Details](#))
- 11th Annual Respiratory Congress, Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases
19-22 August 2010, Changchun, China ([Details](#))
- 10th International Conference of the International Mesothelioma Interest Group
31 August - 3 September 2010, Kyoto, Japan ([Details](#))
- PCCP: Critical Care & Sleep-Related Disorders activities
September 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- PCCP: World Pneumonia Day activities
October 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Healthy Lung Month
October 2010 ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Child Health Day
4 October 2010 ([Details](#))
- Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health (APACT)
6-9 October 2010, Sydney, Australia ([Details](#))
- 3rd Australian Lung Cancer Conference
7-9 October 2010, Melbourne, Australia ([Details](#))
- 2nd International Conference on Lung Health - PULMOCON 2010
13-14 October 2010, Dhaka, Bangladesh ([Details](#))
- PCCP: World Spirometry Day - Diagnostics and Therapeutics activities
14 October 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Respiratory Care Week
24-30 October 2010 ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Lung Health Day
27 October 2010 ([Details](#))
- CHEST 2010 - Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Chest Physicians
30 October - 4 November 2010, Vancouver, Canada ([Details](#))
- YOTL: Lung Cancer Awareness Month
November 2010 ([Details](#))
- YOTL: World Pneumonia Day
2 November 2010 ([Details](#))
- 8th Asia Pacific Congress of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology (APCAACI 2010)
7 November 2010, Singapore ([Details](#))
- PCCP: World COPD Day activities
17 November 2010, Philippines ([Details](#))
- 15th Congress of the APSR
22-25 November 2010, Manila ([Details](#))

For more pulmonology events, see www.apsresp.org/calendar
(These events are for information only and APSR endorsement should not be assumed.)



Contact

If you have any news or announcement that could be of interest to other APSR members, please submit details to the APSR Bulletin coordinators: Dr. David CL Lam (lamcl@hkucc.hku.hk), Prof. Shu Hashimoto (shuh@med.nihon-u.ac.jp), or APSR Bulletin (bulletin@apsresp.org).



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