RESPIRATORY DISEASES…ANOTHER HIGH-RISK DISEASE
IN THAILAND AND ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Among the air pollution and worsened environment, respiratory diseases are another high-risk disease affecting human's health, country development and causing economic losses. Currently, the situation of respiratory diseases ranks fourth in Asia Pacific region, while heart disease ranks first, followed by cancers and accidents. In Thailand, lung cancer ranks second to liver cancer in male and, at the same time, female tends to be affected with genital cancer, breast cancer, and lung cancer respectively. In children, nowadays, the prevalence of asthma increased from 4% to 13% during the last 20 years . These diseases can cause discomfort and suffering for patients, families, and work productivity.

Professor Arth Nana, President of the Thoracic Society of Thailand and of the Local Organizing Committee for the 13th Congress of Asian Pacific Society of Respirology stated that, "The respiratory diseases are mainly caused by the continuously increasing cigarettes smoking, constant changes in climate, and environmental pollution within the region. The Thoracic Society of Thailand has been interested in these topics for quite some time and has cooperated with other agencies to solve this problem. Thus, the 13th Congress of APSR 2008 will be organized under the theme, 'Optimal Use of Advanced Technology' and will feature pharmaceutical and medical innovations and products as well. The prevention and treatment of these problems should be everyone's concern. They must avoid the negative factors such as alcoholic beverage, smoking, dusty areas, and polluted environment and encourage positive activities such as exercise and consumption of healthy products. These are the fundamental ways in reducing the risk of respiratory diseases and promote the quality of healthy lives".

Interested persons can contact at Tel. 02-229-3333 or email at secretariat@apsr2008.org or visit the website, www.apsr2008.org for more information.