

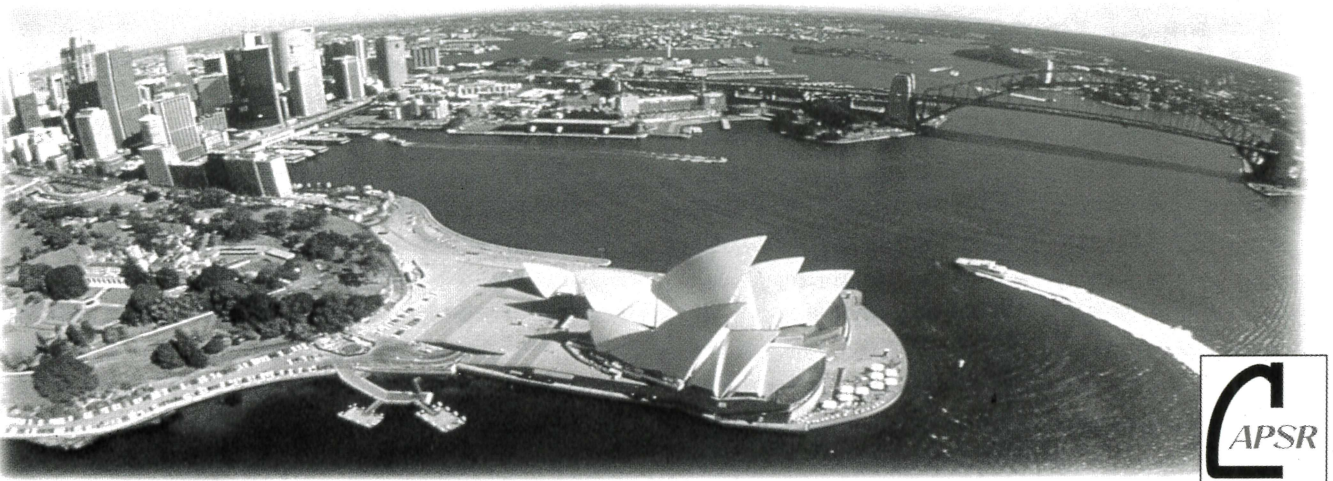


Newsletter

Editor : Shiro Kira

Associate Editors : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, J.Patrick Barron

5th Congress of The Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology



Invitation from Australia The 5th APSR Congress, 9 - 12 October 1998

Congress President J. P. Seale M.D.

The APSR extends you a warm invitation to attend its 5th APSR Congress in the Sydney springtime from 9-12 October 1998. I know that you will enjoy the educational and scientific aspects of the Congress as they have been carefully planned to address relevant issues for our region. The Program will feature leading respiratory clinicians and scientists from our own region, together with experts from Europe and the United States. It will comprise 10 major symposia on topics of importance such as sleep-related respiratory disorders, HIV and the lung, lung volume reduction surgery, acute respiratory infection in childhood, lung transplantation and several others. There will also be oral communications and posters which will be critically appraised in poster discussion sessions. There are sponsored symposia on changing approaches to asthma management and on the new asthma therapies such as the anti-leukotriene drugs.

The 5th APSR Congress in Sydney will be an ideal opportunity to build on the friendships and professional collaborations which have been initiated at the Society's previous Congresses. The APSR has members in more than 15 countries and regions. We sincerely hope that there will be representatives from each of these countries at the Congress.

The venue is the Sydney Convention Centre, a first-class purpose-built facility which is situated in the heart of the city and on the foreshores of the beautiful harbour. Accommodation has been reserved in a range of high quality hotels within easy walking distance of the Convention Centre.

Sydney, which enjoys a reputation for international cuisine and excellent wines at modest prices, promises a warm climate in October and friendly local hospitality.

The Organising Committee is honoured to be staging the 5th APSR Congress in Sydney in 1998 and we look forward to welcoming you here.

For further information and registration forms contact the Congress Secretariat.

Tel: +61-2-9262-2277 Fax: +61-2-9262-3135 E-mail: apsr98@ttourhosts.com.au

Please vote in the Council Election!!

Your contribution to the APSR

We are happy to note that our APSR activity is expanding fairly smoothly with a slight but constant increase in memberships, in increasing numbers of manuscripts submitted to our official journal RESPIROLOGY, and in selection for indexing, the most exciting event for our society in 1997, by Index Medicus and MEDLINE. Furthermore, the 5th Congress of APSR will be held in Sydney on 9-12, Oct. 1998 under the presidency of Professor J.P. Seale, Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Sydney. Through repeated discussions in the executive committee in Singapore, 1993 and Beijing, 1996, we reached the conclusion that we need the help of a Council to enhance active communication between the executive and the members of our society. We will have the first Council Meeting at the 5th Congress in Sydney. This is another step to expand the future activity of our society. Based on this recommendation, we have set up a process of voting for members of the Council before the coming Congress. I believe you have already received a letter of request for Nomination of Candidates for the Council Members for the APSR. I am sending another letter asking for your vote for the nominated Council Members for the society from your country or region with this Newsletter. We need you to contribute to the APSR by voting for the Council Members. Please send your vote to the Secretariat by the end of July, 1998.

Shiro Kira, M.D.
Secretary General of APSR
Professor Emeritus
Juntendo University and Jichi Medical College

Reports from Member Countries

Hong Kong, China

The Hong Kong Thoracic Society (HKTS), currently under the Presidency of Professor Mary Ip of the Division of Respiratory Medicine, University of Hong Kong, has doubled its membership in the past 2 years from 254 in 1996 to 644 in April 1998. Its main activities in 1997-1998 included the following:

1. Scientific Meeting at our Annual General Meeting on 19 April 1998, with participation by overseas speakers

- Current treatment strategies for non-small cell lung cancer (Dr. Karen Kelly, Colorado, USA)
- Silicosis - disability and compensation (Dr. Keith Prowse, President, British Thoracic Society)

In addition, there was a workshop on Pulmonary Exercise Testing, Radiology Grand Rounds and free paper sessions with a Best Young Investigator Award.

2. The HKTS, in collaboration with the HK & Macau Chapter of the ACCP and HK Lung Foundation, organized the Hong Kong International Allergy Forum in November 1997 with the main themes on the genetic and environmental bases of allergic diseases, rhinosinusitis and asthma management. The overseas guest faculty included Professor A. Woolcock from Australia, Dr. E. Bleeker and Dr. T. Platts-Mills from the USA, Dr. D. Metcalfe, Dr. R. Djukanovic, Dr. S. Durham, Dr. P. Howarth, Dr. S Johnston and Dr. L. Youlten from the UK, Professor M. Yeung from Canada, and Dr. S. Pederson from Denmark.

3. Other Scientific meetings with overseas speakers' participation: volume reduction surgery for emphysema (Dr. S. Hazelugg, USA), primary pulmonary hypertension (Dr. D. Shure, USA), chronic bronchitis (Professor R. F. Grossman, Canada), upper airway resistance (Professor C. Sullivan, Australia).

4. Organization of monthly clinical meetings presented by the 16 accredited respiratory training centers/departments on topics including occupational lung diseases, tracheal oxygen catheter, tuberculin test, snoring, pneumococcal vaccine, molecular diagnoses in TB and clinical case presentations.

5. Publication of a quarterly Newsletter (conjointly with the HK & Macau Chapter of the ACCP) with academic editorials, summary of clinical meetings, meeting notices, and society and professional news.

6. Sponsorship for overseas international conference attendance and presentation of papers: in the past year, we sponsored 17 members to attend 11 conferences, including the ATS Meeting, ERS Conference and ACCP Conference. In addition, the Hong Kong Lung Foundation (Chairman Professor W. K. Lam) has awarded 4 Fellowships 1997/98 to enable 4 of our young professionals (doctors or paramedicals) to undertake overseas training from 6 weeks to 6 months duration at Sydney (Australia), New York and Denver (USA), and Liverpool (UK).

7. Under the Specialty Board in Respiratory Medicine of the Hong Kong Academy College of Physicians (Board Chairman: Professor W. K.



Attendants at the JCS-APSR Workshop at Kumamoto

Lam), structured training programmes in respiratory medicine with annual assessments and exit assessments have started in 16 accredited training centers in Hong Kong.

The first annual assessment exercise will take place in June 1998. We very much wish to exchange ideas with all thoracic societies in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond regarding training in respiratory.

8. Hong Kong will be hosting the 20th IUATLD (Eastern Region) Congress on 4-7 June 1999. Hosted by the Hong Kong TB & Chest Association, the congress's Scientific program will be organized jointly by the HKTS and the HK & Macau Chapter of the ACCP under the Chairmanship of Professor Mary Ip.

Wah-Kit LAM, M.D.
University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

Japan

The 38th Annual Congress of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS) was held in Kumamoto City, Kumamoto prefecture on March 30 - April 1, 1998. The President of the congress was Professor Masayuki Andoh, M.D. and the venue was the Kumamoto Prefecture Theater.

The third JRS - APSR Workshop was held on March 31, 1998 during the annual congress of the JRS.

JRS - APSR Workshop Program
(09:00 - 11:30 March 31, 1998)

Special Lectures:

1. Nan Shan Zhong, M.D.

Beijing, China; Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Diseases

"Mechanism of Bronchial Hyperresponsiveness - The Interaction of Endothelin-1 and Other Cytokines".

2. Ann J. Woolcock, M.D.

Australia; Institute of Respiratory Medicine, University of Sydney

"Opportunities for Japanese-Australian Cooperation in Asthma Research".

General Lectures:

1. Ki-Suck Jung, M.D.

Korea; Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Hallym University Medical College, Seoul

"Evidence of Neutrophil Activation in Occupational Asthma".

2. Sun Yongchang, M.D. and Luo Wei-Ci, M.D.

Beijing, China; Department of Respiratory Disease, The Third School of Clinical Medicine, Beijing Medical University, Beijing

"The Effect of Glucocorticoid on T Cell Activation, IL-4 and -5mRNA. Expression in Patients with Steroid-resistant Asthma".

3. Kittipong Maneechotesuwan, MD.

Thailand; Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital Department of Medicine, Division of Respiratory, Disease and Tuberculosis, Mahidol University, Bangkok

"Melioidosis; An Exotic Pulmonary Infection in Thailand".

4. Kang-Hoe Lee, M.D., et al.

Singapore; Department of Medicine, National University Hospital

"Outcome of Low-Risk Community-acquired Pneumonias Admitted to Hospital; Potential for Cost-saving?"

5. LY Lao, M.D., et al.

Philippine; Philippine Heart and Lung Center
"Tuberculin Reactivity in Group of Filipino Children with or without BCG Vaccination Exposed to AFB Smear Positive TB Families; Its Reaction and Determinants - A Case Control Study".

6. Jeffrey Abu Hassan, M.D.

Malaysia; Department of Medicine University Kebangsaan Malaysia
"Bronchodilators in bronchiectasis".

7. Hirotsugu Kohrogi, M.D., et al.

Japan; First Department of Internal Medicine, Kumamoto University School of Medicine

"The Role of Cysteinyl Leukotrienes in the Pathogenesis of Asthma; Pharmacological and Clinical Study of the Leukotriene Antagonist Pranlukast"

Yoshinosuke Fukuchi M.D.

Chairman

The International Relations Committee of the JRS

Juntendo University

Tokyo Japan

Philippines

August of 1998, marks the 25th Anniversary of the existence of the Philippine College of Chest Physicians. For the last 25 years, the organization has grown stronger, not only in its increasing membership, but in all its activities to prevent and treat lung disease which remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality among Filipinos. According to the most recent information from the Department of Health, it has now been taken over by cardiovascular diseases. If this is a reflection of the vigilance of the country's practicing pulmonologists, then indeed the goals of the society are being served.

The formation of councils has been a major step to involve the members in the activities of the organization. There are now 13 councils, each with a chairperson and members. The Tuberculosis Council has a continuing consensus and recommendations. The Asthma Council is going throughout the country to disseminate the guidelines of asthma diagnosis and treatment according to the consensus developed by the council, based on the Global initiative of asthma. The Critical Care Council is conducting multicenter studies among accredited hospitals to formulate statements in the use of mechanical ventilation in Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease with acute respiratory failure that

will be relevant to the local medical situation. The Council on Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease is finalizing its statement consensus and guidelines on diagnosis and treatment, which would be responsive to the situations of medical practice in the country. In the council on Pulmonary Infection (Pneumonia), a consensus is being developed in conjunction with the Society of infection diseases.

Last February 2 to 4, 1998, members of the Philippine College of Chest Physicians, attended the course on Epidemiology in Pulmonary Disease conducted by the joint initiative of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology, and the Philippine Foundation for Lung Health Research and Development which coordinated the course. Members of training centers for Pulmonary Disease participated in the course. There were 42 participants of which 22 were adult pulmonologists, 6 pediatric pulmonologists, 8 senior pulmonary fellows in training and 4 research analysts working with pharmaceutical companies. The course was designed for 5 days from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Format of lectures and workshop followed the IUATLD/ATS design. Though this is an introduction to epidemiological research methodology, it is hoped that it will encourage high quality research projects relevant to the health needs of the particular population. Faculty of the course included Dr. Guy Marks, Peter Burney, Craig Mellis and Julie Simpson.

March 3 to 6, 1998, the 17th Annual Convention took place with almost 2000 participants discussing various topics in pulmonary disease such as critical care, infection, malignancies, airway obstruction, pharmacology, sleep disorders, congenital malformation, molecular biology, vascular disease and interaction of the lungs with various organs. During this meeting, new officers of the organization and new fellows were inducted. A vigorous business meeting was conducted to map out the strategies for the whole year.

Teresita S. de Guia, M.D.

Philippine Heart Center

Republic of Korea

The members of Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease met on April 11th 1998 for the annual spring meeting at Busan. The meeting consisted of a Workshop in the morning and a Congress meeting in the afternoon. The title of the Workshop was Emergencies in Respiratory

Medicine, discussing the pathogenesis of acute respiratory failure, dyspnea during mechanical ventilation, severe asthma, and surgical conditions in respiratory medicine. The number of participants was 303.

The congress meeting consisted of symposium and special lecture. The title of the symposium was Eosinophils and Pulmonary Disease and the title of the lecture was Antituberculosis Chemotherapy and Drug Resistance. A total of 373 members attended the meeting.

After the meeting, the members were informed about the APSR meeting in October at Sydney.

On April 25, during the spring meeting of the Korean Society of Internal Medicine at Kwang Ju, postgraduate course was conducted. The title of the course was Hypersensitive pneumonitis.

The members attended ATS meeting in Chicago, but the number of participants was fewer than previous years because of financial situation in Korea.

Young-Soo Shim, M.D.
Seoul National University

Taipei, China

The Society of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine (SPCCM), Taiwan, China is the official society in Taiwan that represents the interests of all of its members, which includes 500 pulmonary physicians, thoracic surgeons, respiratory specialists and physicians specializing in sleep-related respiratory disorders. The new president of SPCCM for the year 1997/1999 is Dr. Hsu-Tah Kuo.

Activities of the society

SPCCM, Taiwan has an annual congress and last year it was held in Taipei on 13th - 14th December 1997. There were 300 registrants and 72 abstracts presented as oral or poster presentations. The invited speakers included Dr. Han-Pin Kuo, who is the director of Department of Thoracic Medicine II, Chang-Gung Memorial Hospital in Taipei; Dr. James G. Martin, Director of Meakins-Christie Laboratories, McGill University in Montreal, Canada; Dr. Qutayba Hamid, Professor in McGill University; Dr. Steven M. Albelda, Professor of the University of Pennsylvania, USA; and Dr. Dean Schraufnagel, Professor of the University of Illinois at Chicago, USA.

The 1998 annual congress will be held on

December 12th-13th in Taipei.

The Research Club will meet on 29 May, 1998 and investigators of each medical center or hospital will present their works briefly during the meeting.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses for Critical Care Medicine 1997 were held on 5-day courses from September to October with over 240 participants. Such CME courses will be continued annually. CME for interpretation of chest radiography will be held on July 5 and 19 in Taipei and Taichung.

Workshop for the management of asthma, especially for physicians and nurses will be held in June 1998.

Ming-Jen Peng, M.D.
Secretary General of
SPCCM, Taiwan, China

Thailand

Over the past few years the Thai Thoracic Society has produced a variety of guidelines for the management of various respiratory diseases. The first Thai guidelines for the management of asthma were introduced and published in 1995 by the Thoracic Society of Thailand. These guidelines are intended to summarize references for clinicians. Due to differences in race, culture, socioeconomic background, level of education and traditional lifestyle between Thailand and those in Western countries, the guidelines were adapted to the needs of the country.

In 1996-1997, several other guidelines were subsequently released including the Thai guidelines on COPD, tuberculosis and occupational lung diseases. Each of these has combined a practical, common sense approach with backgrounds suitable to the socioeconomic environment in Thailand.

The guidelines were distributed to general practitioners and physicians throughout the country. Workshops and seminars were also organized in various parts of the country. Those guidelines have undoubtedly improved the quality of care for patients with respiratory diseases. The Thai guidelines on pulmonary diseases were widely accepted by the general practitioners and physicians in the country.

In order to test the applicability of the asthma treatment guidelines to improve asthma care at a district

hospital in Thailand, the treatment guidelines were instituted for asthma patients receiving care. Comparisons were made of various parameters of care before and after hospitalization and hospitalizations were dramatically reduced by following asthma guidelines. Education presumably influences behavior, as the quality of care given by physicians has been shown to be improved. More guidelines on the measurement of pulmonary function and care are in the stage of completion.

Suchai Charoenratanakul M.D. FRCP
Professor of Medicine
Mahidol University
Thailand

From the Editorial Board

I am very happy to announce to the members of the APSR that a new section for organized reviews on specific topics will be published in RESPIROLOGY beginning with the September issue. The editorial board sent letters of invitation to the national representatives of member countries and region last year stating that the board is planning to have review paper sections in our official journal, on specific titles by invitation from member countries, to introduce our activities in the region to the world. The planned topics will concern activities in member countries with (1) nonsurgical therapies for far advanced non-small cell lung cancer, (2) thoracoscopic procedures in lung and pleural diseases and (3) stenting procedures for stenotic airway lesions. The review section on "nonsurgical therapies for far advanced non-small cell lung cancer", is now in print and will appear in the coming September issue, with contributions from Dr. S. Clarke, Australia, Dr. W. K. Lam, Hong Kong, China, Dr. M. L. Liao, Shanghai, China, Dr. H. Kunitoh, Japan and Dr. C. T. Lee, Korea. All authors are very active in managing lung cancer patients and leading activities in this field in their respective countries. As you know, the treatment of these patients is still controversial and results are not satisfactory, not only for patients and their families, but also for their health care providers. Specialists treating patients with respiratory diseases, including lung cancer, are hoping for new developments and more satisfactory results in the quality of life of the patients and their survival. The editorial board is especially thankful to above-mentioned authors for their contributions to our official journal, and will welcome discussion and

comments on their reviews in the form of letters to the Editor not only from APSR members, but also from readers all over the world. We are sure you can look forward to the upcoming review section in *Respirology*!

Shiro Kira M.D.
Editor in Chief, *Respirology*
Professor Emeritus
Juntendo University and Jichi Medical College

9th European Respiratory Society Annual Congress (ERS) 19-23 September 1998

Geneva, Switzerland

ERS Headquarters Lausanne

1, boulevard de Grancy, CH-1006 Lausanne,
Switzerland

Tel: +41 21 613 0202

Fax: +41 21 617 2865

(General organization including registration is directly handled.)

Updated information is available

ERS Website

<http://www.ersnet.org>

Geneva/Palexpo Website

<http://www.geneva-tourism.ch>

20th Eastern Region Conference of the International Union Against Tuberculosis & Lung Disease (ERIUATLD)

4-7 June 1999

Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Center

Conference Secretariat

20th ERIUATLD Conference

Hong Kong Tuberculosis, Chest & Heart Diseases
Association

266 Queen's Road East

Wanchai, Hong Kong

Tel: +852-2572-3466

Fax: +852-2834-0711

Forthcoming important meetings in Respirology:

1998	September 19-23
	ERS meeting (Geneva, Switzerland)
	October 9-12
	5th APSR Congress (Sydney, Australia)
	December 10-13
	World Asthma Meeting (Barcelona, Spain)
1999	April 23-28
	ATS meeting (San Diego, USA)
	June 4-7
	ERIUATLD (Hong Kong, China)
	October 9-13
	ERS meeting (Madrid, Spain)
2000	August 30 - September 3
	6th APSR Congress World Lung Health Conference (Florence, Italy)

APSR Members (as of MAY 1998)

Country	Number
ARGENTINA	1
AUSTRALIA	54
BEIJING, CHINA	127
BRAZIL	1
CANADA	5
EGYPT	1
FRANCE	1
FRENCH POLYNESIA	1
GERMANY	1
HONG KONG, CHINA	18
ILE DE LA REUNION	1
INDONESIA	15
ITALY	3
JAPAN	334
KOREA	17
KUWAIT	3
MALAYSIA	7
NEW ZEALAND	3
PAKISTAN	1
PHILIPPINES	17
SAUDI ARABIA	6
SINGAPORE	8
SPAIN	1
SWEDEN	2
TAIPEI, CHINA	59
THAILAND	10
TURKEY	1
U.S.A.	8
UNITED KINGDOM	4
VIETNAM	3
Total	713

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President-elect:	Ann J. Woolcock
Past President:	Wan-Cheng Tan
Secretary General:	Shiro Kira
Treasurer:	Yoshinosuke Fukuchi

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R. O. Korea:	Young-Soo Shim
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Philippines:	Teresita S. de Guia
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Taipei, China:	Sze-Piao Yang
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President of the 5th APSR Congress in Sydney, 1998 J. Paul Seale

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