



# Newsletter

Editor : Young Soo Shim

Associate Editors : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, Takashi Horie, J. Patrick Barron, Yasutomi Yamanaka

## *Message from the President &*

### *Welcome Message from the Congress President*



It gives me great pleasure to extend this invitation for you to attend the 14th Congress of the APSR, its 3rd Joint Congress with the ACCP, and the 109th Congress of KATRD. The event, to be held in Seoul, Korea from 14th to 18th November 2009, is being made possible by the joint effort of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology and the American College of Chest

Physicians as co-organizers, and with the full support of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases as hosts. Dr. Kwun Fong, Chairman of the Central Congress Committee, and the Assembly Heads have been working hard with Dr. Chul Min Ahn and his colleagues from the Organizing Committee of the 14th APSR Congress, and Dr. Kalpalatha K. Guntupalli and her colleagues from the ACCP, to put together the scientific program, which has contents of interest to both researchers and clinicians. The program contains 22 symposia

covering recent developments and state-of-the art knowledge on asthma, COPD, respiratory infection, lung cancer, critical care medicine, pediatric lung disease, bronchoscopy and interventional techniques, respiratory neurobiology and sleep, pulmonary circulation and smoking cessation. There will be a special symposium on the new A(H1N1) influenza during the Congress to help APSR members to properly prepare for a possible pandemic. In keeping with the tradition of the APSR Congress, an ESAP program of "Manuscript Preparation and Presentation for Research in English Language" precedes the Congress. For post-graduate courses, the ACCP is organizing a "Workshop for mechanical ventilation and airway problems", and the APSR is organizing a "Chest imaging in workup of lung disease" and "Lung cancer-from diagnosis to management" sessions. The invited speakers from the Asia Pacific region, North America, Europe and elsewhere, are outstanding. The participants will be fortunate in acquainting themselves with a different cultural experience in Seoul. As the capital of Korea since 1392, Seoul has hosted Olympic Games, the FIFA World Cup Games and has been selected as the World Design Capital 2010. Attendants can appreciate the genuine traditional culture of Korea and at the same time enjoy the dynamic modern culture of Korea. Seoul is at its best in November with autumnal color changes of foliage and a pleasant climate, in addition to the warm hospitality of the people of the city. I am fully convinced that this Congress will provide you with memorable experiences both in scientific knowledge and cultural encounters.

The main goal of the APSR is to provide educational opportunities to its members. Last year we started the APSR short term travel fellowship and Dr. S M Abdulla Al Mamun from Bangladesh has visited Singapore for postgraduate training. Dr. Zosky and Dr. Ito were selected as the recipients of the ATS travel award and visited ATS 2009 in San Diego. (See the reports from each awardee on the following page.) At the Seoul Congress, there will be new travel awards in addition to the already established Congress travel awards, despite the worldwide economic hardship, to help needy ASPR members to attend the Congress. I appreciate the Organizing Committee of the Seoul Congress and hope this will be a new tradition of travel awards for coming Congresses.

Dr. Bing Lam, the Chairman of the Education Committee, is preparing an educational program on Bronchology and Sleep Medicine as part of the new ESAP and Roadshow program. He also plans to produce the APSR guidelines to improve the standards of clinical practice.

Respiratory Research Review, a monthly publication of the APSR, will be distributed to members again after some hiatus since the end of 2008. The editorial office will be in charge of publication and Dr.

Richard Beasley will continue his contributions to maintaining the publication's high standard. *Respirology*, the official journal of the APSR, has had a new Editor-in-Chief from Feb 1st 2009. Dr. Y C Gary Lee has assumed the position and plans to implement many changes to further improve the standards of the journal, strengthen its international profile, and take an active role in the educational activities of the Society (see the message from the Editor-in-Chief). On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the 14th Congress of the APSR and the 3rd Joint Congress of the APSR/ACCP, and the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology, I look forward to welcoming you in Seoul in November 2009.

YoungSoo Shim  
President/APSR and Congress  
President APSR 2009

### Message from the Secretary General

In early 2009, the APSR Secretariat office bid fond farewell to Hideko Cochrane, who has retired after many years of working as our Executive Officer. She has been the key liaison for this Society which comprises a huge spectrum of members, including the leadership, from all over the Asia-Pacific region. Her contribution to the development of the Society has been invaluable, and she is being very helpful in the transition process of her tasks to our new colleague, Mr. Yasutomi Yamanaka.

With the resounding success of the 13th APSR Congress in Bangkok in November 2008, the Organising Committee for the next Congress, to be held in Seoul, Korea in December 2009 as a joint event with ACCP, has been finalizing the scientific and other programmes, while preparation for the 2010 Congress in Manila, Philippines, is also gathering momentum.

In 2008, the new idea of "Roadshows" was introduced by the Education Committee. The concept is to conduct educational seminars or workshops which could be offered repeatedly in different places in the region. The essence is to develop core training materials, to be delivered by a group of core "instructors" who would be supported by any local expertise from the area in which the event is held. The first APSR Roadshow on Lung Function Testing, initiated by the Australian New Zealand Society of Respiratory Physiology, will be held in Hong Kong on October 30 and 31, 2009.

2010 has been designated as the Year of the Lung (YOTL) by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) of which APSR is a member, alongside others including the

ATS, ERS, ACCP, ALAT, PATS and IUATLD. Dr. Norbert Berend has written to member local respiratory societies in our region, and we hope that all member countries will make use of this "celebration" to promote lung health in their communities.

Mary Sau-Man Ip

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As of Volume 14 Issue 5 (July), I have taken over the editorship of *Respirology* from Prof. Phil Thompson. The effort and results of Phil's tireless contribution to the journal in the past eight years are there for all to see. It has provided us with a great platform to push the journal to higher grounds.

My three goals for the short, intermediate and long terms are:

- to continue to improve the quality and efficient running of the journal
- to increase the global profile of the journal
- for *Respirology* to take an active role in education and raising research interest and standard in the Asian Pacific region.

Specific changes that lie ahead are:

**1) Screening Manuscript Submissions:** We have started screening newly submitted manuscripts with an aim to immediately reject papers that are not up to our publication standard. This will reduce the workload of Associate Editors and editorial staff, and improve turn-around time. Approximately one-third of the original research papers are now rejected without external review.

**2) Increasing Standard of Acceptance:** With growing number of submissions but a steady acceptance rate of 30%, we have more manuscripts than we can publish. This is a good position to be in. It allows us to raise our standard to the highest level of established journals. We aim to raise the threshold of acceptance close to the standard of those journals. As a rough guide, we are aiming at a 20% acceptance rate.

**3) New Cover:** Together with the publisher, we have designed a new cover for the journal including different feature illustrations from the articles included in each issue.

**4) Editorials:** Instead of the editorials in the journal being written by the Editor-in-Chief, we are now inviting experts in the field to write accompanying editorials on highlighted papers in the same issue.

Several new and exciting Review Series are in the pipeline. Volume 14 Issue 5 will see the publication

of the first review in a series on 'Pulmonary Fibrosis', shortly followed in Volume 14 Issue 6 by the first review in another new series on 'Complications in Lung Procedures'. In addition, a series of novel, thought-provoking invited articles have been prepared to provide reviews 'with a difference'. The lead article in Vol 14 Issue 5 is a unique collection of the views of 13 key opinion leaders on the future directions for respiratory research. This will be followed by a 'Think Tank series' in 2010 highlighting visionary ideas of experts in major areas of respiratory care.

Medical journal publishing is unprecedentedly competitive, particularly in a time of global economical hardship. Change to adapt to the ever-changing world is essential to sustain further growth and establish the international standing of the journal. Blessed with an impressively devoted and efficient team of editorial office staff, *Respirology* is however quietly confident and excited about the journey ahead.

Y.C. Gary Lee  
Editor-in-Chief, *Respirology*

## Year of the Lung in 2010

As you may know, 2010 has been gazetted as the Year of the Lung (YOTL) and FIRS (the Forum of International Respiratory Societies comprising ATS, ERS, ACCP, APSR, ALAT, PATS and IUATLD) has decided to use this unprecedented opportunity to advocate international awareness of lung health in order to drive policy and action for lung care. Cancer, cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes are currently taking attention away from lung health issues. There are different lung health issues in different parts of the world but in the Asia Pacific region problems such as smoking, air quality and COPD, TB, avian flu and SARS, HIV and others should be promoted as part of the YOTL. A YOTL website and logo is being developed and the Edelman company has been engaged by FIRS to develop promotional materials, the aim of which is to inform the general public, agencies and policymakers.

From the APSR perspective, we are at a disadvantage in talking to policymakers, compared to the ATS and ACCP which deal with a single government, or the ERS which has a European Parliament. In our region it will be up to individual national societies, respiratory physicians and other health care professionals to lobby governments and launch campaigns but the APSR will offer assistance and support. We will also focus a part of the 2010 APSR Congress in Manila on lung health issues relevant to the YOTL and will stage press conferences, interviews and engage the media to highlight the YOTL. A

spirometry tent in central Manila, similar to the ERS spirometry initiative associated with their conference, is being considered. There is current discussion about collaborations with GARD (Global Alliance against Respiratory Disease) and the WHO in regard to the YOTL.

At this stage, I am informing you of this important opportunity to put lung health on the map in 2010 and urge you to take an active role. I will provide further information as well as promotional materials as soon as they are available.

Norbert Berend  
Chair, APSR YOTL Committee

## ESAP Report of Darwin

With the title of Current and Future Challenges of Respiratory Infectious Disease the 2009 ESAP was held at the Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin, Australia, immediately preceding the 2009 ASM of the Thoracic Society of Australia & New Zealand. The symposium was presented by a world-famous faculty drawn from the internationally recognised Menzies Institute as well as major loco-regional and international centres. An update of many of the key challenges in the battle against infectious disease was presented. Despite advances in anti-microbial therapies, infectious disease remains a major and ever-changing challenge. Potential new epidemics such as avian flu have created headlines across the world. More traditionally recognized pathogens, including tuberculosis, still remain a major cause of morbidity and mortality particularly in the developing world and the Asia-Pacific region. There are also particular challenges unique to the tropical areas. These problems relate to the emergence of resistant strains of organisms as well as the never-ending challenges of service delivery in remote and resource-limited areas. The symposium was attended by 40 participants.

### Program

#### Session One

Chair: Tom Kotsimbos

- 08:30 What's new with the flu?—Paul Tambyah, Singapore
- 09:00 A Prospective, Multinational Surveillance of Hospital-Acquired Pneumonia in Adults: ANSORP study – Doo Ryeon Chung, Korea
- 09:30 Lung Injury and Respiratory Distress in Severe Falciparum and Vivax Malaria – Graham Maguire, QLD
- 10:00 Morning Tea & Trade Exhibition

## Session Two

Chair: Paul Seale

- 10:30 Delivering Specialist Service to Remote Aboriginal Communities and Beyond – Malcolm McDonald, NT
- 11:00 Issues around TB screening-who and how? – Vicki Krause, NT
- 11:30 TB in the Torres Strait: Practical and Legal Problems–Graham Simpson, QLD

12:00 Lunch

## Session Three

Chairs: Jonathan Carapetis and Paul Torzillo

- 13:00 Developments in Conjugate Pneumococcal Vaccines–Rosalyn Singleton, USA
- 13:30 Melioidosis in Australia and beyond – Bart Currie, NT
- 14:00 Childhood Pneumonia: Global and Regional Issues – Kim Mulholland, NT
- 14:30 Suppurative Lung Disease in Childhood – Anne Chang, QLD
- 15:00 Close

Elisabeth Eaton

## **Councillor's Report**

### **The Bangladesh Lung Foundation (BLF)**

The BLF organized the First International Conference on Lung Health on February 21-22, 2008. It was attended by more than 600 registered participants from Bangladesh and about 30 doctors from abroad. Foreign Dignitaries included Prof. Norbert Berend, the President of the APSR, Prof. Toshihiro Nukiwa, former President of the Japanese Respiratory Society, A/Prof. Ron Tomlins Treasurer, IPCRG, Prof. V.K. Vijayan, Director, VP Chest Institute, India, Prof. Ashok Shah, President National College of Chest Physicians, India and Dr. Osman Yusuf, Member, Board of Directors, WAO. A large number of papers were presented on state-of-the-art issues in Respiratory Medicine. A special feature of the Conference was the Best Poster Award sponsored by the National Asthma Council, Australia which provided round trip air tickets enabling the awardees to attend the APSR Congress in Bangkok. BLF has forged a strategic alliance with the Bangladesh Society of Allergy & Immunology (BANSAL) to jointly organize all scientific programs. This allows for optimum utilization of limited resources. A total of 11 Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs, enabling the participation of about 1,500 physicians, have been arranged at medical schools and peripheral districts. Being first of its kind, it has generated great enthusiasm among the local physicians and we intend to continue the process.

One of our projects 'Hospital on wheels' has been endorsed by GARD at its recent meeting in Rome. Under this project, we intend to have a

mobile unit with Spirometry and other facilities traveling all across the country to treat the underserved population in the rural areas. We regularly participate in medical camps organized at different places in the countryside.

To enhance dissemination of state of the art knowledge amongst medical practitioners, BLF has embarked on the publication of a Lung Health Manual covering all aspects of respiratory diseases. The first volume on Asthma is in press.

We have also organized workshops on evidence-based medicine (EBM) for health professionals. The workshops were conducted by Dr. Abu NGA Khan, Assistant Clinical Professor in Pediatrics, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

BLF has been nominated by the American Thoracic Society (ATS) to disseminate the International Standards for Tuberculosis Care (ISTC) developed by the Tuberculosis Coalition for Technical Assistance within Bangladesh.

We are jointly sponsoring a Tele-Health project with the leading mobile telephone operator of the country, in which our members will respond to queries from the community on a help-line.

Our next congress on 'Total Lung Health' will be jointly organized with BANSAL in Dhaka on October 14-15. It will cover pulmonology, allergy and immunology. Interested participants are requested to visit our website [www.lungbd.org](http://www.lungbd.org).

Finally, BLF congratulates Prof Norbert Berend for his visionary proposal regarding the 'Year of the Lung 2010' campaign. We eagerly look forward to actively participating in the success of the activities within the campaign.

Asif Mujtaba Mahmud

### **Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (KATRD)**

KATRD held its 108th conference on April 11th in Jeju island with over 600 attendees. The topic of the conference was 'Mechanical Ventilation' and Professor Klaus F. Rabe from the Netherlands was invited to lecture on 'Severe asthma' and 'New Drugs for COPD'. The 4th Lung Cancer Symposium and the 29th Workshop (Respiratory Review of 2009) were held successfully along with the conference.

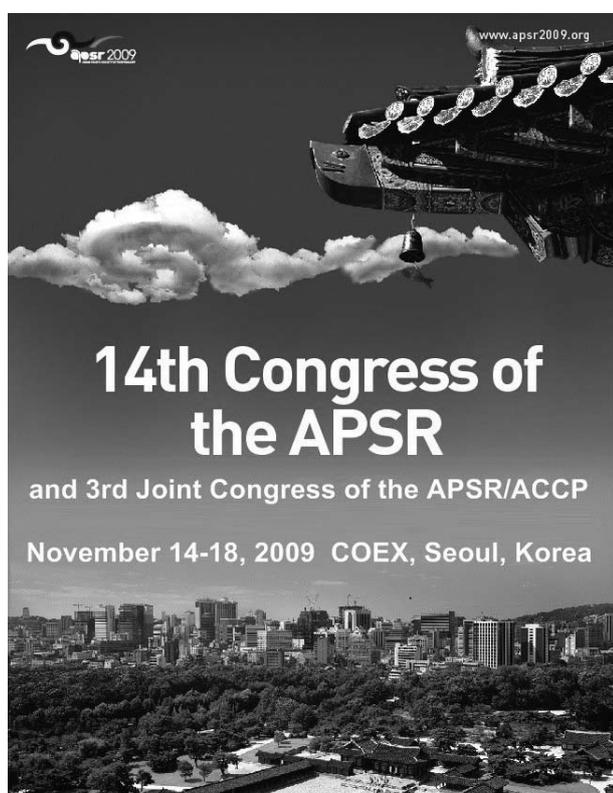
KATRD opened a 'COPD School' on March 21st in Seoul for the education of young pulmonology physicians in Korea.

Professor Sung Koo Han, the new chairman of the board of KATRD, raised research funds

for the cooperative researches among KATRD members, and opened the Respiratory Research Academy for the young pulmonary scientists. The first Respiratory Research Academy was held successfully on June 27th in Seoul.

The 14th Congress of the APSR and the 3rd Joint Congress of the APSR/ACCP are going to be held in Seoul, Korea between November 14-18, 2009. Scientific programs were finalized recently, and many distinguished speakers, especially from the ACCP and ATS, are being invited. We have also prepared many social programs for the participants to experience Korean culture and beauty. We hope many APSR members will attend the 14th Congress of the APSR in Seoul.

Young Whan Kim



### **Report from the award winners to attend the ATS International Conference**

In May 2009 I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the American Thoracic Society (ATS) conference in San Diego after receiving an APSR travel award. This was my fourth ATS conference and, as always, it was a very productive and worthwhile trip.

At the conference I was able to present my work on the effect of early life arsenic exposure via drinking water on post-natal lung function in one of the Environmental and Occupational Health thematic poster sessions. This work, using a mouse model of in utero arsenic exposure via

drinking water demonstrated that; 1) arsenic exposure in utero has the capacity to alter post-natal lung mechanics (volume corrected) and, 2) postnatal responses to in utero arsenic exposure are strain-dependent i.e. are genetically determined. These data provide direct mechanistic evidence for the epidemiological link between arsenic exposure via drinking water in early life and the development of obstructive lung disease.

I was also fortunate enough to be invited to act as a facilitator in the Environmental and Occupational Health thematic poster session on models of the cardiovascular effects of air pollution. The diversity of presentations and the expertise at the conference in the field of environmental health lead to some thought-provoking discussions. The feedback I received regarding my own work has helped me to focus the future directions of my studies on the link between early life exposures and long term respiratory health.

The size of the ATS conference meant that there were a plethora of sessions that were relevant to my research interests and I often found myself faced with difficult choices to make regarding which sessions I chose to attend. The ATS conference is the premier conference in terms of animal models of disease and lung physiology and this year in San Diego was no exception. Highlights for me included (but were not limited to) mini-symposia on new and emerging imaging technologies for assessing lung pathology, the physiological basis for airway hyperresponsiveness, and a session on the final day dedicated to the emerging field of systems biology which attempts to integrate data collected at a molecular level all the way up to the whole organism.

In addition to the excellent content of the sessions at the conference I had the opportunity to meet a number of world leading respiratory scientists and clinicians at networking functions including the Welcome Reception and Respiratory Structure and Function assembly dinner. These social functions allowed me to grow my international profile and the contacts that I now have will allow me to develop important collaborations in the future.

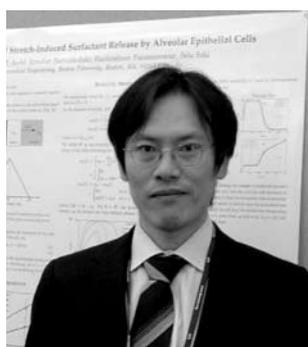
While this was my third trip to an ATS conference in San Diego I thoroughly enjoyed walking around the city and the weather was perfect for outdoor activities. Highlights for me were the street party style welcome reception and being able to attend a baseball game at Petco Park. I would personally like to thank the Asian Pacific Society for Respirology for providing me with this travel grant and I am

particularly grateful for the support of the APSR as an early career post-doc. While this is a stage of my life at which interacting with international scientists is a critical part of career development, there are very few travel awards available to attend international conferences and I hope that the APSR is able to support other early career researchers into the future.

Graeme Zosky

In May 2009, I was fortunate to be able to attend the ATS International Conference in San Diego, California, USA. Moreover, as an APSR Travel Award recipient, I was also invited to co-chair a mini-symposium session entitled 'Endothelium Function and Regulation', which was full of interesting abstracts, on Wednesday, May 20. This would have been my first time to chair a session at an international conference. Very regrettably, I had to miss this great opportunity.

On April 21, 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the USA first reported that two cases of febrile respiratory illness in children in southern California had been caused by infection with genetically similar novel swine influenza A/H1N1 viruses (MMWR 2009; 58:400-402). Soon after this news was reported, it turned out to be clear that Mexico experienced outbreaks of the same H1N1 influenza virus infection in several areas of the country in March and early April 2009. Several cases of severe respiratory illness and death due to the influenza virus infection were also reported (MMWR 2009; 58:467-470). Importantly, the ATS added a special International Conference session with experts in influenza and public health from Mexico and the USA on Tuesday, May 19. Since then, the virus has spread worldwide to more than 70 countries by human-to-human transmission so that the World Health Organization (WHO) raised the worldwide pandemic alert level to Phase 6 on June 11.



The mortality rate and severity of the influenza based on the recommendations of the CDC and the WHO appear to be much lower than predicted earlier. However, many countries, governments, and hospitals have been required to develop systems for diagnosing and treating flu-infected patients as soon as possible to maintain public health. At that time, most chest physicians in Japan, including our hospital, decided to cancel their attendance at the ATS Conference in order to manage probable cases

of the influenza virus infection. I also canceled my travel arrangements at the end of April. Later, thanks to the kind help from the APSR Office and Prof. Y. Hasegawa, Department of Respiratory Medicine of Nagoya University, I fortunately could re-book the flight tickets and hotel. But my stay in San Diego was three days shorter than originally scheduled.

On Sunday afternoon, May 17, I presented my work entitled 'Actin cytoskeleton regulates mechanical stretch-activated Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx in human lung microvascular endothelial cells' at the Poster-Discussion Session. Many functional properties of cells in the respiratory system are dynamically regulated by mechanical forces such as shear stress, pressure, and mechanical stretch both in physiological and diseased conditions. An excessive increase of intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration is considered to promote endothelial permeability and edema formation in the lung. One of my research projects is 'Mechanobiology of the Lung'. Specifically, I have investigated mechanisms underlying the Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx pathway activated by mechanical stretch in human microvascular endothelial cells which may play a role for pathogenesis of physical force-induced lung diseases such as ventilator-induced lung injury. Some of the attendees gave me useful suggestions on my work at the session, and I was impressed with some posters and discussion on endothelial cell regulation.

Another interesting Poster-Discussion Session I attended was 'Cellular and Tissue Response to Mechanical Stress' on Sunday morning, May 17. The session was very unique because it contained studies from different approaches, molecular biology, physiology, biophysics, and mathematical modeling. I had a wonderful time discussing hot topics on mechanobiology with many outstanding scientists. Very fortunately, I could meet Prof. B Suki, Department of Biomedical Engineering of Boston University. I worked in his laboratory as a post-doctoral research fellow from 2002 to 2004.

Finally, I wish to sincerely thank the APSR for supporting my travel to attend the ATS meeting as well as all members of the Nagoya University Respiratory Medicine Department. Although I missed the chance to co-chair the session on Wednesday, attending the ATS International Conference provided precious opportunities for me, as well as seeing friends from different countries.

Satoru Ito  
Department of Respiratory Medicine,  
Nagoya University Graduate School of  
Medicine

## APSR Short-Term Research/Training Fellowship Awardee Report

The following report was prepared after a two-month Training Fellowship by Dr. S M Abdullah Al Mamun at the Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine Department, National University Hospital, Singapore, as a Clinical Observer from 6th January to 6th March 2009.

I arrived in Singapore on January 5th, 2009 by Singapore Airlines, and reported to the National University Hospital training supervisor, Dr. Gerald Chua, on 6th January and Jenny Tao in the Medical Affairs Department on the same date. After reporting, I went straight to the Singapore Ministry of Manpower to receive a training visit pass for two months. After that, went to the Singapore Medical Council for temporary registration and then to the Singapore Medical Association for malpractice insurance. The total costs for these came to about S\$600.

On January 7th the training started. The first placement was in Medical ICU for one month. Each day, I had to enter the MICU by 7:30 am and continue to 5:30-6:00 pm. Everyday at 7:30 am we met in the MICU conference room for clinical discussion about the admitted patients, followed by the consultant's rounds. The exception was Thursday, when we attended the professor's Grand Rounds. In each day from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm I attended the lunchtime meeting: Monday- Tumor board, Tuesday- Lung function seminar, Wednesday-Breathing club, Thursday- Grand Rounds (Medicine Department), Friday-Mortality meeting.

During training in MICU, I went through procedures such as intubations and central venous line setup. I observed the management of patients, such as severe pneumonia, ARDS, severe sepsis, severe acute asthma with mechanical ventilation, and AE of COPD with NIV. In the second month I was placed in the General Respiratory Ward and the Sleep Medicine Lab.

Throughout the training period I also observed procedures such as FOB, EBUS, thoracoscopy and lung function test. I attended five workshops on various respiratory procedures, managed by my supervisor Dr. Gerald and Professor T K LIM.

S M Abdullah Al Mamun  
Training Fellow  
National University Hospital Singapore



Dr. Mamun expressed his thanks to Prof. Norbert Berend and Mrs. Hideko Sato Cochrane of the APSR, his home supervisors A/Prof. M D Mohiuddin Ahmad and consultant Dr. Hasibur Rahman, and his host supervisors Dr. Gerald Seng Chua and Prof. T K Lim.

The hosts, the National University Hospital, reported that Dr. Mamun had been attached to the:

1. Medical Intensive Care Unit
2. Medical High Dependency Unit
3. Sleep Disordered Breathing Unit
4. Sleep Lab
5. Endoscopy suite

They acquainted him with the following procedures:

1. Rapid sequence intubation
2. Invasive mechanical ventilation
3. Non-invasive ventilation
4. Invasive and non-invasive hemodynamic monitoring
5. Pulmonary artery catheter insertion
6. Percutaneous tracheotomy insertion
7. Central venous line insertion – landmark & ultrasound guided techniques
8. Renal replacement therapy in the ICU
9. Small bore pleural catheter insertion
10. Semi-rigid pleuroscopy
11. Endobronchial ultrasound-guided transbronchial needle aspiration of lymph nodes
12. Overnight polysomnography
13. Bedside ultrasound of the heart, central veins and pleural cavity

He attended workshops on:

1. Primer on Intensive Care Medicine, NHG College (half day)
2. Basics of Respiratory Medicine, NHG College (half day)
3. Central Line Insertion Workshop, National University Heart Centre (half day)
4. Crisis Resource Management, 10th SEMS AGM (full day)

The hosts reported that “Dr. Mamun had displayed a keen interest in his work. His professionalism and work attitude were excellent. He provided helpful insights to the ward rounds he joined. He contributed to the

division's educational programme by delivering a lecture to respiratory medicine trainees. We are confident that he will put to good use the new knowledge and clinical experiences he received."

### Homage to outgoing Executive Manager

Mrs. Hideko Sato Cochrane left the APSR secretariat earlier this year. She joined us in 1998 as administrator of this Society at the Tokyo office and started her career in helping the 5th APSR congress in Sydney together with Drs. Shiro Kira (Secretary General) and Yoshinosuke Fukuchi (Treasurer). Since the launch of the APSR in 1986 we had difficult times with effective maintenance of secretariat work due to limited funding and a lack of experienced hands in handling daily work. The latter became of least concern for the first time after Hideko established a more efficient and more organized style of managing the Society business. She has been instrumental in nurturing development of the APSR while staying with us as an executive manager over these 11 years. To name a few, she was responsible for manuscript handling for Respiriology until Phil took the position of editor in chief. En bloc membership opened up a new horizon to increase the membership and this was only possible with close communication with the president, as well as the chair of the strategic planning committee, via the secretariat. In a sense, she became the face of this Society in many international and inter-society meetings through her modest yet warm-hearted character. All those who enjoyed working with her were impressed by her punctual, meticulous and rapid responses to given tasks. We all tried very hard to convince her that the APSR wish her to carry on for a few more years. But she is determined and has now officially left the Society. It is fortunate to know that she will remain involved in the secretariat work as a part-time consultant for at least a year. This will help Mr. Yasutomi Yamanaka, our incoming executive manager, to get a good grip on the complex business at the APSR/APTA secretariat.

We all deeply appreciate your great contribution to make this Society what it is.

Wishing you good health and a happy retirement,

Yoshinosuke Fukuchi  
Juntendo University, Tokyo Japan  
Past President/ APSR

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

### 2009

ERS 2009 Annual Congress  
12-16 September 2009, Vienna, Austria  
Website: [www.ersnet.org](http://www.ersnet.org)

CHEST 2009 Annual International Scientific Assembly of the ACCP  
31 October – 5 November 2009, San Diego, USA  
Website: [www.chestnet.org/CHEST/](http://www.chestnet.org/CHEST/)

14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology/3rd Joint Congress of the APSR/ACCP  
14-18 November 2009, Seoul, Korea  
Email: [apsr2009@intercom.co.kr](mailto:apsr2009@intercom.co.kr)  
Website: [www.apsr2009.org](http://www.apsr2009.org)

11<sup>th</sup> International Meeting on Respiratory Care  
3-5 December 2009, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Website: [www.respina.org](http://www.respina.org)  
Autumn Respiratory Seminar  
22 November 2009, Hongkong

Annual Meeting of Taiwan Society of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine  
12-13 December 2009, Taiwan  
Email: [spccm@mars.seed.net.tw](mailto:spccm@mars.seed.net.tw)  
Website: [www.tsppcm.org.tw](http://www.tsppcm.org.tw)

### 2010

2010 ANZSRS/TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting  
19-24 March 2010, Brisbane, Australia  
Website: [www.anzsrs.org.au/](http://www.anzsrs.org.au/)

The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society  
23-25 April 2010, Kyoto, Japan  
Website: [www.jrs.or.jp](http://www.jrs.or.jp)

ATS International Conference  
15-19 May 2010, New Orleans, USA  
Website: [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org)

ERS Annual Congress  
18-22 September 2010, Barcelona, Spain  
Website: [www.ersnet.org](http://www.ersnet.org)

CHEST 2010 –Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP  
30 October – 4 November 2010, Vancouver, Canada  
Website: [www.chestnet.org/CHEST/](http://www.chestnet.org/CHEST/)

15<sup>th</sup> Congress of the APSR  
22-25 November 2010, Manila, Philippines  
Website: [www.apsresp.org/congress/2010.php](http://www.apsresp.org/congress/2010.php)

Annual Meeting of Taiwan Society of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine  
11-12 December 2010, Taiwan  
E-mail: [spccm@mars.seed.net.tw](mailto:spccm@mars.seed.net.tw)  
Website: [www.tsppcm.org.tw](http://www.tsppcm.org.tw)

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Executive Manager: Mr. Yasutomi Yamanaka