Message from the President

This new year 2023 is earmarked with the inheritance of experience and memory from a successful APSR 2022 Congress in Seoul.

With the tremendous efforts ploughed in by the Local and the Central Congress Committees, we had an APSR Congress in 2022 held face-to-face. Preparation and organization were not easy, but it has again proven to be feasible and fruitful. We all treasured this opportunity to network with colleagues. We could finally meet each other, not just by virtual means basically like talking to computer screens.

It was nice to meet old friends and at the same time meet new friends at the Congress. We had missed seeing lots of APSR members during the pandemic period, and thanks to the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (KATRD) who had made this happened. We started the Congress with the new Joint workshop with UNION APR, WHO SEARO, and WHO WPRO-APSR; a workshop on the Big Five Lung Diseases. The Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) held a hybrid meeting within the Congress and we were grateful the President of FIRS, Dr Heather Zar, travelled all the way to Seoul to chair the meeting on site for us. It was also golden opportunities to meet with the leaders of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) and the European Respiratory Society (ERS) with discussion and exchange of collaborative ideas. We appreciated the support from APSR en bloc member societies who came and met with APSR leaders, giving us clear thoughts on how to meet the needs and engage en bloc members. The benefits of having physical meetings were fully realized with the various Assembly Meetings where educational sessions as well as selected abstracts and award-winning abstracts were proffered.

We did miss some other APSR members who were not able to join on site and we are looking forward to meeting them again in future Congresses or other APSR activities.

Inside the APSR, members of the various standing committees, including the Research, Education, and Membership committees, as well as the Respirology Editorial Board, are changing to new terms of office and we are looking forward to see their new faces. They will certainly need your support in the development and implementation of new initiatives. In the year ahead, we will be revamping and resuming activities or initiatives that were suspended or slowed down before.

In Chinese zodiac, the year 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit, which is a positive sign of hope and life, and I wish all APSR members a healthy and prosperous New Year 2023!

David CL Lam

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Message from the new President-Elect

Over the past three years, COVID-19 has disrupted normal life and established a new normal everywhere in the world. The APSR also faced many difficulties, but continued academic activities through congresses in hybrid format, educational webinars, and teaching library for cases. In addition, close cooperation with other societies such as the ATS and ERS has been achieved through video conference. APSR 2022, held in Seoul in November 2022, was the first congress in 3 years in an in-person format, more people attended than expected, and it ended successfully. I think the enthusiasm of many attendees to meet face to face and exchange academic opinions couldn’t be greater. APSR 2022 is thought to be a turning point where the in-person format congress can continue in the future.

Now the new year of 2023 has dawned. Although COVID-19 has not completely disappeared yet, we do not think it will have a significant impact on APSR academic activities because we have gained confidence that
we can cope with COVID-19 well through our experiences. The APSR will increase opportunities and support for research activities to raise the level of academic activities, and if cooperation with other academic societies is simplified, it is thought that great attention should be paid to improving the quality of respirology. We will also need to pay attention to education through securing educational materials and activating educational webinars. In 2023, we all have to run hard for these things. To accomplish all these things, active participation and cooperation of all members is essential, so once again, I would like to ask for your help.

In 2023, I wish all of you good health, and achieve all that you have planned to do.

Chul-Gyu Yoo

Message from the Co-Editors in Chief of Respirology

We would like to wish all members of the APSR a happy new year and thank you for your support in 2022.

During 2022, we’ve seen more articles downloaded, more manuscripts accepted for publication, and a quicker time to final decision and publication. The majority of submitted manuscripts and published articles continue to be from authors with affiliations in the Asia-Pacific Region. The proportion of submissions related to COVID-19 is decreasing but Respirology publications on the topic continue to be of great interest to our readership. The 2021 Impact Factor was released in June and has remained strong at 6.175. This is a slight drop from last year’s result and has been influenced by changes to the IF calculation – an explanation about these changes can be found in this online blogpost from Clarivate. Respirology is now ranked 15th out of 65 Respiratory System journals in Clarivate’s Journal Citation Reports. The full journal statistics and metrics data can be found in our 2022 annual report, which is now available on the APSR webpage (https://www.apsrresp.org/archive/annual-reports.php) and was also presented at the APSR Congress in Seoul.

The congress was also an opportunity to put the spotlight on the Fukuchi Award-winning papers: Outcomes of protracted bacterial bronchitis in children: A 5-year prospective cohort study and ACE2 expression is elevated in airway epithelial cells from older and male healthy individuals but reduced in asthma. Authors Stephanie Yerkovich and Peter Wark travelled to Seoul to accept the award on behalf of all their co-authors. We thank panel members Antonio Anzueto, Sanjay Chotirmall and Young Whan Kim for selecting the winners from a shortlist of 11 papers that have been published as a Virtual Issue collection on our website.

Another newly published article collection is the Review Series on Emerging Innovations, Interventions and Directions in Thoracic Imaging – edited by David Parsons, Kenneth K. Lau and John M. Troupis – which expertly addresses the most recent innovations in the field of thoracic imaging and intervention covering advances in magnetic resonance imaging, interventional radiology, computed tomography, radiomics, x-ray velocimetry and artificial intelligence. The Virtual Issue collection on Leading Women in Respiratory Medicine has now also been finalized with the addition of three articles about the role of the APSR, ERS and ATS in supporting women and promoting gender equity. In response to these articles, Respirology is actively working to achieving gender balance on its Editorial Board.

Since our last newsletter, we have appointed Macy Lui (Hong Kong) and Kazuhiro Yatera (Japan) as Deputy Editors, Pei Yee Tiew (Singapore) as Associate Editor, and Darren Mansfield (Australia) as Senior Editor. We also warmly welcome the following new Editorial Board members: Kazuhsa Asai (Japan), Ken Ka Pang Chan (Hong Kong), Triya Damayanti (Indonesia), Aileen David-Wang (Philippines), St. Duong Quy (Vietnam), Ji Ye Jinng (the Republic of Korea), Albert Yick-Hou Lim (Singapore), Asif Mujtaba Mahmud (Bangladesh), Masahide Oki (Japan), Kazuko Yamamoto (Japan) and Duminda Yasaratne (Sri Lanka). We would like to sincerely thank Deputy Editor Garun Hamilton who has stepped down to take on another role, and outgoing Editorial Board members Denise Anderson, Fumihiro Asano, Arata Azuma, James Chalmers, Ngo Quy Chau, David Feller-Kopman, Jack Gaudie, Yoshinori Hasegawa, Mohammad Rashidul Hassan, John Helfner, Jim Hogg, Martin Kolb, Richard Li-Cher Loh, Dushanta Madegedara, M. Arafenn Nawas, Masuharu Nishimura, Saly Saint, Huahao Shen, Ross Vlahos, Chong-Jen Yu.

We would like to make a special mention of Respirology’s Medical Education Editor, Mark Lavercombe, who has made a significant contribution in 2022 with a quarterly column that discusses the findings of recent Respirology publications with specific ongoing educational value. These columns accompany the expanding collection that is made available through the APSR website.

We’re launching another new column in 2023 called Personal Reflections, with the first set of three published in Respirology’s January issue. We have recruited a group of regular columnists who will each contribute several brief personal reflections throughout the year, on interesting and wide-ranging topics of their choice. We hope that readers will enjoy starting to follow their favourite writers and that these publications will foster dialogue about a wide variety of contemporary issues.

Finally, we’d like to thank all our authors,
reviewers and members of the Editorial Board for their contributions, and the APSR members and leadership for their strong support. We look forward to working together on making 2023 another successful year for Respirology.

Philip Bardin
Paul Reynolds

Message from the Editor
in Chief of Respirology Case Reports

As we write this message, we have just presented another successful year of operation in our annual report of Respirology Case Reports to the APSR Executives. Respirology Case Reports submissions (261 predicted for 2022 vs. 247 in 2021) and published (171 in 2022 vs. 175 in 2021) manuscripts remained steady in 2022.

We received manuscripts from 31 different countries (compared to 34 in 2021). The majority of submissions originated from Japan (40%), followed by Australia (12%), China (5%), Malaysia (5%) and Taiwan (5%). 78% of submissions are from the Asia-Pacific region.

We received 29 manuscripts to date on COVID-19 and published 27 in 2022. All COVID-19 related papers published are accessible in a special collections on our website: Special collection COVID-19

The acceptance rate remains high and stable at 73% and on average, the authors are informed of a first decision within 18 days of submission. The articles, once accepted, are published online within a few weeks and then available on PubMed Central within couple of weeks.

Over the years, Respirology Case Reports has evolved and grown to be able to cater for the need for new article types, such as clinical images, which we started publishing in 2017. As such we are currently preparing the journal’s website to be able to consider the submission of clinical trial protocols from March 2023 following receiving enquiries and interests in this article type. If you wish to submit a clinical trial protocol, please contact the editorial office for updates on when this will launch.

Respirology Case Reports is strongly supported by the APSR members, who represent about 61% of the manuscripts published. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their support of our journal. All APSR members continue to benefit from a 50% discount on the open access publication charge on case reports and case series published in Respirology Case Reports and we hope to see many more members submit to our journal. Some other countries in the region, are offered a waiver of the open access publication fee by our publisher, Wiley, so we encourage authors from these countries to take advantage of this opportunity to publish in our journal. For an up-to-date list of countries benefiting from discount or waiver, please visit the journal’s website: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20513380/homepage/article_publication_charges_and_discounts.htm and https://authorservices.wiley.com/open-research/open-access/for-authors/waivers-and-discounts.html

We awarded the Respirology Case Reports Poster award for the best case report poster presented at the APSR 2022 to Dr Nikko John Dalisay for the poster: “Clinical Outcome of Supervised Pulmonary Telerehabilitation Program among Adult Patients with Post-Acute COVID-19 Symptoms (PACS): A Case Series”. Dr Nikko John Dalisay and colleagues received a waiver of the open access publication fee if their manuscript is submitted and accepted for publication in Respirology Case Reports, as well as editorial assistance to prepare their manuscript for publication. Previous years’ winning papers published in the journal can be found here: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)2051-3380.poster-award

Many excellent case reports were presented at the recent APSR Congress in Seoul and we encourage the presenters to consider submitting their work to Respirology Case Reports and take advantage of the 50% discount on the open access publication charge for APSR members. For more information and to submit your case report, please visit the journal’s webpage: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20513380/homepage/forauthors.html

Our readership remains global, and has again increased, with the number of downloads reaching over 350,000 (from Wiley’s 2021 Annual Report). The list of the top 10 downloaded case reports from Wiley Online library is available on the journal’s webpage: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20513380/homepage/mostaccessed.html

As of 2020, Respirology Case Reports has been included in the Emerging Sources Citation Index. The ESCI is accessible through the Web of Science and the journal’s inclusion in the ESCI has increased its visibility and provides a mark of quality. In 2023, all journals in the ESCI will receive an impact factor.

Respirology Case Reports has a 2021 CiteScore of 1.2. CiteScore2021 counts the citations received in 2018-2021 to articles published in 2018-2021, and divides this by the number of publications published in 2018-2021. In CiteScore’s Pulmonary and Respiratory Medicine category, Respirology Case Reports is ranked 106/140.

The journal continues to be widely promoted on different channels with the distribution of electronic table of content (eTOC) alerts via email and via the APSR Bulletin. We have continued
to advertise the journal on the *Respirology* and APSR websites, as well as those of other societies. Wiley ran email campaigns for Top Cited, Top Downloaded. Calls for submissions from prospective and current authors as well as Wiley Open Access marketing. We send a message on Twitter each time a case report is published and have noticed that some case reports have attracted a lot of comments and activity on this social media. Case reports published in 2021-2022 received 1,269 mentions online. Twitter was the main source of mentions (1,255), followed by 4 online news mentions, 1 Wikipedia, 3 Facebook, 2 video and 1 blog mention.

In 2021, we farewelled our Associate Editors Peter Wark (Australia) and Jonathan Williamson (Australia) who stepped down due to other commitments. We welcomed new Editors Andrea Ban Yu-Lin (Malaysia), Uma Maheswari Krishnaswamy (India), Kazuyuki Nakagome (Japan) and Philip Eng (Singapore) as Associate Editors. Jennifer Ann Mendoza-Wi (Philippines) was appointed as Specialist Editor for Clinical Images. Simon Joosten, who was already an Associate Editor, was moved to the team of Specialist Editors for Clinical Images with Belinda Miller and Jennifer Wi to respond to the growing popularity of this article type and share the workload. Over the course of the year, we have been introducing our Associate Editors to APSR members and our readers by posting their bios in the APSR Bulletin and on Twitter. We hope that you have enjoyed this feature and we will keep introducing new Editors on these channels. We are indebted to our Associate Editors for their work in assessing all the manuscripts submitted to the journal we would like to thank each one of them for their commitment and support, their expert advice and for championing the journal. We also acknowledge our Deputy Editors, Philip Bardin, Peter Eastwood, Gary Lee and Paul Reynolds who provide guidance and support to the journal.

There is a hardworking team behind *Respirology Case Reports* who need to be acknowledged and thanked including Dr Lieve Bultynck, Managing Editor, and Dr Christel Norman, Deputys Managing Editor who ensure that the journal runs smoothly on a daily basis, as well as the rest of the Editorial Office staff, the team at Wiley and the APSR Secretariat.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a healthy and prosperous 2023.

Keiko Kan-o

Message from the APSR Education Committee Chairperson

Even as we begin a new year in 2023, we look forward to this new chapter with greater expectations than usual. The past year has been horrid with wave after wave of new Covid infections driven by new variants, the Ukraine war, inflation at record levels worldwide, stampede tragedy in Itaewon, Seoul, economic crisis in Sri Lanka.... the list goes on. Fortunately, for most of us, over the past few months, we have decided to bite the bullet to restart one of our favourite pleasures; i.e., holiday travel. It has been refreshing and words just cannot describe that special feeling.

At the Education Committee, we are now finalising the process of refreshing the Committee with a few new faces expected. In January 2023, we expect to put out a special edition of the *Respiratory Updates* with the topic, “COVID-19 – 3 years on” with the top 10 or so peer reviewed scientific articles on COVID-19 published in the past 12 months. The APSR Cappuccino chat section of the APSR monthly Bulletin has received good feedback but we need more members to step up and tell us about their special hobbies, interests or exciting travel habits. We also have in mind a few new and exciting webinar education programmes, so watch this space. This year, we also expect to put in place a channel for feedback/suggestions/criticisms of our programmes. In the meantime, please do feel free to email me directly at drphilipeng@singnet.com.sg if you have any bright ideas or you feel like contributing something unique.

Season’s greetings.

PS Please continue to stay safe.

Philip Eng

Message from the new APSR Research Committee Chairperson

APSR launched the Multi-Society Research Project (a two-year grant, formerly called Multi-Country Research Project) in 2020, and the second funded research project was selected in 2022. The first funded project was on “Multi-Country Research Project on Pulmonary Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM) disease”. This research was led by Dr Ho Namkoong (PI), Dr Naoki Hasegawa, Dr Kozo Morimoto, Dr Takanori Asakura from Japan, Dr Rachel Thomson from Australia, and Dr Byung Woo Jhun from the Republic of Korea. The 3rd project report was reviewed by the Research Committee.

The new funded project on “Validation of soluble programmed death-1 in predicting progression of nodular-bronchiectatic form of nontuberculous mycobacterial lung disease: a Multi-Country Research”. This study is being led by Dr Chin-Chung Shu (PI), Dr Sheng-Wei Pan, and Dr Yao-Wen Kuo from Taiwan, Dr Jae-Joon Yim from the Republic of Korea, and Dr Kozo Morimoto from Japan.

In addition to the Multi-Society Project, the Research Committee is involved in the Assembly
Fund Project selection process. The Committee reviews applications and proposes the selection. A funded project on “Developing a novel synthetic lethal treatment with targeting long non-coding RNA (IncRNA) for KRAS-mutated lung cancer” was led by the Cell and Molecular Biology Assembly.

There were two young investigators for the APSR Short-Term Research/Training Scholarship. Dr Arjun Khanna from India postponed his starting time due to COVID-19 in 2021, but he studied in Thailand during 2022. Dr Vimal Raj R from India started his term on 17th October 2022.

There were Travel Awards selection for the ATS and ERS as before, and selection for an educational leader and a trainee for the Resident Boot Camp at the ATS Congress 2022.

Chin Kook Rhee

Message from the APSR Membership Committee Chairperson

Happy New Year to all members of the APSR.

Membership category
There are two types of membership in the APSR; en bloc membership and individual membership.

A new category for individual members started in April 2021; Ordinary membership, Associate membership, and Undergraduate Student membership.

The total number of members in each category, for all en bloc and individual members, is 17,949 Ordinary members, 686 Associate members, and 11 Undergraduate Student members.

En Bloc membership
There are currently 13 en bloc member societies and the total number of en bloc members is 18,097.

APSR en bloc member societies are as follows:
BLF, Bangladesh Lung Foundation (197 en bloc members)
HKTS, Hong Kong Thoracic Society (181 en bloc members)
ISR, Indonesian Society of Respiralogy (515 en bloc members)
JRS, Japanese Respiratory Society (13,231 en bloc members)
KATRD, Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (1,000 en bloc members)
MTS, Malaysian Thoracic Society (287 en bloc members)
MRS, Mongolian Respiratory Society (40 en bloc members)
PCCP, Philippine College of Chest Physicians (251 en bloc members)
STS, Singapore Thoracic Society (64 en bloc members)
SLCP, Sri Lanka College of Pulmonologists (84 en bloc members)
TSPCCM, Taiwan Society of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine (650 en bloc members)
TSANZ, Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (1,515 en bloc members)
VNRS, Viet Nam Respiratory Society (82 en bloc members)

Individual membership
The number of individual members is 549 from 43 countries. From 2022, members who have not paid for two years are treated as withdrawals, and members who have not paid for one year are suspended members.

FAPSR member
FAPSR applications have clearly increased. The application has been suspended since 30 June 2022 to review the current criteria, and the Membership Committee is working on establishing new application criteria for FAPSR.

The total APSR membership has exceeded 18,000 members.

As the chairperson of the APSR Membership Committee, I hope all members of the APSR enjoy the privilege of membership of the APSR.

Yasutaka Nakano

Report from the 26th APSR Congress President

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The 26th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiralogy has been successfully held at COEX, Seoul, from 17 to 20 November 2022, under the theme "Above and Beyond"—after it was delayed for a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were delighted to welcome many excellent speakers from around the world to our first Congress convened in person following the outbreak. In this Seoul Congress, there were as many western speakers as local and Asia-Pacific speakers, in contrast to previous occasions when there were only a few speakers from the west.

Opening Ceremony
Thanks to the close cooperation of the Central Congress Committee (CCC), the Assembly leaders, and the Local Congress Committee (LCC), we were able to expand the opportunity to study various programmes and learn expertise from scholars. By touching upon many themes highlighted recently, we were thoroughly prepared to host a true global-scale Congress. As a result, we successfully operated 8 Pre-congress Workshops including 6 Plenary Lectures, 2 Hands-on Sessions, 35 Assembly Symposiums, the APSR Gold Joint Session, and Big 5 Lung Diseases Workshop. A total of 2,007 participants from 46 countries joined the Congress for 79 sessions.

Alongside the academic programmes, 54 pharmaceutical and equipment companies and relevant organizations joined the exhibition. Booths, Luncheons, Evening Symposiums, and industrial CHAT programmes were offered as venues for promotion and networking. The participants could also experience Korean culture in the exhibition through “Squid Game” activities (ddakji-chigi, dalgonna making, marble game), fan making, mother-of-pearl phone ring making, mini eco bag and lucky bag making, traditional lantern (cheongsa-chorong) making, and traditional Hanbok origami. Coffee stations and resting areas were also available for participants to enjoy and experience Korean culture.

We applied a new format not seen in previous Assembly Symposiums: “Meet the Professor” and “Pro & Con” sessions were used in four themes of Asthma, Interstitial Lung Disease, Lung Cancer, and COPD. Moreover, a real-time voting option was serviced on the mobile app, which enabled dynamic two-way communication in which participants could share knowledge and listen to various opinions. During the Big 5 Lung Diseases Workshop organised by the APSR, UNION APR, WHO SEARO, and WHO WPRO, the primary care model for optimal management of the Big 5 respiratory diseases (asthma, COPD, lung cancer, pneumonia, and infection) was covered. During the APSR-GOLD Joint session with the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD), Professor Don Sin from the University of British Columbia in Canada shared the latest update to be announced by GOLD. Professor Yeon-Mok Oh from the University of Ulsan College of Medicine gave a presentation on the Republic of Korea’s COPD guidelines, and Professor Chin Kook Rhee from The Catholic University of Korea College of Medicine presented on the Management of COPD in Asia and led panel discussions.

Please note that you can watch videos of the best contents of 6 Plenary Lectures, 8 Pre-congress Workshops, 35 Assembly Symposium, the APSR-GOLD Joint Session, 12 Luncheon Symposiums, 12 Evening Symposiums (excluding abstract oral sessions and poster sessions) on the APSR 2022 On-demand platform apsr2022-ondemand.org until 31 January 2023.

We are sure all of you have wonderful memories of Seoul, a city where modern meets traditional. We wish to express our sincere gratitude on behalf of the LCC and KATRD to all delegates, sponsors, and exhibition companies. We look forward to greeting you at APSR 2023 Congress in Singapore.

Ki-Suck Jung

Awards presented at the 26th APSR Congress

The following awards were presented during the APSR 2022 Congress in Seoul.
They include awards named in honour of those members with a long-standing history of teaching and mentorship in their particular field, making significant contributions to respiratory medicine in the Asia-Pacific region.

Further details of all awards can be seen at apresp.org/awards/index.html

The awardees at the 26th APSR Congress include:

**APSR Medal**
Yoichi Nakanishi (Japan)

**APSR Michiyoshi Harasawa Research Award**
Chong Jen Yu (Taiwan)

**APSR Ann Janet Woolcock Research Award**
Anne Chang (Australia)

**Fukuchi Award for outstanding original papers published in Respirology**
‘Outcomes of protracted bacterial bronchitis in children: A 5-year prospective cohort study’
Stephanie T. Yerkovich (Australia)
Authors: Tom J.C. Ruffles, Julie M. Marchant, Ian B. Masters, Stephanie T. Yerkovich, Danielle F. Wurzel, Peter G. Gibson, Greta Busch, Katherine J. Baines, Jodie L. Simpson, Heidi C. Smith-Vaughan, Susan J. Pizzuto, Helen M. Buntain, Gregory Hodge, Sandra Hodge, John W. Upham, Anne B. Chang

‘ACE2 expression is elevated in airway epithelial cells from older and male healthy individuals but reduced in asthma’
Peter A.B. Wark (Australia)

**APSR Distinguished Service and Commitment Award**
Lieve Bultynck (Australia)

**APSR-ATS Young Investigator Award**
Alejandro A Pezzulo (USA)

**APSR-ERS Young Investigator Award**
Yong Suk Jo (Republic of Korea)

**APSR-TSANZ Young Investigator Award**
Olivia Carroll (Australia)

**APSR-JRS Young Investigator Award**
Yusuke Shiraishi (Japan)
Ho Namkoong (Japan)
Takanori Asakura (USA)

**APSR Travel Award**
Yina Wang (China)
Jamaluddin Madolangan (Indonesia)
Thi Mai Phuong Nguyen (Viet Nam)
Benjo Ato (Philippines)
Dhammika Leshan Wannigama (Thailand)
Narongkorn Saiphoklang (Thailand)
Nagesh Dhadge (India)
Pyng Lee (Singapore)
Brian Nelson Ong (Philippines)
Ji-Young Lee (Republic of Korea)

**APSR Young Investigator Travel Award**
Stephanie Palacios (Philippines)
Yiting Tang (Singapore)
Adhitri Anggoro (Indonesia)
Jooyeon Lee (Republic of Korea)
Yedham Kang (Republic of Korea)
Jinmin Jang (Republic of Korea)
Shih-Yu Chen (Taiwan)
Shinya Otsuka (Japan)
Song-I Lee (Republic of Korea)
Yoshifumi Suzuki (Japan)

**APSR / Norbert Berend COPD Young Investigator Award**
Punchalee Kaenmuang (Thailand)

**APSR / KFY Young Investigator Award for Geriatric Respirology**
Yoomi Yeo (Republic of Korea)

**APSR / Malcolm Winterburn Lung Cancer Young Investigator Award**
Yeon Wook Kim (Republic of Korea)

**APSR /KF-CB Lung Cancer Research Young Investigator Award**
Yun Seok Kim (Republic of Korea)

**APSR / J Patrick Barron Medical Education Young Investigator Award**
Dong-Hyun Joo (Republic of Korea)

**APSR / Peter Sly Paediatric Lung Disease Young Investigator Award**
Muhammad Akbar Tirtosudiro (Indonesia)

**APSR / Paul Zimmerman Physiology Young Investigator Award**
Mei Ching Yong (Malaysia)

**APSR / APTA Young Investigator Award**
Boon Hau Ng (Malaysia)

**APSR / KATRD Young Investigator Award**
Bo-Gu Kim (Republic of Korea)

**APSR / PCCP Young Investigator Award**
Catherine E. Jordan-Lorenzo (Philippines)

**APSR / VNRS Young Investigator Award**
Hong Le (Australia)

**APSR / Woolcock Vietnam Young Investigator Award**
Sokchinda Kong (Cambodia)

**APSR Assembly Education Awards**
APSR Assembly Education Awards started in 2019, giving an opportunity for Young Investigators to experience presenting at an APSR Congress, and get immediate feedback and advice from APSR experts.

**Clinical Respiratory Medicine Assembly**
Yoko Hamakawa (Japan)
Kyung-Eui Lee (Republic of Korea)
Angelica Pearl Reyes (Philippines)
Feliciano Jan Christian (Philippines)

**Cell and Molecular Biology Assembly**
Sujit Jeong (Republic of Korea)
Hyejoo Bae (Republic of Korea)
Yeogha Yoon (Republic of Korea)
Yeonjeong Heo (Republic of Korea)
Kong Yen Liew (Malaysia)

**Clinical Allergy & Immunology Assembly**
Dear colleagues and friends,

The 27th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR 2023) with the theme of “Current Practice, Future Care” will be held at the Suntec Singapore Convention and Exhibition Centre from 16 to 19 November 2023. As we move towards the aftermath of tumultuous times brought about by the global COVID-19 pandemic, we look forward to gathering in our medical community to learn together again. We would like to extend to you an invitation to APSR 2023.

APSR 2023 will be a valuable opportunity for doctors, nurses, researchers and allied health professionals to meet in person to stay abreast of the latest developments. Besides scientific symposiums, plenaries and interactive educational sessions delivered by renowned experts, this also provides a platform to exchange ideas and network with local and international peers and experts in Respiratory Medicine, Critical Care, Thoracic Oncology and Allergy.

Singapore, a vibrant city state featuring iconic landmarks and a melting pot of cultures and local food delights, whilst ensuring utmost safety and a well-thought-out transportation system for travellers, is the prime location for this impactful congress. In fact, it is the second time that an APSR Congress is held in our city state!

There will be timely updates on the scientific programme, pre-congress workshops, abstract submission, registration, accommodation, social programme and exhibition details on our website apsr2023.sg You are encouraged to register for APSR 2023 early to enjoy early bird special rates. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

It is through our collaborative efforts of laying the
building blocks of Current Practice, we can achieve new insights to enhance Future Care.

Wishing good health and we look forward to welcoming you to Singapore in November 2023.

Albert Yick-Hou Lim

Reports from the APSR Congress Award Winners

APSR / Norbert Berend COPD Young Investigator Award

It’s my great honour to have been chosen to receive the APSR / Norbert Berend COPD Young Investigator Award at the APSR 2022 Congress. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Professor Norbert Berend and APSR for this opportunity.

This is the second time that I joined the APSR Congress. The first time, I joined the APSR 2021 Congress virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic and presented two interesting case reports as the poster presentation. In 2022, I had a meaningful opportunity to present and discuss my research as an oral presentation in a face-to-face congress.

Our research is entitled “The stability of blood eosinophil count and clinical outcomes in Thai chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients: A prospective study”. According to our previous study of blood eosinophils in COPD patients in Thailand which is an endemic area of parasitic infection. The eosinophilic COPD patients with blood eosinophils greater than 300 cells/μL had the potential of higher exacerbation rates after 12 months than the non-eosinophilic patients.

However, there were limited data and no prospective study of the stability of blood eosinophils in Thailand. This research question was discussed during the Thai COPD guideline 2022 development by the Thoracic Society of Thailand and led us to conduct this study. From our study, we found that blood eosinophil level is quite stable in COPD patients with blood eosinophils > 300 cells/μL after a 6 and 12-month follow-up period. On the other hand, blood eosinophils should be repeated in COPD patients with blood eosinophils less than 300 cells/μL due to the variability. These results could be implied in clinical practice.

In addition to my presentation, I also had a wonderful time at the APSR 2022 Congress. There were many interesting sessions for updating my knowledge and new perspectives about respiratory diseases from the respiratory experts. I visited the poster exhibition and had a chance to discuss ideas with the poster presenters. Additionally, this congress led me to have networking with other participants and I hope to have a chance for clinical research collaboration with them.

The most impressive moment for me at the APSR 2022 Congress was the chance to meet Professor Norbert Berend at the Gala Dinner and had a small talk with him. This memorable time absolutely inspired me to be a good researcher in the future.

I had a wonderful time at this meeting as well as in Seoul, a beautiful and historical city.

Finally, I would like to thank my team, especially Assoc. Prof. Siwasak Juthong, my advisor, for the great support.

Thank you again for the meaningful meeting and this honourable award. I hope to join the next APSR Congress in Singapore.

Punchalee Kaenmuang (Thailand)

APSR / Malcolm Winterburn Lung Cancer Young Investigator Award

I am Dr Juvenita Sartika Dewi, the recipient of the APSR / Malcolm Winterburn Lung Cancer Young Investigator Award. Thank you for giving this award, I appreciated every event at the congress which ran smoothly and was successful. Therefore, I really hope to be able to take part in ASPR activities again in 2023.

My experience of the APSR 2022 Congress programme was very good, and I gained a lot of
It is a great honour to accept the APSR / KF-CB Lung Cancer Research Young Investigator Award. It was also a great pleasure to attend the APSR in person in 2022 after being unable to get together and share close discussions face-to-face for a long time. I had a wonderful time sharing scientific insights with colleagues from all over the world. It was also great to join the Big 5 Lung Diseases Workshop, which was a great event organized through the collaboration of APSR, Union APR, WHO SEARO and WHO WPRO. We all had a meaningful and inspiring time discussing primary care models for the optimal management of the major “Big 5” lung diseases and bringing together the clinical expertise of the authorized members from different communities. I was especially grateful to be able to contribute to this workshop as a report writer and integrate our discussion.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to both Professor Kwun Fong and Professor Chunxue Bai who organized this award. They are my role models and have inspired me since I first started my career as a researcher in the field of lung cancer. I’m a great admirer of their work as world-recognized clinicians and researchers through their scientific contributions and also their passionate leadership and mentorship. I will keep this great honour in mind and dedicate myself harder in the future to provide enhanced lung cancer care and other respiratory diseases through my scientific contributions and cutting-edge clinical trials.

Yeon Wook Kim (Republic of Korea)

APS R / Paul Zimmerman Physiology Young Investigator Award

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude for giving me the APSR / Peter Sly Paediatric Lung Disease Young Investigator Award. I am very honoured to accept such a prestigious award. It was such an amazing experience, attending the APSR 2022 Congress. Going to the Republic of Korea, is one of the countries that are on the top of my list, I was happy to see the beautiful culture, and people of the Republic of Korea.

A well-organized country that is reflected on the congress. The committee did a great and tremendous job on running the congress, a very easy and pleasant registration, with very helpful people behind the counter. Handbook, guides, and directories of the programmes and events were clear and easy to follow.

The congress had a lot of interesting and updated subjects in the symposiums, and also the oral and poster presentations. There were a lot of new updates of future sciences, as well as current applicable management of diseases. The congress not only gave me thoughts of opportunities of applicable sciences for future research and development, but also updated applicable for current management of diseases.

I also had the opportunity to attend the Gala Dinner to receive the award. I had the opportunity to meet a lot of inspiring people, the young investigator awardees, and from other awards. Meeting young researchers from other countries have broadened my understanding and view of how to perform and present good research. I was also able to see different angles and perspectives of a disease, according to their country’s conditions.

This award has inspired me, and has given me the spirit and will to do more research in the future, a research that will benefit children’s health in paediatric respirology. I am looking forward for the next congress in Singapore.

Muhammad Akbar Tirtosudiro (Indonesia)
The title of my presentation was ‘Remote telemonitoring among patients on home non-invasive ventilation (NIV): the Sarawak experience’. This was a retrospective study that demonstrated better adherence with NIV therapy among patients on telemonitoring 84.2% compared to usual care 57.7% (p=0.000). It was a great opportunity to share our early experience of telemonitoring in managing patients on home NIV.

I would like to congratulate the APSR for the successful congress in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The wide range of lectures covered by both the local and international speakers were very informative and relevant for my daily clinical practice. It was also a great opportunity to network with other delegates from various countries during this congress. I would like to thank the APSR for a great time at the Gala Dinner. It was a great experience to discover Korean culture and get to know other young investigators attending the dinner.

Lastly, I would like to thank my supervisors and the team for their support and hope to attend APSR 2023 Congress in Singapore.

Mei Ching Yong (Malaysia)

APSR / APTA Young Investigator Award

I am grateful for the opportunity to have attended the APSR 2022 Congress in Seoul. The APSR Congress provides a good platform to connect young researchers and clinicians from all over the Asia-Pacific region and beyond in collaborative projects. It also provides a platform for scientific exchange amongst young researchers. The 4-day programme had an excellent selection of topics ranging from airway diseases like asthma and COPD to COVID-19, bronchoscopy and interventional techniques. The choice of speakers and topics was excellent. I especially enjoyed these topics; rigid bronchoscopy for benign and malignant diseases, asthma update on as-needed formoterol in step 2 and COVID-19 and airway diseases. As a respiratory fellow, I learnt a lot during this congress. The lectures were well organised with a good sound system and the seating arrangement was good.

COEX convention centre was a spacious venue, clean with clear signages making navigation easy and ample space for safe social interaction. The convention centre was linked to the underground making it convenient to transport to the city centre and local amenities such as shops, cafes restaurants and cultural attractions. Throughout the congress, I found the ground staff kind and helpful. Their warm reception helped make my first visit to the Republic of Korea a memorable one. Due to the convenient transport system and easy access to town, I managed to explore Seoul and enjoy the local cuisine.

The APSR Congress is unique as it offers a variety of awards opportunities to young researchers like myself. With more than 20 awards to be won, it truly inspires research in the Asia-Pacific region. My research journey started when I did my postgraduate course in the Master of Internal Medicine programme. I believe it was the exposure I got from both attending and presenting at the APSR Congresses in the past that has made me grow research-wise. My colleagues from Malaysia and I are grateful for this platform to present our data and research.

As a respiratory fellow in a vast APSR world of respiratory experts, I feel honoured to be awarded the APSR / APTA Young Investigator Award. I am energised and looking forward to taking up new and challenging future research projects in Malaysia where I am from. Thank you to the members of the faculty for this.

I would like to congratulate the organising committee of the 26th APSR Congress on your wonderful conference and organisation. Thank you for the opportunity to present our research work. I will continue to support the APSR Congress. Looking forward with great excitement to joining the coming APSR 2023 Congress in Singapore.

Boon Hau Ng (Malaysia)

APSR / PCCP Young Investigator Award

Finally, after three years, I was given the opportunity to attend the APSR Congress in person and to make my first in-person APSR Congress more memorable, the APSR and the Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP) had chosen my research as 2022’s recipient of the APSR / PCCP Young Investigator Award. I am very grateful to the APSR and the PCCP for the recognition I received for my work and this validation has inspired me to engage in research
It was an honour and a privilege to be part of the 2022 Congress as one of the speakers for the Young Investigators’ Award session. Being able to share our research on a prestigious international platform together with several accomplished physicians in the field of research was a very memorable and humbling experience to say the least. I learned a lot by listening to the presentations of my fellow delegates and this experience gave me a broader perspective not only in terms of research, but more importantly in clinical practice. I am grateful for all the feedback I received about our research; rest assured that all of these were viewed constructively and have inspired me to participate in more researches in the future. Aside from these, attending the congress provided me with an opportunity to learn first-hand from several experts in different fields of respiratory medicine. I really enjoyed listening to the lectures of Dr Martin Kolb, Dr Don Sin, and Dr Ian Pavord, to name a few. The sessions also paved way to help me understand new technologies such as electrical impedance tomography for lung monitoring in ARDS patients, and even the intricacies of managing patients with Interstitial Lung Diseases. I will definitely echo all these learnings to my colleagues back home and utilize these pieces of information to improve my clinical decisions for my future patients.

I was very happy to be able to attend this congress together with some of our mentors and colleagues from the Philippines. It was a wonderful experience to be able to meet and exchange insights with colleagues from other parts of the world. The pandemic has brought a lot of tribulations to each and every one of us, but I am glad that it did not stop us from pursuing our passion to learn, especially through research.

Allow me to express my sincerest gratitude to my co-author, Dr Ma. Janeth T. Samson, for guiding me from the start until the completion of this research and whose valuable input have helped made this study a success. I would also like to thank the Institute of Pulmonary Medicine of St. Luke’s Medical Center especially our mentors and colleagues for their unwavering support through the years. Again, thank you very much to the APSR, and the PCCP for this recognition. Looking forward to learning more from future congresses and be part of more valuable researches in the coming years!

Catherine E. Jordan-Lorenzo (Philippines)

**APSR / Woolcock Vietnam Young Investigator Award**

I am writing this letter to share my experience about participating in the 26th APSR Congress which was held at the COEX Convention and Exhibition Center in the Republic of Korea from 17 to 20 November 2022. I have known this society since 2019, introduced by my honourable supervisor, Prof Michael Wall. That year, it was the 24th congress which was hosted by Viet Nam Respiratory Society in Hanoi. The first time, I joined as a regular participant. Later in 2021, when there was a bad situation of COVID and the in-person congress was changed to a virtual congress, I had a chance to do an oral presentation about a case report of Bronchiolitis Obliterans. In 2022, fortunately, my abstract was accepted again; therefore, I had another chance to do my oral presentation on site in a pediatric lung session. Furthermore, I got another excited announcement that I would get the APSR Woolcock Vietnam Young Investigator Award.

During this two-and-a-half-day programme there were many interesting topics such as new treatment regimens on tuberculosis, severe asthma, lung cancer and many more. Surprisingly, even though there was a disaster from the SAR-CoV 2 pandemic which caused many medical research institutes and associations to face many difficulties, it has never been a barrier to cease the ongoing work. Through this, I noticed there are many new researches published and presented at the congress. Even though the topic was mostly relevant to adult lung pathologies, I could get more knowledge on those researches, especially their different methodologies.

The best experience I went through during this wonderful symposium was to be able to perform an oral presentation pretty well about my case report to other young investigator award winners. This was a great chance to enhance my public speaking which has been one of my weak points. In addition, I learnt a lot from other international young investigators who shared their efforts and results of their comprehensive researches. And the most exciting moment for myself was standing on a stage at the Gala Dinner, receiving a certificate as an awardee.
Hopefully, the knowledge I gained from the congress will help me grow more in my current position in order to help Cambodian children who suffer from chronic lung disease. The childhood respiratory disease is frequently underdiagnosed in developing countries, especially those who are having chronic conditions.

Besides the comprehensive scientific programmes, the venue chosen was a great place, very big, very clean and easily accessible by every transportation. Plus, this centre was packed with shopping malls, cafes, brunch shops and hotels that could help foreign participants enjoy their resting time.

Last but not least, I would like to express my gratitude toward the APSR that gave me a great opportunity to receive the APSR / Woolcock Vietnam Young Investigator Award. I am looking forward to contributing more for the field of pediatric lung diseases.

Sokchinda Kong (Cambodia)

APSR / ERS Young Investigator Award

Joining the 26th APSR Congress in the Republic of Korea was a great experience for me. This was my first time going aboard to present my research “Correlation between hand grip strength and peak inspiratory flow rate in patients with stable chronic obstructive pulmonary disease”. I was so happy and excited to share my research with everyone at the congress and I prepared so hard for the presentation as best as I could.

At the congress, there were many interesting topics to attend. I visited the hall of poster exhibition, and I attended the research presentation sessions such as tuberculosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, critical care medicine etc. I think all topics were very useful and I could see the willingness of all investigators and their institutions to do the research and case reports for the propose of medical knowledge developing that make the most benefit for worldwide population. I also saw that congress and attendees place importance on COVID-19 pandemic issue. Many studies paid attention to various aspects of COVID-19 disease such as disease prevention, prognosis of the disease, complication of the disease especially pulmonary fibrosis. I must admire the congress for great COVID-19 preventive measure and all attendees for wearing facemask.

For my research presentation session “Young Investigator Award”, the chairperson of the session is Dr Albert Yick-Hou Lim. He is superb in being moderator, and he also gave some comments to my study. Those are very good for me to do my next research. The other researchers in this session had very good performances in their presentations, and all research really deserve to receive the awards. I must thank to the researchers in the session that asked questions and gave some comments to me. Every comment is so great, and it can be applied to my further research in the future.

At the Gala Dinner event, I met many international researchers. We shared knowledge and the experience in doing research. I was also impressed by the shows of old and new style dancing. The atmosphere of the event was so wonderful.

For me as a pulmonologist from Thailand, I am very appreciative that APSR 2022 happened because this congress made personnel of medical and respirology to get together in the congress. We could share the different experiences of management for our patients, the experience of doing research, the knowledge, and we also exchanged the culture from different countries. Thank you very much to the APSR and ERS for choosing me and my research to get the APSR / ERS Young Investigator Award. I must thank to my supervisor, Dr Narongkorn Saiphoklang for all supporting. I hope this research will be a part of further device developing for assessing efficacy of inhaled drug delivery in airway disease for more patient safety to prevent the airborne infectious disease. After this, I will work hard for my patients and I will apply the knowledge that I received from APSR 2022 for better patient management and also for the next research. I will look forward to the next the APSR Congress and hope that we will meet again soon.

Apisara Suriyakul (Thailand)

Assembly Reports and Newsletters

Assembly reports are available via apresp.org/index-assemblies.html (members-only access)

Councilor Reports

Council reports are available via apresp.org/about/councils.html (members-only access)

How to register to access APSR members-only pages

There is a wealth of useful clinical information on the APSR website, many pages requiring a user-id and password to access; for example, earlier issues of the Bulletin, Teaching Library, educational video materials, and so on.
If you have not yet registered a user-id and password, click the green REGISTER button at the top of the latest APSR Bulletin, and follow the online instructions. Registration is a quick and simple procedure.

Forthcoming Meetings

2023

Pulmocon 2023- the 7th international conference on lung health - Bangladesh Lung Foundation (BLF)
14-17 February
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Website: pulmoconbd.com/

135th Annual Meeting of Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (KATRD)
7-8 April
Yeouido, Republic of Korea
Email: katrd@lungkorea.org
Website: lungkorea.org/

The 63rd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS)
28-30 April
Tokyo, Japan
Email: 63jrs@jrs.or.jp
Website: jrs.or.jp/jrs63/en/index.html

ATS International Conference
19-21 May
Washington, DC, USA

ERS International Congress
9-13 September
Milan, Italy

Indonesia Respirology of Society (ISR) Work Conference XVII with theme CATCH YOUR BREATH
27-30 September
Lampung, Indonesia

KATRD International Conference (KATRDIC)
9-10 November
Seoul, Republic of Korea
Email: info@katrdic.org
Website: katrdic.org

2024

The 23rd World Congress of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology
23-25 October
Bali, Indonesia

National Congress of Indonesia Society of Respirology (ISR) 2024
25-26 October
Bali, Indonesia

2025

28th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
7-10 November
Hong Kong

29th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
13-16 November
Manila, Philippine
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