

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DR CHOON JIN OOI

Dear APAGE Members,

I am pleased to share with you the outcomes of our recent Council retreat held in Kuala Lumpur, in January 2026. Our discussions focused on strategic initiatives to enhance APAGE's visibility, expand our membership base, and augment our regional clinical impact.

Key initiatives include:

***Enhancing Digital Presence:** Strengthening our online presence and social media strategy to engage a broader audience and foster better collaboration.*

***Membership Expansion and Renewal:** Nurturing partnerships with specialists and member-societies to promote knowledge sharing across various Task Forces and Committees.*

***Guidelines and Consensus Development:** Developing practical, region-specific tools to address digestive health challenges unique to the Asia-Pacific region.*

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ 7th APAGE IBD Forum in Bangkok, Thailand (16th – 17th July 2026), featuring two Pre-Congress events: JGH Foundation – APAGE Young Clinicians Course AND Pathology Course in Celiac and Inflammatory Bowel Disease.*
- ❖ APDW 2026 in Manila, Philippines (24th – 28th November 2026).*

We will be organising the revamped Asia Pacific Single Topic conferences based on specific areas, ie. Pancreatic and Gastric Pre-Neoplastic Diseases over the next two years.

Please join me in welcoming and congratulating the newly appointed Chairs – Dr Cheng Wei Tang (Chengdu) for helming the APAGE/JGHF Clinician-Scientist Training Fellowship Award Committee, Dr Alex Boussiotas (Melbourne) for chairing the Research Programme Award Committee and Dr Hyun Soo Kim (Seoul) for overseeing the International Relations Committee.

Our core objectives remain steadfast: promoting collaborative research, supporting education, and cultivating a new generation of gastroenterology leaders. We are committed to upholding the highest standards of governance, transparency, and inclusivity.

Your feedback is invaluable. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts on how we can better serve you and advance our shared mission. I look forward to hearing from you.

*Warm regards,
Dr Choon Jin Ooi
President*



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EID MUBARAK

MAY THIS FESTIVE SEASON FILL YOUR HOME WITH JOY,
YOUR HEART WITH GRATITUDE, AND YOUR DYAS
WITH MEANINGFUL MOMENTS WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**Sincerely,
President, Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology**

Editor-in-Chief Note DR VIET-HANG DAO



Progress in gastroenterology is no longer defined solely by scientific discovery, but by how effectively we connect expertise, leadership, and purpose across borders. In this spirit, APDW 2025 in Singapore marked not only a successful scientific meeting, but also a moment of renewal for the APAGE community as we refine our direction for the years ahead.

APDW 2025 delivered an outstanding academic programme with strong regional participation, vibrant discussion, and meaningful translation of innovation into clinical practice. The conference also introduced several important milestones for APAGE. The unveiling of the new APAGE logo reflected a refreshed organisational identity, while the inaugural APAGE Masters Award celebration recognised distinguished leaders whose lifelong contributions have shaped gastroenterology in the Asia-Pacific region, inspiring both peers and the next generation.

To further strengthen engagement within our community, APAGE launched its revamped website, designed as a central digital platform to improve communication, accessibility, and collaboration among gastroenterologists across the region. In parallel, APDNews will enter a new phase from 2026, with two to three issues published annually, aiming to provide more timely, insightful, and up-to-date perspectives drawn from APAGE Society-Members, Task Forces, Committees and APAGE activities.

This enhanced publication cadence reflects our commitment to keeping the community informed, connected, and engaged throughout the year.

As APAGE begins a new term, we welcome the newly appointed APAGE Council, whose collective leadership will guide the organisation forward. At the same time, the APAGE Task Forces have been refreshed and restructured to better align with emerging scientific priorities and regional healthcare needs. Building on the strong achievements of previous Task Forces, these renewed groups are well-positioned to deliver impactful consensus statements, guidelines, and educational initiatives with real-world relevance.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the APDW 2025 local Organising Committee in Singapore, the outgoing Council Members, and Task Force leaders for their dedication and service. Our gratitude also goes to the incoming Council and Task Force members for their willingness to lead. Special thanks are due to Ms Molly Kong, Executive Director of APAGE, and the Secretariat team for their continued coordination and support. With renewed identity, leadership, and connectivity, APAGE will continue to move forward with clarity of purpose and confidence. Through sustained collaboration and shared vision, we remain committed to advancing excellence in gastroenterology and improving digestive health across the Asia-Pacific region.



ASIAN PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

COUNCIL 2025–2027

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HONG KONG



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ULAANBAATAR



SENGDAO
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VIENTIANE



THAN THAN AYE
YANGON

COMMITTEES



JUSTIN CHE-YUEN WU
Chair
APAGE-AGA
Joint Symposium



VIET-HANG DAO
Editor-in-Chief
APDNews



CHENGWEI TANG
Chair
APAGE/JGHF
Clinician-Scientist Training
Fellowship Award



ALEX BOUSSIOUTAS
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Research Programme Award



GOVIND MAKHARIA
Chair
Celiac Disease



CHOON JIN OOI
Chair
Inflammatory Bowel Disease



DANIEL HUANG
Co-Chair
Emerging Leaders



**TANYAPORN
CHANTAROJANASIRI**
Co-Chair
Emerging Leaders

TASK FORCES



KAI-CHUN WU
Chair
AI in GI



TING-LEONG ANG
Chair
Green and Sustainability in
Gastroenterology



**PRAMOD
KUMAR GARG**
Chair
Pancreatic Diseases



**BENEDICT
DEVEREAUX**
Co-Chair
Pancreatic Diseases



HIROYUKI ISAYAMA
Co-Chair
Pancreatic Diseases



WAI-KEUNG LEUNG
Pre-Neoplastic
GI Lesions



**NONTHALEE
PAUSAWASDI**
Chair
Women and Leadership in GI



BANGKOK 2026

7th APAGE



Clinical Forum on Inflammatory Bowel Disease

16th and 17th July 2026

The Athenee Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

incorporating

APAGE/JGHF Young Clinicians Programme &

APAGE/JGHF GI Pathology Workshop on Mucosal Biopsies in IBD and Celiac Disease

15th July 2026

The Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology

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Tel: +603 8800 0779, 8800 0000
Email: apage@apage.org
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The Gastroenterological Association of Thailand

1575/1 Chaisanguan Building, 4th Floor
New-Petchburi Rd., Makkasan, Ratchatevi, Bangkok 10400
Tel: +662 255 3051
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APAGE EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (2026–2027)

Associate Professor Daniel Huang and Assistant Professor Tanyaporn Chantarojanasiri

The Asia-Pacific region has one of the most diverse and dynamic landscapes in digestive health, with a wide variation in disease burden, healthcare systems, and research capacity. Navigating this increasingly complex world requires leadership and vision. The Asia-Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) established the Emerging Leaders Committee (ELC) in 2022 with the aim of grooming the next generation of leaders in Gastroenterology.

The Emerging Leaders Committee (ELC) reflects the demographic, cultural, and professional diversity of the Asia-Pacific region. Its founding members were drawn from 17 countries and regions, ensuring broad regional representation across varied healthcare systems and practice settings. To strengthen subspecialty representation, the ELC established 12 focus groups spanning the full breadth of gastroenterology. These focus groups enable targeted initiatives, facilitate the identification and mentoring of emerging talent, and allow the ELC to remain responsive to evolving scientific and clinical priorities. Since its establishment in 2022, the APAGE-ELC focus groups have played an active role in advancing the organisation's mission. Their contributions include the development of regional guidelines, delivery of educational webinars and scientific sessions, publication of perspective articles and white papers, and collaboration on original research projects across the region.

As the ELC continues to grow from strength to strength, leadership has transitioned from the founding chairs, Associate Professor Rashid Lui and Professor Raja Affendi, to the incoming co-chairs, Assistant Professor Tanyaporn Chantarojanasiri and Associate Professor Daniel Huang. In parallel,

gastroenterology societies across the Asia-Pacific have recently been invited to nominate new members to the ELC, marking the beginning of an exciting new phase of growth, renewal, and regional engagement.

VISION

The APAGE Emerging Leaders Committee aims to serve as the Asia-Pacific runway to global leadership in gastroenterology and hepatology. This vision is operationalised through three strategic pillars: education and leadership development; scientific platforms and global presence; collaborative scholarship and regional impact (Figure 2).

EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Education and leadership training are foundational to the ELC's mission. The APAGE Emerging Leaders Webinar Series will provide sharp, high-quality education focused on clinical updates, research skills, and leadership competencies relevant to early-career professionals based on each focus group. Leadership and career development workshops will be held during major regional meetings, particularly the Asia-Pacific Digestive Week (APDW).

SCIENTIFIC PLATFORMS AND GLOBAL PRESENCE

Enhancing the scientific visibility of emerging leaders is a key priority of the ELC. The committee will develop APAGE Emerging Leaders-branded scientific sessions at APDW, with planned expansion to other regional meetings such as APSDE and APASL. In the longer term, the ELC will explore collaboration with international societies, such as the AGA, UEG, EASL, and the AASLD.

COLLABORATIVE SCHOLARSHIP AND REGIONAL IMPACT

Key activities include joint perspective articles, reviews, and contributions to consensus statements led by APAGE. The committee will support multicentre collaborations and early-career investigator networks, facilitating cross-border research and mentorship.

The ELC will create a sustainable, deliberate pipeline of leaders in GI from the Asia-Pacific. By investing in people, partnerships, and platforms, APAGE aspires to ensure that the region continues to contribute meaningfully to advances in digestive health worldwide.

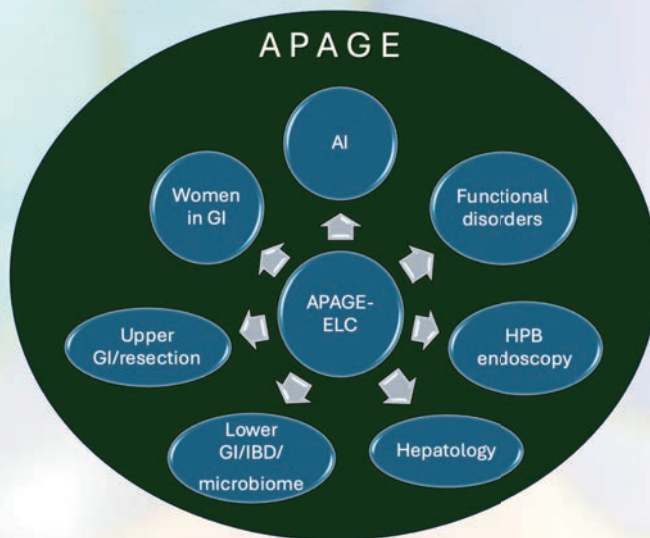


Figure 1 – The new arrangements of focus group in APAGE-ELC under APAGE.

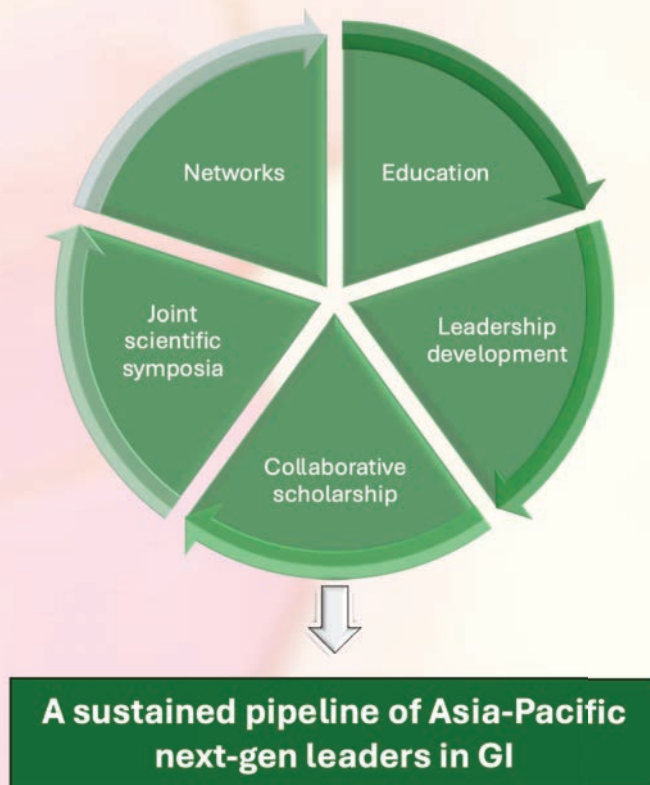


Figure 2 – Strategy of APAGE ELC merging Leaders as the Asia-Pacific hub for global GI & hepatology.

APAGE TASK FORCE ON GREEN AND SUSTAINABILITY IN GASTROENTEROLOGY

Dr Tiing-Leong Ang

The APAGE Task Force on Green and Sustainability in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and GI Endoscopy was officially established in the first quarter of 2024, following discussions at the APAGE Exco Retreat on 27th January 2024. It has been estimated that 4.2% of global greenhouse emissions were from the healthcare sector.¹ A survey in the Asian Pacific region had also revealed gaps in knowledge about green endoscopy and in actual implementation of steps to reduce the carbon footprint of endoscopy.² The importance of proactively

taking steps as an organisation to address the challenge of climate change was recognised and hence, APAGE set up the Task Force to provide leadership and work with member societies in promoting research and education, and change management in alignment with the vision and mission of APAGE.

The members of the inaugural Task Force comprised 13 gastroenterologists, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Members of APAGE Green and Sustainability Taskforce.

NAME	JURISDICTION
Tiing Leong Ang (Chair)	Singapore
Kaichun Wu	Xian
Liangjing Wang	Hangzhou
Jacky Chiu Leung Ho	Hong Kong
Sridhar Sundaram	Mumbai
Hiroyuki Isayama	Tokyo
Hyun-Gun Kim	Seoul
Raja Affendi Raja Ali	Kuala Lumpur
Marianne Linley Sy-Janairo	Manila
James Weiquan Li	Singapore
Nonthalee Pausawasdi	Bangkok
Tanyaporn Chantarojanasiri	Thailand
Viet-Hang Dao	Hanoi

The mandate of the Task Force during its two-year term was to promote advocacy, education, and research on Green and Sustainability Practices in the field of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in the Asian Pacific region.

We developed and published an APAGE Position Statement on Green and Sustainability in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Gastrointestinal

Endoscopy in the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, as illustrated in Figure 1.³ To ensure broad representation, in addition to Task Force members, we involved representatives nominated by member societies not represented in the Task Force, APAGE Exco members and a sustainability expert, Associate Professor Chantelle Rizan from the Centre of Sustainability Medicine, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore.

REVIEW ARTICLE

APAGE Position Statements on Green and Sustainability in Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Tiing Leong Ang¹ | Dao Viet Hang² | James Weiquan Li¹ | Jacky Chiu Leung Ho³ | Marianne Linley Sy-Janairo⁴ | Raja Affendi Raja Ali⁵ | Govind K. Makharia⁶ | Sridhar Sundaram⁷ | Tanyaporn Chantarojanasiri⁸ | Hyun-Gun Kim⁹ | Hiroyuki Isayama¹⁰ | Nonthalee Pausawadi¹¹ | Kaichun Wu¹² | Ari Fahrial Syam¹³ | Than Than Aye¹⁴ | Sher Rehman¹⁵ | Madunil Anuk Niriella¹⁶ | Ricardo Jurawan¹⁷ | Liangjing Wang¹⁸ | Wai Keung Leung¹⁹ | Jyh-Ming Liou²⁰ | Chantelle Rizan²¹ | Justin Che Yuen Wu³ | Choon Jin Ooi²²

Figure 1 – APAGE Position Statement on Green and Sustainability.

We also organised a Webinar on Sustainability in Clinical Practice, as shown in Figure 2.



ASIAN PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

LIVE WEBINAR

APAGE Webinar

on Sustainability in Clinical Practice 2025

by
Taskforce on Green and Sustainability in Gastroenterology

TUESDAY
16TH SEPTEMBER 2025
17:30 PM – 18:45 PM
(SINGAPORE STANDARD TIME)

Climate sustainability issues have become increasingly important to all clinicians. Climate action must be driven by science and decisions undertaken must weigh the pros and cons from perspectives of clinical effectiveness, as well as financial and environmental cost. The APAGE Webinar will explore how the issue of climate sustainability affects clinicians in the Asian-Pacific region and how clinicians can implement effective strategies for climate action.

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER OR VISIT
www.apage.org

Faculty

 Canada Professor Desmond Leong	 China Professor Wu Kaichun	 China Professor Wang Liangjing	 India Professor Govind Makharia	 India Assoc. Professor Sridhar Sundaram	 Japan Professor Yousuke Naito	 Korea Professor Kim Hyun-Gun
 Malaysia Professor Raja Affendi Raja Ali	 Philippines Dr Marianne Linley Sy-Janairo	 Singapore Professor Tiing Leong	 Singapore Assoc. Professor Chantelle Rizan	 Singapore Dr Jo-Anne Yeo	 Thailand Dr Tanyaporn Chantarojanasiri	 Vietnam Assoc. Professor Hang Dao Viet

Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology | www.apage.org | @apage_official

Figure 2 – Webinar on Sustainability in Clinical Practice.

APDW 2025 was held in Singapore from 18th to 22nd November 2025. The APAGE Green and Sustainability Symposium featured both lectures and a multi-disciplinary panel discussion. Details are shown in

Table 2. APDW 2025 also featured a state-of-the-art lecture on the APAGE Position Statements that was delivered by Professor Tiing-Leong Ang.

Table 2 – APAGE Green and Sustainability Symposium during APDW 2025.

TOPIC	SPEAKER
Overview of climate sustainability in clinical practice	Chantelle Rizan
Sustainability in GI endoscopy	Jacky Ho
Sustainability in Gastroenterology and Hepatology	Viet-Hang Dao
Panel Discussion: Sustainability challenges in Asia Pacific region for GI disorders	<p>MODERATOR Tiing-Leong Ang</p> <p>PANELISTS <i>Anaesthetist:</i> Anne Yeo <i>Surgeon:</i> Benita Tan <i>Gastroenterologist / Endoscopist:</i> Jacky Ho, Viet-Hang Dao, Raja Affendi Raja Ali, Govind Makharia <i>Expert in Sustainable Medicine:</i> Chantelle Rizan</p>

A new Task Force will be assembled to continue this work over the next two years. APAGE will engage and seek nominations from all 26 member societies. To ensure that the views of the younger generation is represented, the Y-APAGE Committee will nominate an additional member. We hope to advance the agenda of environmentally sustainable clinical practices by promoting research

collaboration and publications, working closely with Society representatives to drive the implementation of sustainability practices and continue the educational outreach through activities such as webinars and during APDW in order to raise awareness and to educate clinicians on climate action and sustainable practices for real world implementation.

REFERENCES

- Romanello M, Walawender M, Hsu S C, *et al.* The 2025 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: Climate change action offers a lifeline. *Lancet*. 2025 Dec 13;406(10521):2804-2857.
- Ho J C L, Lui R N, Ho S H, *et al.*; Green Endoscopy Initiative of Asia-Pacific (GEIA). Asia-Pacific survey on green endoscopy. *J Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2024 Jan;39(1):133-140.
- Ang T L, Hang D V, Li J W, *et al.* APAGE Position Statements on Green and Sustainability in Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. *J Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2025 Apr;40(4):821-831.

ASIAN PACIFIC DIGESTIVE WEEK 2025

18TH TO 22ND NOVEMBER 2025

Dr Stephen Tsao (APDW 2025 President, Singapore)

APDW 2025 reaffirmed its role as the Asia-Pacific region's premier gastroenterology congress, convening clinicians, researchers, and industry leaders over five days in Singapore. The event attracted 3,169 delegates from 60 countries, including 2,281 international attendees, reflecting both its strong regional base and expanding global relevance. Registration covered a wide range of professional groups, with 424 participants attending Nurses' Day.

Singapore led attendance, followed by Japan, China, South Korea, The Philippines, and Malaysia – demonstrating broad Asian engagement while also drawing attendees from Europe, North America, and the Middle East.

The congress delivered a comprehensive and high calibre programme under the theme "Innovate, Integrate, Invigorate: A New Era in Gastroenterology". The agenda featured 11 workshops, 5 plenaries, 90 concurrent sessions, and 10 industry symposia, spanning cutting-edge endoscopy, hepatology, GI oncology, IBD, functional disorders, microbiome research, metabolic liver disease, and the integration of AI and precision medicine. Emphasis was placed on prevention, early detection, multi-disciplinary care models, and workforce development.

Scholarly activity was robust with 1,888 abstracts submitted and 1,256 presenters representing 44 countries. China, Japan, South Korea, India, and The Philippines led abstract contributions, highlighting the region's research strength. The faculty included 390 invited speakers and 227 chairs, underscoring the meeting's academic depth.

Overall, APDW 2025 delivered scale, diversity, and scientific impact, reinforcing its status as the leading platform for advancing gastroenterology across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.



Opening Ceremony entertainment.



Faculty Dinner.



Meritorious Award.



CAGE's Activities During 2026

7 FEBRUARY 2026

Scientific Round Table on Stress and Health

THEME

“From Disease to Illness: Integrating the Mind–Body Connection and Buddhist-Based Stress Management in Cambodian Clinical Practice”

Professor Oung Chakravuth (President of CAGE)

0800 – 0815

Welcome and introduction to the purpose: Shifting from *treating disease to treating illness*
Introduce the biopsychosocial model as the foundation of holistic care

Professor Oung Chakravuth
(Gastroenterologist, President of CAGE),
University of Health Sciences

0820 – 0850

Why Stress matter? The impact of stress on physical Health

Dr Oung Borathchakra (Gastroenterologist). Hepato-gastroenterology Department, Calmette Hospital

0850 – 0930

The Impact of Stress on the Mental Health: Understanding Stress: The Science Behind the Mind–Body Connection “Stress Physiology and Its Impact on the Mental Health”

Professor Ka Sunbaunat (Psychiatrist/Neurologist)

0930 – 1000

Psychological Approach to Stress Management, “*Changing the Way We Think: Applying CBT Principles to Reduce Stress*” **Associate Professor Ean Nil** (Clinical Psychologist/ Trauma Therapist)

1000 – 1100

Buddhism as “The Way of Life” – Perspective on Mind and Health, “*The Nature of Thought and Mindfulness: A Buddhist Path to Healing*” **Venerable Dr San Pisith** (Buddhist Monk)

1100 – 1230

LUNCH BREAK

1300 – 1400

Clinical Integration: From Concept to Practice, “*Applying the Biopsychosocial Model in Everyday Practice*” **Dr Vong Chanlina** (Gastroenterologist)

Panel Discussion and Q & A

“Towards Holistic Care in Cambodia: Treating Body, Mind”

Dr Lim Roeun and all speakers (Multi-disciplinary Team)

Closing Remarks, Summarise key takeaways **Professor Oung Chakravuth**

SCIENTIFIC ROUNDTABLE

ON STRESS AND GI HEALTH



Theme: “From Disease to Illness: Integrating the Mind–Body Connection and Buddhist-Based Stress Management in Cambodian Clinical Practice”



07 FEB
2026

Our Speaker

- Prof. Oung Chakravuth
- Prof. Ka Sunbaunat
- Dr. Oung Borathchakra
- Ass. Prof. Ean Nil
- Ven. Dr. San Pisith (Buddhist Monk)
- Dr. Vong Chanlina
- Mr. Lim Roeun

Register Today



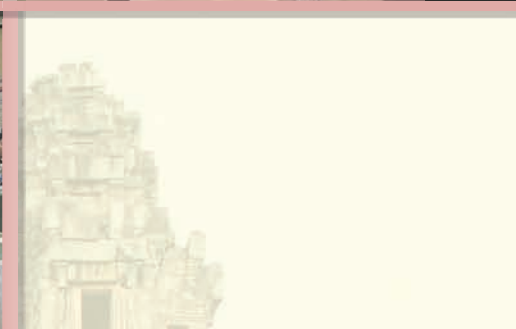
Phnompenh Hotel

53, Monivong Boulevard,
Phnom Penh, Cambodia





A Scientific Round Table on Stress And Health was held with the 76 participants.



CHINESE SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF CHINESE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The 26th Congress of Gastroenterology China (CGC 2026), hosted by the Chinese Medical Association (CMA) and the Chinese Society of Gastroenterology (CSG), will be held in Beijing from 17th to 19th September 2026. This conference is a key academic event of the CSG in 2026. Renowned experts in the field of gastroenterology from home and abroad will be invited to deliver academic reports through various forms, including plenary speeches, special topic lectures, face-to-face expert sessions, and case discussions.

Beijing is the capital of the People's Republic of China, and it is also the centre of politics, culture, international exchanges, and scientific and technological innovation in China.

We sincerely invite you to participate in this grand event and actively submit outstanding manuscripts to contribute to the development of gastroenterology. Online submission is via the conference website (www.csge.org.cn) in Chinese or English.

Online submission open date: Please stay tuned.



CGC 2026

中华医学会第二十六次消化系病学术会议

The 26th Congress of Gastroenterology China

2026年9月17-19日 中国·北京 | Sept.17-19, 2026 Beijing, China

17 – 19 SEPTEMBER 2026 | BEIJING, CHINA



On 25th December 2025, the list of “Top Paper 2025” of Gut was announced. A paper by Professor Tang Chengwei’s team from the Department of Gastroenterology at West China Hospital of Sichuan University won the runner-up award of “Gut Top Paper 2025”. The award recognises outstanding research published in Gut that has made significant impact and breakthroughs in the field.

The award-winning paper titled “Parecoxib sequential with imrecoxib for occurrence and remission of severe acute pancreatitis: A multicentre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial” was officially published in Gut magazine on 29th September 2025 (Gut. 2025 Apr 29;74(9):e334038. doi: 10.1136/gutjnl-2024-334038). Professor Tang Chengwei and Dr Huang Zhiyin were the corresponding authors of this article, while Drs Huang Luming, Feng Zhe, and Yang Wenzhan were the first authors.

This award-winning study focused on the tough challenges in the clinical treatment of severe acute pancreatitis. Through a rigorous, multi-centre, randomised, controlled trial design, the study validated the significant efficacy and safety of a sequential treatment regimen involving selective COX-2 inhibitors in prevention and treatment of severe acute pancreatitis. This provides high-level evidence-based medical support for early anti-inflammatory interventions in this critical disease, offering significant clinical guidance value.



#GUTAwards2025

The joint Runner up #TopGUTPaper2025 chosen by Professor Emad El-Omar is Huang et al for “Parecoxib sequential with imrecoxib for occurrence and remission of severe acute pancreatitis: a multicentre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial”

Congratulations to the authors from all the #TeamGUT!

Read the paper via

<https://bit.ly/4pbzBPu>

Listen to the #GUTPodcast on this paper via <https://bit.ly/4pcwB5A>

#COX2 #AcuteSeverePancreatitis



INDONESIAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

Professor Ari Fahrial Syam

President of Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology

The Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology (ISG) continues to reaffirm its commitment to advancing the quality of gastrointestinal healthcare in Indonesia through a wide range of scientific activities, continuous medical education, public awareness campaigns, and the strengthening of multidisciplinary collaboration in digestive disease management. These efforts are embodied in three major pillars: the PGI Outreach programme, Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Awareness initiatives, and the Gastrointestinal (GI) Oncology scientific forum.

PGI Outreach: Bringing Knowledge Beyond Major Cities

The PGI Outreach programme is a sustained educational initiative designed to ensure that advances in gastroenterology are not confined to major urban centres, but are disseminated equitably across diverse regions of Indonesia. Through this programme, ISG facilitates access for physicians in regional areas to the latest evidence-based guidelines and innovations in gastrointestinal disease management.

approximately 350 participants, comprising internists, gastroenterologist, and healthcare professionals.

This session explored the latest developments in IBD management, including emerging therapeutic strategies and future directions in care. Lively, interactive scientific discussions provided participants with practical insights to address real-world clinical challenges.



Building on this success, ISG conducted the second Outreach series entitled “*From IBD to GERD: Comprehensive GI Management*” on 12th October 2025, at The Luxton Cirebon Hotel, West Java, Indonesia, again with hybrid participation. The meeting was attended by around 350 participants, including internists and gastroenterohepatologists. Topics covered a comprehensive approach to gastrointestinal disease management, spanning chronic inflammatory disorders

to functional and reflux-related conditions. Delivered by leading experts in gastroenterology, the sessions offered up-to-date, evidence-based perspectives alongside practical clinical guidance.

Looking ahead, ISG has planned further Outreach programmes in Bukit Tinggi,

Gorontalo, and Banyuwangi, Indonesia, as part of its ongoing commitment to strengthening gastroenterology competencies and promoting equitable access to medical knowledge throughout Indonesia.



The first PGI Outreach activity, themed “*Current Strategies and Future Directions in IBD Management*”, was held on 5th July 2025 at the Radisson Golf & Convention Center, Batam, Indonesia, with hybrid participation via Zoom. The event attracted

Raising Public Awareness Through IBD Awareness Week 2025

Beyond professional education, ISG is also committed to empowering the public through health awareness initiatives. In commemoration of *Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week 2025*, ISG actively promoted awareness of Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease, highlighting the importance of early symptom recognition and timely treatment of IBD conditions that are often diagnosed late in Indonesia.

Through this campaign, ISG encouraged the public to be more attentive to warning signs of chronic gastrointestinal disorders, including persistent diarrhoea, abdominal pain, unexplained weight loss, and gastrointestinal bleeding. By improving public awareness, ISG aims to reduce diagnostic delays and ultimately enhance the quality of life of patients with IBD through earlier intervention and more appropriate care.



Advancing GI Oncology Through Multidisciplinary Collaboration

The challenges of gastrointestinal health extend beyond inflammatory diseases. Gastrointestinal malignancies, particularly colorectal cancer, represent an increasing health burden that demands coordinated, multidisciplinary strategies. In response, ISG has initiated the Gastrointestinal Oncology Meeting, a scientific forum that brings together experts from gastroenterology, medical oncology, pathology, and digestive surgery.

At the 1st Gastrointestinal Oncology Meeting, participants discussed innovations in screening and early detection, the role of biomarkers, and advances in modern colorectal cancer therapy within a multidisciplinary framework. The subsequent 2nd Gastrointestinal Oncology Meeting further reinforced the importance of cross-specialty collaboration in addressing the growing complexity of GI cancers, while promoting the implementation of more personalised, evidence-based therapeutic approaches.

Through the synergy of PGI / ISG Outreach for healthcare professionals, IBD Awareness initiatives for the public, and GI Oncology forums for multidisciplinary collaboration, ISG has established a comprehensive and integrated approach to digestive disease management from chronic inflammatory conditions to complex gastrointestinal malignancies.

These initiatives reflect ISG's unwavering commitment to narrowing disparities in access to medical knowledge, accelerating early detection of gastrointestinal diseases, and enhancing the overall quality of patient care across Indonesia.

ISG firmly believes that equitable access to education, heightened public awareness of early warning signs, and strong interdisciplinary collaboration are fundamental to addressing the evolving challenges of gastrointestinal diseases. With a sustained spirit of collaboration and continuous education, ISG will continue to extend its reach across regions and communities, striving toward more equitable, progressive, and globally competitive gastroenterology services in Indonesia.





HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ASIAN SESSION AT THE 111TH ANNUAL MEETING

Professor Takeshi Ogura ^{1, 2, 3, 4}

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On 26th April 2025 during the 111th General Meeting of the Japanese Society of Gastroenterology (JSGE) held in Tokyo, Japan, the society organised the 5th Asian Session with the aim of contributing to the advancement of medical and gastroenterological knowledge in Asia and promoting international exchange.

This session, with the title 'Opening New Window' and moderated by Professor Isayama and me, focused on new knowledge and advancements in endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) for the diagnosis and treatment of pancreatobiliary diseases. We invited six experts in this field from Indonesia, India, Korea, Taiwan and Japan.

Professor Dongwook Oh from Korea gave a lecture on endoscopic treatment for ampulla of Vater adenomas. Recently, intraductal radiofrequency ablation (I-RFA) has been explored for treating residual intraductal lesions post-endoscopic papillectomy at several centres. Professor Oh summarised clinical results of previous studies and concluded that I-RFA could potentially serve as a surgical alternative, particularly for patients who are either unsuitable for surgery or who opt not to undergo surgical procedure. Professor Yu-Ting Kuo from Taiwan highlighted recent advancements in endoscopic ultrasound-guided gastrojejunostomy (EUS-GJ) with videos. In his lecture, EUS-GJ was associated with quicker recovery and reduced morbidities as compared to surgical gastrojejunostomies. Professor Vikram Bhatia from India gave a lecture on microvascular doppler

(MDV) imaging for pancreatobiliary indications. He concluded that MDV provided a rapid assessment of the presence and distribution of vascular channels in a pancreatobiliary lesion with the switch of a button and without time-consuming contrast harmonic imaging (CHI). Professor Hasan Maulahela from Indonesia reviewed various procedures including endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided fine needle aspiration/biopsy and EUS-guided radiofrequency ablation (EUS-RFA). Although further research is needed, EUS-RFA can be indicated for pain control and local tumor control. Professor Kazuyuki Matsumoto from Japan presented a clinical study regarding EUS-guided ethanol injection (EUS-EI) for small pancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms (PNENs). According to their study, complete ablation at one month post-procedure was achieved for 90% of all patients. Although long-term follow-up is needed, they concluded that EUS-EI is a safe and effective treatment option for PNENs. Professor Nao Fujimori from Japan gave a lecture on EUS-guided

biliary drainage (EUS-BD) including various technical tips. Due to improvement in techniques and devices, the adverse event rate decreased. He concluded that EUS-BD is expected to play an increasingly pivotal role in the management of pancreatobiliary diseases.

The valuable lectures and discussions, we believe, have enabled significant knowledge sharing among all participants about recent developments in EUS for pancreatobiliary diseases. Also, we are certain that the anticipated success of sharing knowledge and experience in the next Asian Session will foster the continued growth of the gastroenterology community in Asia. Finally, I wish to sincerely express my deepest appreciation to the APAGE; Professor Satoshi Mochida, the President of the JSGE; and Professor Takanori Kanai, the President of the 111th General Meeting of the JSGE; for their cooperation and generous support towards this session.



KOREAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

Professor Hyun-Soo Kim

KDDW 2025

The Korea Digestive Disease Week (KDDW) 2025 was successfully held from 13th to 15th November 2025, at the Grand Walkerhill Seoul, under the theme “New Wave in Digestive Medicine”. Organised by the Korean Society of Gastroenterology (KSG), in collaboration with all major Korean academic societies in gastroenterology and hepatology, KDDW 2025 reaffirmed its position as a leading international scientific congress in the Asia-Pacific region.

The scientific programme was extensive and multi-disciplinary, comprising 38 society-based symposia, 13 combined symposia, 8 postgraduate courses, 26 free paper sessions, 2 plenary sessions, 2 presidential lectures, along with multiple training and satellite sessions. A strong emphasis was placed on cutting-edge topics including precision medicine, artificial intelligence in digestive diseases, microbiome and biomarker research, and advanced endoscopic and therapeutic strategies. Among the highlights was a joint symposium organised in

collaboration with the United European Gastroenterology (UEG), which showcased evolving therapeutic strategies and practical approaches to optimising the management of gastrointestinal diseases, further underscoring the strength of international collaboration fostered through the KSG-UEG partnership.

KDDW 2025 welcomed 1,972 participants from 47 countries, including 276 international attendees, underscoring its growing global reach. A total of 436 abstracts were presented (108 oral and 328 poster presentations), reflecting vibrant academic engagement from both domestic and international investigators. The meeting featured 45 invited international faculty members from 14 countries and over 390 domestic speakers and chairs, fostering rich scientific exchange.

Several prestigious awards were presented, including the KGFID Award, Young Investigator Award, Excellent Poster Award, and the KDDW Contribution Award. The exhibition hall hosted 39 industry sponsors, highlighting strong collaboration between academia and industry.



Professor Joo-Sung Kim (Immediate Past President of KSG).



KSG-UEG Joint Symposium.



Professor Hyun-Soo Kim (President of KSG).

Inauguration of New Executive Board

The Korean Society of Gastroenterology (KSG) has appointed a new executive board. During the KSG General Meeting held on 14th November 2025, in conjunction with the Korean Digestive Disease Week (KDDW), a new board of 22 members was established, including President Professor Hyun-Soo Kim and Chairman Professor Yong-Chan Lee. The new board will serve a two-year term until November 2027 and will focus on three key initiatives: “Compassionate and Inclusive Governance”, “Leadership in Education and Health Policy”, and “Sustainable Academic Innovation and Global Development”.



Committee of KSG.

Looking ahead. SIDDS 2026

The Seoul International Digestive Disease Symposium (SIDDS) 2026 (<https://www.sidss.org/program/>), organised by the Korean Society of Gastroenterology (KSG), will be held on 18th to 19th April 2026, at Grand Walkerhill Seoul, Korea, and is expected to represent an important historic milestone in international gastroenterology education. Under the theme “Navigating Toward Optimal Digestive Care: Beyond Linguistic Barriers”, SIDDS 2026 aims to foster global collaboration and academic exchange in digestive disease research. To fully realise this vision, SIDDS 2026 will introduce an AI-powered real-time translation system, allowing participants to overcome language obstacles and engage in seamless academic discussions.

SIDDS 2026 will host the first-ever UEG Educational Symposium in Asia, co-organised by the United European Gastroenterology (UEG) and KSG. The educational symposium, themed “Practical Approaches to the Treatment of IBD”, will deliver clinically focused, state-of-the-art insights directly applicable to daily practice. Key topics include future directions in IBD management, the expanding landscape of advanced therapies, personalised medicine strategies, optimisation of conventional treatments, and evidence-based approaches to anti-TNF failure in both ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease. An interactive panel discussion will further promote real-world, case-based learning and active audience engagement.



Professor Hyun-Soo Kim (President of KSG).



Professor Yong-Chan Lee (Chairman of KSG).

Following the UEG Educational Symposium, SIDDS 2026 will feature several highlight programmes that underscore its expanding global partnerships. Notably, the first-ever KSG-Korean American Gastroenterology Network joint session, titled “Evolving Concepts and Innovations in Pancreatobiliary Endoscopy”, will be held, reflecting growing trans-Pacific academic collaboration. In addition, the KSG-GEST Joint Symposium, titled “The Next Frontier: AI-Powered Diagnosis and Treatment”, together with the KSG-GEST Young Investigators Academy (Free Paper) session, conducted on a biennial basis, will continue to serve as key platforms for sustained academic exchange between the two societies, further strengthening long-term collaboration and nurturing the next generation of gastroenterology researchers. Furthermore, reflecting the growing

academic exchange between KSG and the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE), Professor Wai-Keung Leung (Treasurer, APAGE) and Professor Honggang Yu (Council Member, APAGE) will participate as moderators at SIDDS 2026. Their participation is expected to further enhance regional cooperation and future educational initiatives.

The pre-registration for SIDDS 2026 is available until 12th March 2026. Moderated by international experts from Europe, the United States, Asia, and Korea, SIDDS 2026 is expected to further strengthen transcontinental collaboration and reinforce SIDDS’s role as a leading global platform for education, innovation, and partnership in digestive diseases.



The Korean Society of Gastroenterology

SIDDS 2026

Seoul International Digestive Disease Symposium 2026
Navigating toward optimal digestive care: beyond linguistic barriers

Date Apr. 18.(Sat)-19.(Sun) 2026
Venue Grand Walkerhill Seoul, Korea

www.sids2026.org

Explore cutting-edge sessions across digestive disease care!

MACAU SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY

The Macau Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology hosted the Intestinal Microbiota Therapy Symposium in last winter (25th December 2025), and assisted Kiang Wu Hospital in opening her first Intestinal Microbiota Therapy Center in Macau.

Scientific data shows that the gut contains over 35,000 species of bacteria, closely linked to the immune system. As the largest immune organ in the human body, its vast surface area (equivalent to a tennis court) makes it the first line of defense against pathogens. Modern lifestyles, with their busy schedules, often neglect balanced nutrition, leading to an imbalance of beneficial and harmful bacteria in the gut. This imbalance can have numerous negative effects on health, potentially triggering chronic diseases and even cancer. Patients can maintain this balance through gut microbiota therapy. Gut microbiota therapy primarily involves implanting healthy gut microbiota into the patient to restore the stability of the gut microbiota. Currently, clinical

studies report that gut microbiota implantation technology has been used to treat over 80 diseases globally, covering metabolic diseases, psychiatric disorders, neurological diseases, digestive diseases, and infectious diseases, including Alzheimer's disease in the elderly and autism in children, and it has also played an adjunctive role in cancer treatment. In recent years, experts in mainland China have also applied this treatment to patients with ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), finding it effective in preventing secondary organ infections and helping to eliminate fatal risks.

We are deeply honoured to have the expert team from The Second Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing Medical University to share their experiences in this meaningful event.



MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY & HEPATOLOGY

Dr Lau Su Yin

Over the past few months, the Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) has continued our commitment to advancing gastroenterology and hepatology education through two major events: EndoQE 2025 and our inaugural Hepatology Preceptorship Week.

EndoQE 2025

The 9th EndoQE was held on 14th – 15th November, preceded by a Fellows' Forum. The forum focused on the fundamentals of GI endoscopy, offering practical tips and techniques to optimise the quality of gastroscopy, colonoscopy and polypectomy.

The main scientific programme, led by Datuk Dr Raman Muthukaruppan Chettiar, Organising Chairman cum Course Director, featured distinguished international faculty, including Professor Dr Mouen Khashab from Johns Hopkins University Hospital, USA; Professor Dr Rajvinder Singh from Lyell McEwin Hospital, Australia; Professor Dr Rungsun Rerknimitr from Chulalongkorn University and King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, Thailand; and Dr Mathew Philip from Lisie Hospital, Kochi, India. Their expertise enriched discussions on current advances in GI endoscopy, including image-enhanced endoscopy, therapeutic EUS, endohepatology and AI applications.

A highlight of EndoQE remains its live endoscopy demonstrations. These sessions were particularly well received, providing practical insights into technical refinement, real-time decision-making in complex cases and discussion of procedural nuances. The combination of the state-of-the-art lectures and live demonstrations continue to make EndoQE a key platform for GI endoscopists in Malaysia.

INAUGURAL HEPATOLOGY PRECEPTORSHIP WEEK

In contrast to EndoQE's broad professional audience, the Hepatology Preceptorship Week was designed exclusively for gastroenterology fellows with a strong interest in hepatology.

Organised by the Conjoint Training Committee led by Dr Syuhada Dan Adnan, the programme was paired with the first Hepatology Series of the year – part of MSGH's biannual in-depth hepatology updates – and began with two days of focused lectures covering core and advanced topics, including viral hepatitis, chronic liver disease, portal hypertension, and transplant-related care. The programme was further enriched by a special invited lecture on drug-induced liver injury (DILI) delivered by Associate Professor Dr Mark Muthiah from Singapore.

This was followed by immersive clinical exposure at Hospital Selayang, Malaysia's national liver transplant centre. Led by Senior Consultant Hepatologist, Dr Haniza Omar, our fellows had the opportunity to sit in combined liver transplant clinics, participate in multi-disciplinary transplant meetings, and observe complex case discussions involving advanced liver disease and transplant candidates.

The programme concluded with a dedicated day at Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC), which were coordinated by Dr Shahreedhan Shahrani and Professor Dr Chan Wah Kheong, where fellows were exposed to transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPSS) procedures and peri-procedural management discussions, further broadening their understanding of advanced portal hypertension management.

LOOKING AHEAD

We would also like to extend a warm invitation to all members of APAGE member-societies to attend our upcoming annual GUT conference, themed “Navigating the Changing Landscape of Digestive Diseases”, to be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, from 28th – 30th August 2026. The meeting will once again bring together endoscopy, gastroenterology and hepatology in a comprehensive scientific programme.



Photos from EndoQE.



**9th ENDOQE 2025 WORKSHOP
QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL
KOTA KINABALU, SABAH, MALAYSIA.**



Live GI Endoscopy demonstration.



Costume dress-up during EndoQE 2025.



Gastro Fellows Forum.

Photos from Hepatology Series and Preceptorship Week.



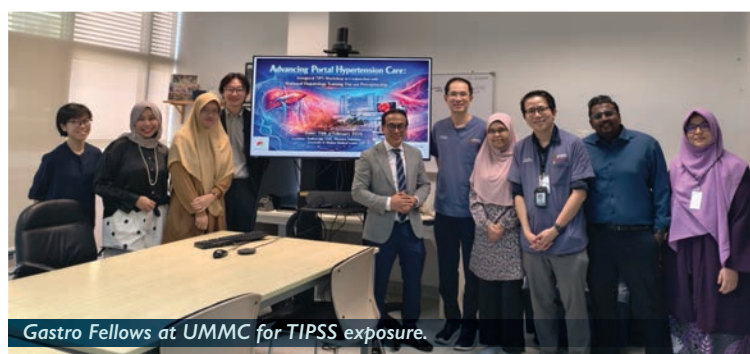
Hepatology Series themed
“Practical Updates on Cholestatic Liver Disease”.



Fellows at Hospital Selangor for Liver Transplant exposure.



Group photo at first day of Hepatology Preceptorship.



Gastro Fellows at UMMC for TIPSS exposure.

NZSG–NZgNC ASM 2025

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM), co-hosted by NZSG and NZgNC, was held in Palmerston North in late November. Delegates from New Zealand, Australia, the UK, and further afield, gathered for three days of scientific updates, professional networking, and international collaboration.

PROGRAMME SNAPSHOT

The programme covered hepatology, IBD, paediatrics, motility, endoscopy, quality improvement, and cultural equity. Featured speakers included leaders from Australia, the UK, The Netherlands, and New Zealand, presenting advances in colorectal cancer prevention, complex IBD care, hereditary cancer, interventional endoscopy, and liver disease.



EVENT LEADERSHIP

Convenor Dr James Irwin and the organising team delivered a focused, wellrun meeting supported by popular social events, including a charity Fun Run for Crohn's and Colitis New Zealand and the ASM Dinner.

SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

NZSG thanks all sponsors for supporting the event:

Titanium : Olympus

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Gold : Boston Scientific, C R Kennedy NZ Ltd,
Johnson & Johnson, Pharmaco

Silver : Ecolab, Medtronic, STERIS, Takeda

Bronze : NZMII

Young Investigator Awards : Endoventure, AbbVie, Olympus, Insight Medical

LOOKING AHEAD

We look forward to seeing you at the 2026 ASM in Christchurch, 18th to 20th November 2026, for another strong programme and expanded international engagement.



VIETNAM ASSOCIATION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY (VNAGE)

Professor Mai Hong Bang

At the end of each year, the Vietnam Association of Gastroenterology (VNAGE) regularly organises a conference on gastroenterology, endoscopy, and hepatobiliary diseases. This is a National conference with the participation of associations such as Vietnam Association of Gastroenterology (VNAGE), Vietnam Federation for Digestive Endoscopy (VFDE) and Vietnam Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (VASLD).

Last year, we held this important conference in Ninh Binh province. Ninh Binh is a province with many historical relics of Vietnam and many famous places. The conference was successfully held from 31st October to 1st November 2025, at the Ninh Binh Legend Hotel, with the title – “A New Era of Digestion”. The conference was attended by renowned experts from various countries – Professor Mindie H Nguyen (Stanford University, USA) and Professor Raja Affendi Raja Ali (Sunway University, Malaysia). The conference was an update with the latest information on diagnosis and treatment of gastroenterology, hepatobiliary-pancreatic diseases and new information on therapeutic endoscopy.

The conference was attended by 1,327 delegates, including 12 International speakers and 153 local speakers. On the first day of the Conference (Friday, 31st October 2025), we had an endoscopy demonstration in the morning, and in the afternoon, there were four workshops for post-graduate training, with the latest information on upper and lower gastrointestinal diseases, endoscopic interventions, and hepatobiliary and pancreatic diseases.

On the second day of the conference, we had a plenary session in the morning, for international speakers, covering the latest developments in liver cancer treatment, fatty liver disease, artificial intelligence in gastrointestinal endoscopy, endoscopic interventions, and microbiome. In the afternoon, we had 14 concurrent session including 4 sessions with presentations in English for young doctors under 35 years-old. The conference sponsored young physicians to participate in presentations, and also awarded prizes for outstanding research. The conference truly served as a bridge for local doctors to interact with International doctors, and also helped VNAGE prepare well for Asian Pacific Digestive Week (APDW), in Hanoi (7th to 11th November 2028).



The Conference Organising Committee presents Certificates to the International Speakers.



The Conference Organisers presented Awards to young doctors.





WORLD CONGRESS OF GASTROENTEROLOGY 2026

Transforming Gastrointestinal Health, Preserving Nature

30 Sep - 03 Oct, 2026

YASHOBHOOMI

India International Convention & Expo Centre, New Delhi, India



Govind Makharia
Chairman (LoC),
WCOG 2026, New Delhi.



Geoffrey Metz
Co-Chair, Steering Committee -
WCOG 2026
President - WGO



Pramod Garg
Co-Chair, Steering Committee -
WCOG 2026
President - ISG.

Welcome to
NEW, DELHI, INDIA

This is with immense sense of pride, We would like to send our warm invitation to all the society members to join and register for **World Congress of Gastroenterology (WCOG 2026)**- a landmark event being held for the very first time in India, in the vibrant national capital, New Delhi scheduled from September 30- October 03, 2026.

Conference theme, **“Transforming Gastrointestinal Health, Preserving Nature”**, reflects not just a scientific pursuit but a commitment to the larger well-being of our planet. Expect a dynamic blend of cutting-edge research, meaningful discussions, and the kind of cross-disciplinary exchange that will shape the future of medicine.

We expect more than 200 faculty, 3500 + delegates and more than 100 industry partners to join hands in making this event a successful congress.

Look forward to seeing you at WCOG 2026, New Delhi, India!

➔ REGISTER NOW

Visit conference website for more information: www.wcog2026india.com



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Let's raise awareness for early detection and stand in solidarity with those battling colorectal cancer across the Asia-Pacific region.



Happy INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



8TH MARCH 2026

Sincerely,
Women & Leadership in GI
Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology

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► Experience APDW 2026

- Connect with gastroenterologists, hepatologists, and endoscopists from different countries across Asia-Pacific and beyond.
- Learn from **200+** world-leading clinicians delivering keynote lectures, live endoscopy demonstrations, and hands-on workshops.
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- Explore innovations from **40+** industry exhibitors and connect with companies shaping the future of GI medicine.

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<https://apdw2026manila.com/>
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More details coming soon - stay tuned!



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