NOVEMBER 2026
ISSUE

APAGE

ASIAN PACIFIC
DIGESTIVE News
AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ASIAN PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

Advancing Digestive Health Across Asia Pacific

A REGION UNITED IN SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION



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MESSAGE FROM THE APAGE PRESIDENT



Dr Choon Jin Ooi

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE), I wish to express our sincere appreciation to our Council Members, Presidents of Member-Societies, and the wider gastroenterology and hepatology community across the Asia-Pacific region for your continued trust, support, and active participation in our activities throughout 2026. Your dedication and spirit of collaboration remain essential to our shared mission of advancing digestive health through education, research, scientific exchange, and regional cooperation.

As we approach the close of the year, we are reminded of the importance of working together to address the changing needs of digestive healthcare. Differences in disease patterns, healthcare systems, and access to clinical resources across our region reinforce the value of sharing expertise and learning from one another. APAGE remains committed to bringing clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals together, with a particular focus on translating new knowledge into clinically relevant practices that improve patient care.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN GASTROENTEROLOGY

On behalf of APAGE, I extend my warmest congratulations to Professor Siew Chien Ng of Hong Kong and Professor Nonthalee Pausawasdi of Bangkok on receiving the prestigious 2026 Trailblazer Award for Excellence in Medicine, presented by the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO).

> **"Your dedication and spirit of collaboration remain essential to our shared mission of advancing *digestive health ...*"**

This distinguished recognition honours outstanding women in medicine whose leadership, innovation, mentorship, and contributions to clinical care, education, research, and advocacy have helped shape the future of healthcare. Their achievements are a source of pride for our regional gastroenterology community and an inspiration to younger clinicians and researchers who aspire to make meaningful contributions to our specialty.

ASIAN PACIFIC DIGESTIVE WEEK 2026

24th to 28th November 2026 |
Philippine International Convention Center,
Manila, Philippines

As we prepare to gather in Manila, Philippines for the Asian Pacific Digestive Week (APDW) 2026, I would like to reaffirm APAGE's wholehearted and longstanding support for this important regional meeting. APDW remains an integral platform for our gastroenterology and hepatology community, providing opportunities for clinicians, researchers, educators, and allied healthcare professionals to learn from one another, exchange ideas, and build enduring professional connections.

APAGE is committed to working towards scientific activities that feature timely, clinically relevant topics addressing the challenges we encounter in daily practice. By bringing together emerging evidence, expert perspectives, and practical clinical insights, APDW helps bridge the gap between scientific advances and the care we provide to our patients. Its breadth of educational activities also supports continuing professional development across the diverse healthcare settings of the Asia-Pacific region.

Equally important, APDW provides an excellent forum for clinicians and investigators to present their latest research, discuss new findings, and explore opportunities for collaboration. It is a place where established experts and early-career colleagues can exchange perspectives, strengthen research networks, and contribute to the continued advancement of our specialty.

The recognition of achievement through research, training, and other professional awards is another valued aspect of APDW. These awards acknowledge dedication and excellence, encourage innovation, and help nurture the next generation of clinicians, educators, and researchers. I encourage our member-societies and colleagues throughout the region to participate actively in the scientific sessions, share their work, and celebrate the accomplishments of our community.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN 2027

Building on the scientific exchange and collaboration fostered through APDW, APAGE also looks forward to supporting a range of focused educational activities in 2027. I am particularly pleased to highlight two meetings scheduled for the first half of the year.

→ 8th APAGE Clinical Forum on Inflammatory Bowel Disease 2027

2nd & 3rd April 2027 | The Grand Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan

Under the theme *"Toward A Unified Standard: Elevating IBD Care Across Asia Pacific"*, the Forum reflects our shared commitment to improving the quality, consistency, and accessibility of inflammatory bowel disease care across our diverse region. It will bring together experts, clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals to discuss advances in IBD management, share practical experience, and consider how emerging evidence can inform patient care.

> **"... APDW helps bridge the gap between scientific advances and the care we provide *to our patients* ..."**

Beyond the scientific programme, the Forum offers valuable opportunities to strengthen professional networks, foster regional partnerships, and develop meaningful collaborations among colleagues dedicated to improving digestive health.

→ Asian Pacific Topic Conference 2027 (APTC 2027)

16th & 17th April 2027 | The Grand Walkerhill Seoul, South Korea

APTC 2027 will form part of the Seoul International Digestive Disease Symposium (SIDDS 2027), taking place on 16th & 17th April 2027. Hosted by the Korean Society of Gastroenterology, the conference will focus on precancerous gastric neoplasia and pancreatic disease. Through its focused scientific discussions, APTC will provide another valuable opportunity for clinicians to engage with developments in important areas of digestive disease and consider their implications for clinical practice.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we move towards 2027, APAGE remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing gastroenterology and hepatology through clinically meaningful education, high-quality research, professional recognition, and regional cooperation.

From the broad scientific exchange of APDW to the focused discussions offered by the APAGE IBD Forum and APTC, these activities reflect the depth of our shared commitment to continuous learning and better patient outcomes.

I thank our Council Members, Member-Societies, organising partners, speakers, researchers, and participants for their invaluable contributions.

I look forward to meeting many of you at APDW 2026 in Manila and to another productive year of collaboration, discovery, and progress for our regional community.





EDITOR'S Note

Dr Dao Viet Hang

As we approach the close of 2026, this November edition of APDNews offers an opportunity to reflect on the achievements and continued progress of our member-societies across the Asia-Pacific region. Despite differences in healthcare systems, resources, and clinical priorities, our societies share a common commitment to advancing digestive health through scientific excellence, education, innovation, and collaboration.

At the heart of APAGE are its member-societies whose dedication and activities form the foundation of our regional scientific community. This issue highlights their achievements, educational initiatives, research activities, and professional engagement. Each contribution reflects the unique strengths and priorities of individual societies, while collectively demonstrating the diversity and dynamism of gastroenterology across the region. More importantly, these shared experiences foster mutual learning, strengthen professional connections, and inspire new opportunities for collaboration.

An important scientific achievement in 2026 has been the advancement of evidence-based clinical practice through regional guidelines and consensus recommendations. Notably, APAGE published clinical practice guidelines on the use of small molecules and IL-23 p19 inhibitors in inflammatory bowel disease, reflecting the collective expertise of specialists across the region. The Southeast Asian consensus recommendations on rationalizing proton pump inhibitor use further emphasise the importance of translating scientific evidence into practical, context-sensitive clinical guidance. Together, these initiatives demonstrate our shared commitment to improving the quality, safety, and consistency of digestive healthcare.

> "Your dedication and spirit of collaboration remain essential to our shared mission of advancing *digestive health*"

Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate Asian Pacific Digestive Week (APDW) 2026, taking place from 24th to 28th November in Manila, Philippines. This important scientific gathering will bring together clinicians, researchers, educators, and emerging leaders to exchange knowledge, explore innovations, and strengthen regional partnerships. Beyond scientific advancement, APDW represents an invaluable opportunity to nurture the next generation of gastroenterologists and transform individual expertise into collective progress.

As we move forward, we are reminded that the true strength of APAGE lies not only in the achievements of individual societies, but in what we can accomplish together. Through sustained collaboration, mentorship, and scientific exchange, we can bridge disparities, inspire future leaders, and translate advances in research into meaningful improvements in patient care.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all our member societies and contributors, as well as Ms. Molly Kong, Executive Director of APAGE, and the APAGE Secretariat, for their continued dedication and support.

I hope you enjoy this November edition of APDNews, and to seeing many of you in Manila, Philippines for APDW 2026.

APAGE Emerging Leaders' Committee

Co-Chairs: Dr Daniel Huang and
Dr Tanyaporn Chantarojanasiri

The Committee was established in late 2022 and now includes emerging leaders from 17 countries.

It aims to build the next generation of gastroenterology and hepatology leaders in the Asia-Pacific region through collaborative research, education and mentorship. Its work is organised into a cross-cutting stream and eight subcommittees.

1. CROSS-CUTTING INITIATIVES

Perspective article ***"Building the next generation of gastroenterology and hepatology research leaders in Asia: from disease burden to scientific leadership."*** (Chantarojanasiri, T et al Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol(2026).

This published article *(Figure 1)* looks ahead at how the region's large burden of digestive and liver disease can be turned into scientific leadership, with strategies for research training, mentorship and international collaboration.

APDW 2026 leadership session. ***"Beyond clinical excellence: building the next generation of GI and hepatology leaders."*** This session covers skills beyond clinical practice, including research leadership, mentorship and career development.

2. HEPATOLOGY

Asia-Pacific survey on the diagnosis and management of chronic hepatitis B. This survey describes how screening, treatment eligibility, antiviral selection and HCC surveillance vary across the region.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Artificial Intelligence
***Lead:** Dr Louis Lau*

Disorders of Gut-Brain Interaction (DGBI)
***Lead:** Dr Marc Wong*

Hepatology
***Lead:** Dr Loey Mak*

HPB Endoscopy
***Lead:** Dr Nikhil Sonthalia*

IBD, Microbiome and Lower GI
***Lead:** Dr Ren Mao*

Upper GI and Endoscopic Resection
***Lead:** Dr Otani Koji*

Women in GI
***Lead:** Dr Sonam Mathur*

Social Media
***Lead:** Dr Enrik Aguila*

Multicentre study on hepatitis C elimination in prisons across the Asia-Pacific. This study evaluates testing, linkage to care and treatment uptake in incarcerated populations.

3. WOMEN IN GI

Challenges facing female physicians in gastrointestinal endoscopy in the Asia-Pacific region. This multinational study examines barriers in training, career progression and ergonomics across cultural differences.

4. HPB ENDOSCOPY

Pancreato-biliary Endoscopy Webinar 2.0. This regional webinar series follows the first series, held between October 2024 and September 2025. The sessions focused on endoscopic tips and tricks from experts across Asia pacific regions. The next webinar series will be in December 2026.

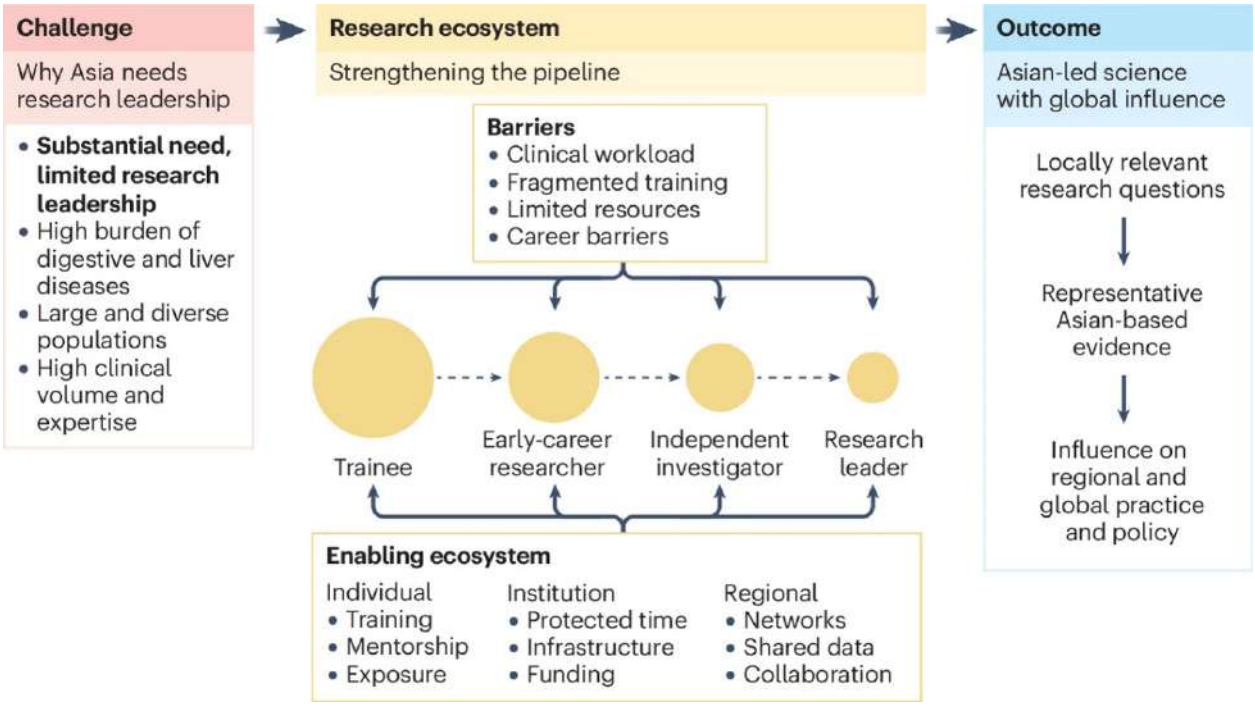


Figure 1

5. UPPER GI AND ENDOSCOPIC RESECTION

Asia-Pacific survey on H. pylori eradication and gastric cancer prevention after eradication. This multinational survey will describe regional variation in first-line eradication regimens, antibiotic susceptibility testing, confirmation of eradication, endoscopic surveillance after eradication, and how early gastric cancer that develops after eradication is detected and treated, including the use of ESD. The findings will form the basis of a narrative review and editorial on region-specific challenges and priorities.

WORKPLAN FOR THE COMING YEAR

Initiative	Subcommittee	Deliverable
APDW Leadership Session	Cross-cutting	Delivery at APDW 2026
Hepatitis B Survey	Hepatology	Analysis and manuscript submission
Hepatitis C in Prisons	Hepatology	Site recruitment and data collection
Female Endoscopists Study	Women in GI	Data collection and analysis
Webinar 2.0	HPB Endoscopy	Completion of series
Review Article on Updates in Interventional EUS	HPB Endoscopy	Review article for submission
Collaborative Project on AI in Upper GI Endoscopy	AI: Upper GI and Endoscopic Resection	Project scoping and protocol development
Patient-level Survey on the Use of AI in Endoscopy/GI or APAGE-ELC-led Consensus on AI in Endoscopy/GI	AI	Under evaluation
Priority Projects	IBD, Microbiome and Lower GI	Identify focus areas and initiate projects
Dissemination of Committee Activities	Social Media	Regular updates on APAGE channels

The Committee will also widen participation from member societies, strengthen mentorship links with senior APAGE members, and present its outputs at APDW 2027.

8TH APAGE CLINICAL FORUM ON IBD

Taipei 2027

Toward a Unified Standard: Elevating IBD Care Across Asia Pacific
2nd & 3rd April 2027

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is our great pleasure to invite you to Taipei for the 8th APAGE Clinical Forum on Inflammatory Bowel Disease. As IBD rises steadily across our region, the need for shared, practical standards of care has never been greater. This forum is designed for the clinicians who meet that need every day.

AN OUTSTANDING FACULTY

More than 60 speakers, chairs and panelists from 12 countries and regions will join us, including Peter Gibson (Australia), Zhihua Ran (China), Siew Chien Ng (Hong Kong), Govind Makharia (India), Tadakazu Hisamatsu (Japan), Byong Duk Ye (Korea), Ida Hilmi (Malaysia), Jose Sollano (Philippines), Choon Jin Ooi (Singapore), Shu-Chen Wei (Taiwan), Julajak Limsrivillai (Thailand) and Viet Hang Dao (Vietnam).

Gastroenterologists will share the stage with pathologists, radiologists, colorectal surgeons and other specialists, reflecting the multidisciplinary reality of modern IBD care. Rising clinicians from across Asia-Pacific will present cases alongside the region's most respected leaders.

A FRUITFUL, PRACTICE-FOCUSED PROGRAM

Over two days, the programme moves from the fundamentals to the frontier:

- **Get your basics right:** diagnosis, endoscopic mimics, pathology and cross-sectional imaging.
- **Conventional therapies revisited:** smart use of mesalazine, steroids and thiopurines, with live debates on steroid-refractory acute severe UC as well as asymptomatic IBD patients' management.
- **Interactive case discussions** with audience voting, rapid-fire clinical dilemmas (TB, CMV, zoster, malignancy) and multidisciplinary team work on complex fistulizing and dysplasia cases.
- **Cross-specialty IBD:** arthritis, PSC, skin and malignancy.
- **Preventing complications:** vaccination, dysplasia surveillance, bone health, sarcopenia and fatigue.
- **APAGE consensus statements** on IL-23 inhibitors and small molecules, illustrated with real-world scenarios.
- **Special populations:** elderly, obese and pregnant patients, IBS overlap and intestinal ultrasound.

Lively quizzes with prizes, free paper presentations and poster viewing will keep every session engaging.

THE WARM HOSPITALITY OF TAIPEI

The forum takes place at The Grand Hotel Taipei, the city's iconic red-columned palace overlooking the Keelung River, only 15–25 minutes by taxi from Songshan Airport and linked to the MRT by a free shuttle.

Early April brings mild spring weather, ideal for exploring the National Palace Museum, Taipei 101, tranquil hot springs and the famous night markets.

Above all, you will find the warmth for which Taiwan is known: friendly people, superb food and a safe, easy-to-navigate city. We look forward to welcoming you as friends.



THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

28th Joint Annual Scientific Meeting 2026

The 28th Joint Annual Scientific Meeting was successfully held on 5th September 2026 at Cordis Hong Kong Hotel. The conference was jointly organised by six leading societies in Hong Kong dedicated to gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary diseases. These societies include the Hong Kong Society of Gastroenterology, the Hong Kong Society of Digestive Endoscopy, the Hong Kong Society for Coloproctology, the Hong Kong Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, the Hong Kong Society of Gastrointestinal Motility and the Hong Kong IBD Society.

The event featured eight lectures that addressed cutting-edge topics in gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy and surgery. These were delivered by international renowned experts, including Dr Cathy Lu and Dr Yen-I Chen from Canada, alongside prominent local speakers Dr Joyce Mak, Dr Rex Hui, Dr Felix Chow and Dr Michael Ko.



Symposium I



Symposium II



Symposium III

The programme covered the most dynamic areas of gastrointestinal and hepatic health including the updates in management of inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), ulcerative colitis, malignant biliary obstructions, chronic liver diseases, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD), early-onset colorectal cancer (EOCRC) and the disorder of gut brain interaction.

The meeting, once again, served as a valuable platform for gastrointestinal professionals to exchange knowledge and share experience on various aspects of GI diseases, attracting more than 240 delegates. Attendees found the event not only enjoyable but also inspiring and rewarding.

INDONESIAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

PROFESSOR ARI FAHRIAL SYAM
President, Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology
Professor, Department of Internal Medicine
Cipto Mangunkusumo National General Hospital Indonesia

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVANCING DIGESTIVE HEALTH

Throughout 2026, the Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology (ISG) continued to advance professional education, strengthen clinical collaboration, and promote the development of digestive healthcare in Indonesia. Through national scientific meetings, international partnerships, and educational outreach initiatives, ISG remained committed to connecting Indonesian gastroenterologists with the latest developments in the field while addressing key clinical and public health priorities.

A NEW CHAPTER FOR ISG

An important milestone in 2026 was the national congress jointly organised by the Indonesian Association for the Study of the Liver (INA-ASL), the Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology (ISG), and the Indonesian Society for Digestive Endoscopy (ISDE), held on 23rd to 26th July 2026 at The Alana Hotel in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



During the congress, Professor Ari Fahrial Syam was re-elected President of ISG, while Dr Hasan Maulahela was re-elected Secretary-General for the 2026–2029 term. Their continued leadership is expected to strengthen the Society's commitment to professional development, expand educational opportunities, and foster collaboration among healthcare professionals and scientific organisations.

The congress also provided a valuable platform for reinforcing partnerships across related specialties and identifying opportunities to advance gastroenterology and digestive healthcare in Indonesia.

PGI/ISG OUTREACH

Following previous outreach activities in Batam, Cirebon, and Gorontalo, the programme reached an important international milestone with its fourth edition center of excellence programme at Asan Medical Center in Seoul, South Korea, on 12th & 13th August 2026.

Conducted in collaboration with Professor Jeong-Sik Byeon, Director of the Digestive Endoscopy Center and a member of the Department of Gastroenterology at Asan Medical Center, the programme provided Indonesian endoscopists with opportunities to observe advanced procedures, exchange clinical experiences, and gain insights into the practical application of contemporary endoscopic techniques.

The international faculty included Drs Min Kyu Kim, So Young Byun, Do Hoon Kim, Tae Jun Song, and Sung Wook Hwang. The educational activities covered advanced endoscopic procedures, including endoscopic ultrasound (EUS), endoscopic retrograde

cholangiopancreatography (ERCP), peroral endoscopic myotomy (POEM), and intestinal ultrasound (IUS).

Representing Indonesia, the faculty comprised Drs Ari Fahrial Syam; Hasan Maulahela, Achmad Fauzi, and Rabbinu Rangga Pribadi. They contributed to the educational sessions and clinical discussions throughout the programme.

A total of 20 physicians participated in the programme and were divided into groups to facilitate direct observation of endoscopic procedures. Through live demonstrations and discussions with experienced specialists, participants gained valuable exposure to advanced techniques, procedural approaches, and clinical decision-making.

The experience at Asan Medical Center reflects ISG's commitment to practical, experience-based education and international collaboration. Building on this initiative, the Society plans to extend its outreach activities to Magelang and Ternate in Indonesia, as well as to Japan, providing further opportunities for professional learning and clinical exchange.



ADVANCING COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

Colorectal cancer screening remained an important public health priority for ISG in 2026. On 30th May 2026, the Society held the 3rd Gastrointestinal Oncology Summit at The Ritz-Carlton Jakarta, Mega Kuningan, Indonesia bringing together national and international experts and representatives of the Ministry of Health to discuss strategies for strengthening colorectal cancer screening in Indonesia.

Under the theme *"Colorectal Cancer Screening and Management: Bridging Gaps for Early Detection and Better Outcomes"*, the summit focused on international screening experiences and their potential implications for the Indonesian healthcare system.

The opening session featured Professor Dante Saksono Harbuwono, Vice Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia. The scientific programme began with presentations on international approaches to colorectal cancer screening. Professor Takahisa Matsuda, shared Japan's experience, while Professor Han-Mo Chiu presented insights from Taiwan.

The subsequent expert discussion brought together Professor Murdani Abdullah, Professor Takahisa Matsuda, Professor Han-Mo Chiu, Professor Muhammad Miftahussurur, Dr Hery Djagat Purnomo, and Dr Siti Nadia Tarmizi representing the Ministry of Health.



The discussion highlighted the importance of adapting international experiences to Indonesia's healthcare context, strengthening collaboration among professional societies and government stakeholders, and improving access to early detection services.

Building on the first two editions, which brought together specialists from fields including anatomical pathology, digestive surgery, and haematology-oncology, the third summit placed particular emphasis on colorectal cancer screening. By bringing together clinical expertise, international perspectives, and national health stakeholders, the meeting contributed to ongoing discussions on developing a screening approach suited to Indonesia's healthcare needs.



IDDW 2026: CONNECTING INNOVATION IN DIGESTIVE HEALTH

The Indonesian Digestive Disease Week (IDDW) 2026 was held at the Shangri-La Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia from 16th to 19th September 2026, under the theme *"Connecting Innovation in Digestive Health"*.

Hosted by ISG, the four-day congress brought together Indonesian and international experts to exchange scientific knowledge, explore advances in digestive medicine, and strengthen professional collaboration. The programme encompassed a broad range of topics, including advanced endoscopy, clinical nutrition, esophageal motility, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), disorders of gut–brain interaction, and other emerging areas in gastroenterology.

The congress combined hands-on workshops, scientific symposia, expert discussions, and research presentations, creating opportunities for participants to develop practical skills, discuss contemporary clinical challenges, and explore how scientific advances can be translated into everyday practice.

MASTERCLASS IN LOWER GI ENDOSCOPY

One of the major highlights of IDDW 2026 was the Masterclass in Lower GI Endoscopy, held on 16th to 17th September 2026 in collaboration with the Academy of Endoscopy (AOE).

Designed for internist endoscopists, trainees, fellows, and gastroenterologists, the two-day masterclass adopted a simulation-based mastery learning approach, emphasising repeated practice and the progressive development of technical competency. The international faculty comprised Professor Roy Soetikno (USA) and Dr Carlos Paolo D. Francisco (Philippines).

The programme combined focused lectures with hands-on simulation training in colonoscopy and therapeutic lower gastrointestinal endoscopy. Participants practiced key procedural skills, including scope insertion, withdrawal and mucosal inspection, loop reduction, cold and hot snare polypectomy, endoscopic mucosal resection (EMR), clipping, defect closure, and endoscopic hemostasis.





By emphasising structured practice and competency-based learning, the masterclass provided participants with opportunities to refine their techniques, address procedural challenges, and strengthen their confidence in performing lower gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures.

CLINICAL NUTRITION WORKSHOP

The Clinical Nutrition Workshop, held on 16th September 2026, highlighted the essential role of nutritional assessment and individualised nutritional management in patients with digestive diseases and other complex medical conditions.

The workshop featured lectures by Drs Saskia Aziza Nursyirwan, Diana Sunardi, and Muhammad Begawan Bestar. Dr Virly Nanda Muzellina also contributed to the interactive group sessions.

The scientific programme covered the assessment and diagnosis of malnutrition, the selection of enteral and parenteral nutrition formulations, and the application of individualised nutritional therapy across different gastrointestinal conditions.

Case-based discussions addressed nutritional management in acute and chronic pancreatitis, cirrhosis with sarcopenia, inflammatory bowel disease, and sepsis. Participants also engaged in group presentations and received feedback from the faculty, encouraging the practical application of nutritional principles to clinical decision-making.

The workshop reinforced the importance of integrating nutrition into comprehensive patient care and highlighted the value of multidisciplinary collaboration in improving recovery and clinical outcomes.

ESOPHAGEAL MOTILITY WORKSHOP

The Esophageal Motility Workshop held on 17th September 2026 brought together experts from Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand to discuss advances in the diagnosis and management of esophageal motility disorders and gastroesophageal reflux.





The international faculty comprised Professor Tanisa Patcharatrakul (Thailand); Professor Reuben Wong Kong Min (Singapore); and Professor Lee Yeong-Yeh (Malaysia). They were joined by Indonesian faculty members Professor Ari Fahrial Syam, Dr Amanda Pitarini Utari and Dr Virly Nanda Muzellina. The workshop covered high-resolution manometry, multichannel intraluminal impedance-pH monitoring, the Chicago Classification version 4.0, and the interpretation of challenging esophageal motility and reflux cases.

Live demonstrations and small-group case discussions enabled participants to examine diagnostic findings, address common interpretative challenges, and relate physiological measurements to clinical decision-making.

By combining regional expertise with practical case-based learning, the workshop provided a valuable platform for strengthening clinical competencies and promoting greater consistency in the assessment of esophageal motility disorders.

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

The IDDW 2026 Scientific Symposium, held on 18th & 19th September 2026, brought together more than 500 delegates from Indonesia, South Korea, and Bangladesh. The meeting provided a platform for scientific exchange, international networking, and discussion of emerging developments in digestive healthcare.

The Opening Ceremony featured a Betawi dance performance by internal medicine residents of Universitas Indonesia, celebrating Indonesia's cultural heritage. The ceremony continued with a traditional gong-striking ritual led by Professor Ari Fahrial Syam, President of ISG, and Dr Hasan Maulahela, formally opening the scientific meeting.

In his remarks, Professor Ari Fahrial Syam emphasised the importance of sustained collaboration and innovation in advancing gastroenterology, digestive endoscopy, clinical nutrition, and motility expertise in Indonesia and the wider international community.





The scientific programme featured one plenary lecture, 11 symposia, and five special sessions, covering a broad range of contemporary issues in gastroenterology and digestive healthcare. Topics included artificial intelligence in clinical practice, evidence-based probiotic selection, precision medicine in IBD, bowel preparation, disorders of gut–brain interaction, dyslipidemia, nutritional therapy, gastrointestinal bleeding, acid-related diseases, obesity management, and gastrointestinal cancer detection.

Several sessions focused on emerging approaches to the diagnosis, monitoring, and management of digestive diseases. Discussions on IBD explored advances in treatment strategies, nutritional support, endoscopic assessment, and point-of-care monitoring. Intestinal ultrasound (IUS) was also featured as an emerging tool for real-time disease monitoring, reflecting growing interest in expanding non-invasive assessment in clinical practice.

Other sessions addressed the management of upper gastrointestinal bleeding, advances in acid suppression, the use of proton pump inhibitors and potassium-competitive acid blockers (P-CABs), and strategies for the early detection of gastrointestinal cancers. Together, these discussions enabled clinicians to review emerging evidence and consider its relevance to everyday clinical practice.

The Dinner Symposium was another highlight of IDDW 2026, featuring the launch of fexuprazan, a potassium-competitive acid blocker (P-CAB), in Indonesia. The session was moderated by Professor Ji Won Kim from South Korea, and Dr Hery Djagat Purnomo. Presentations were delivered by Professor Ari Fahrial Syam and Professor Ji Yong Ahn from South Korea.



The symposium explored developments in acid-related disease management and introduced fexuprazan as a new treatment option in Indonesia. Through expert presentations and scientific discussion, participants had the opportunity to learn about its clinical applications and consider the evolving role of P-CABs in the management of acid-related disorders. The session also underscored the importance of continuing scientific exchange between Indonesian and international experts as new therapeutic approaches become available.

Across the congress, the combination of practical workshops, scientific presentations, and international faculty participation strengthened professional networks and encouraged the exchange of clinical knowledge and experience among digestive health professionals.

IDDW 2026 also provided a platform for young doctors and researchers through its scientific abstract and e-poster presentation programme. A total of 58 abstracts were presented, comprising 26 research studies and 32 case reports. The E-Posters reflected ongoing research activities, clinical experiences, and emerging perspectives across different areas of digestive health. The programme offered young clinicians and researchers an opportunity to share their work, engage in scientific discussion, and contribute to the development of gastroenterology in Indonesia.

Through IDDW 2026, ISG reaffirmed its commitment to advancing medical education, strengthening clinical competencies, supporting scientific research, and fostering international collaboration.

By bringing together experienced specialists, emerging investigators, and international experts, the congress demonstrated the value of shared learning in supporting continuous professional development and improving digestive healthcare.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027

Building on the achievements of 2026, ISG is preparing to expand its educational and professional initiatives in the coming year.

The next Indonesian Digestive Disease Week (IDDW 2027) is scheduled for 6th & 7th October 2027. The congress will provide another opportunity for Indonesian and international experts to exchange scientific knowledge, discuss emerging developments, and strengthen collaboration in digestive health.

The Society also plans to continue the PGI/ ISG Outreach Programme through activities in Magelang and Ternate, Indonesia, as well as in Japan for center of excellence. These initiatives aim to broaden access to clinical education, practical training, and professional exchange across different settings.

In addition, ISG has identified intestinal ultrasound (IUS) as one of its priority programmes for the coming year, reflecting its commitment to strengthening diagnostic expertise and expanding clinical capabilities, particularly in the assessment and monitoring of inflammatory bowel disease.

As part of this initiative, ISG will organise an IUS Workshop in collaboration with the Gastroenterology Network of Intestinal Ultrasound (GENIUS) on December 5, 2026, at Cipto Mangunkusumo National General Hospital, Jakarta. This workshop marks an important step toward advancing IUS training and promoting the integration of intestinal ultrasound into clinical practice in Indonesia.

These initiatives form part of ISG's broader commitment to connecting professional education, international cooperation, and the evolving healthcare needs of patients in Indonesia. Through continued investment in clinical training, multidisciplinary collaboration, scientific research, and emerging diagnostic approaches, the society aims to contribute to the continued advancement of gastroenterology nationally and across the Asia-Pacific region.

As ISG looks toward 2027, its mission remains clear: to connect knowledge, innovation, and collaboration in pursuit of better digestive health for patients in Indonesia and beyond.

THE KOREAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

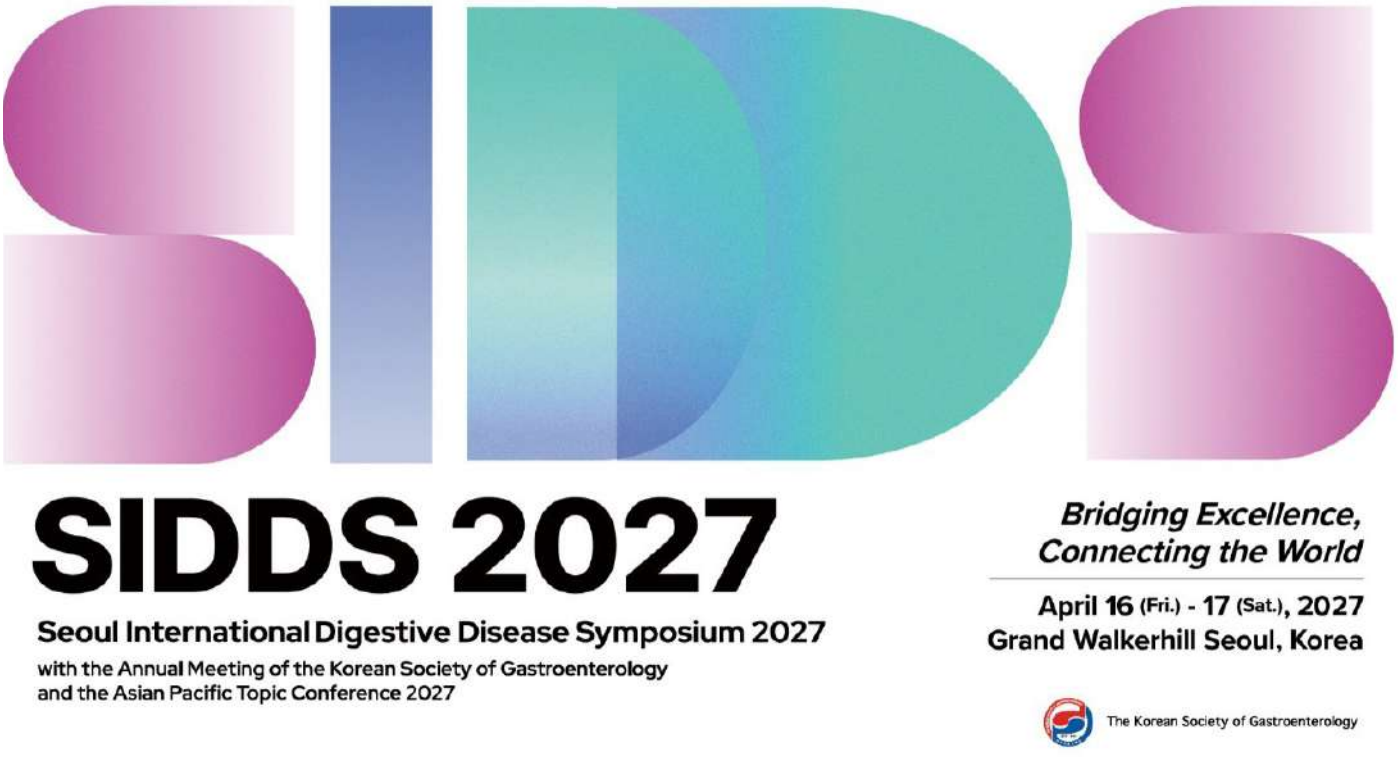
PROFESSOR HYUN-SOO KIM
President, KSG

SIDDS 2027: BRIDGING EXCELLENCE, CONNECTING THE WORLD

The 35th Seoul International Digestive Disease Symposium (SIDDS 2027) will be held on 16th & 17th April 2027, at the Grand Walkerhill Seoul, South Korea in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Korean Society of Gastroenterology (KSG). The theme is *"Bridging Excellence, Connecting the World"*. SIDDS 2027 will be a special edition for KSG: for the first time, the Asian-Pacific Topic Conference (APTC) of APAGE will be held in Seoul together with SIDDS, and KSG will launch SIDDS-RISE, a new academy for young gastroenterologists of the Asia-Pacific region.

The core of the meeting will again be the plenary sessions, postgraduate courses and multidisciplinary team sessions. The international programme includes a joint symposium with the Japanese Society of Gastroenterology (JSGE) and the second UEG Educational Symposium under the memorandum of understanding between KSG and United European Gastroenterology. The UEG symposium will be devoted to comprehensive care in inflammatory bowel disease, covering multidisciplinary care, extra-intestinal manifestations, colorectal cancer surveillance, vaccination and pregnancy in IBD, with faculty from Europe and Korea.

The AI real-time interpretation and subtitling system introduced in 2026 will be extended to more sessions, including those delivered in Korean, so that delegates can follow the programme whatever their working language.



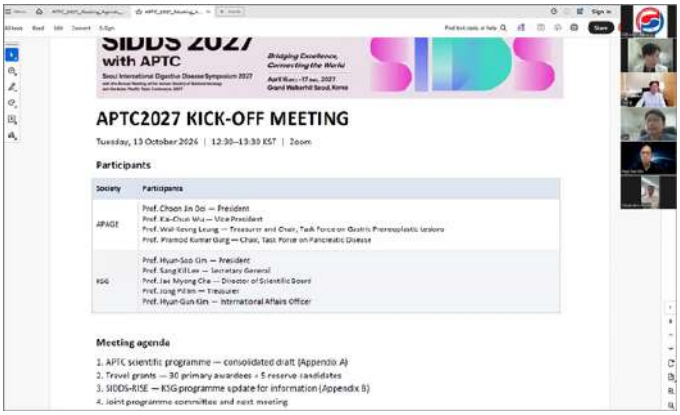
SIDDS 2027 Poster

THE 16TH ASIAN-PACIFIC TOPIC CONFERENCE COMES TO SEOUL

KSG is honoured to host the 16th Asian-Pacific Topic Conference (APTC 2027) in conjunction with SIDDS 2027. APTC is a flagship academic programme of APAGE. The 15th APTC was held in Fukui, Japan, in April 2026 with the 112th Annual Meeting of JSGE, and the 16th APTC will follow the same model in Seoul, South Korea: a focused conference held within a national annual meeting, so that participants can attend both the APTC programme and the full SIDDS programme with a single registration.

APTC 2027 will focus on gastric and pancreatic neoplasia, from early detection and diagnosis to endoscopic and clinical management. The scientific programme is being prepared by a joint committee of APAGE and KSG; on the APAGE side, Professor Wai Keung Leung (Hong Kong) and Professor Pramod Kumar Garg (New Delhi) are working with the KSG Academic Committee. Invited lectures by leading experts from across the region will be combined with presentations of selected abstracts, so that young investigators can present their work in front of the APTC faculty.

APAGE and KSG are also preparing a travel support programme for young gastroenterologists from APAGE member-societies who present at APTC 2027. Details, including eligibility and how to apply, will be posted at sidds.org when they are finalised. We encourage every member society to inform its young members.



APTC 2027 Joint Committee Online Meeting

SIDDS-RISE: RISING STAR ACADEMY FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC

Alongside APTC 2027, KSG will launch SIDDS-RISE (Rising Star Academy), a new one-day intensive programme for 30 young gastroenterologists from the Asia-Pacific region. SIDDS-RISE is a hands-on academy, not a lecture course. Participants work in small groups with expert facilitators on three Interpretation Labs and an ESD hands-on session, which KSG runs jointly with the Korean Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (KSGE).

- Interpretation Lab 1 - Intestinal Ultrasound
- Interpretation Lab 2 - Optical Diagnosis
- Interpretation Lab 3 - Pancreatobiliary EUS
- ESD Hands-on - KSG-KSGE joint hands-on training on ex vivo models

Invited APTC speakers will join SIDDS-RISE as lab facilitators and mentors, so that the two programmes strengthen each other. All participants will be registered as SIDDS-RISE Alumni, and KSG hopes this network will grow into a lasting community of young leaders in Asia-Pacific gastroenterology.

Applications for SIDDS-RISE will be received together with APTC registration at sidds.org. Places are limited to 30, so early application is recommended.

Time	Program	Venue
Wednesday, April 14 · Arrival		
from 16:00	**Arrival and check-in, Songdo** Participants make their own way to the hotel in Songdo.	Hotel in Songdo TBC
Evening	**Welcome dinner** Korean BBQ with faculty and fellow Rising Stars.	Songdo
Thursday, April 15 · Academy Day		
08:00	**Assemble** Please arrive on your own by 08:00. Group assignment (A–F) and the rotation sheet are handed out on arrival.	Celltrion Pharm R&D Center
08:30 – 09:45	**Interpretation Lab · Session 1** 75 min	Celltrion, 1F / 2F lab rooms
09:55 – 11:00	**Interpretation Lab · Session 2** 75 min	Celltrion, 1F / 2F lab rooms
11:20 – 12:35	**Interpretation Lab · Session 3** 75 min · every group completes all three labs	Celltrion, 1F / 2F lab rooms
12:35 – 13:15	**Lunch with the Editor** Boxed lunch with a 20-minute talk from an invited journal editor, followed by open questions.	Celltrion, main conference room
13:15	**Walk to Olympus K-TEC** Four minutes on foot.	—
13:40 – 17:00	**Gastric ESD Hands-on Session** In collaboration with KSGE. Orientation lecture and live demonstration, then station practice on live porcine models.	Olympus K-TEC
Evening	**Rising Star Night** Closing dinner, alumni plaque presentation and class photo.	Songdo
approx. 20:00	**Bus to Seoul** Chartered transfer to the SIDDS venue area.	→ Grand Walkerhill Seoul

SIDDS-RISE Program

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND AWARDS

We encourage colleagues across the Asia-Pacific region to submit abstracts. Of the 355 abstracts received in 2026, 295 were accepted and 60 presenters went home with an award; Young Investigator Awards and Excellent Poster Awards went to colleagues from Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Mongolia. For 2027 the Society will enlarge both the Young Investigator Award and its travel support programme.

Abstract submission for SIDDS 2027 and APTC 2027 opened at *sidds.org* on October 1, 2026, and closes on January 3, 2027.

Registration for SIDDS 2027, APTC 2027 and SIDDS-RISE will open at the same site. We look forward to welcoming colleagues from across the region to Seoul next April.

SIDDS 2027 / APTC 2027 AT A GLANCE

Theme	Bridging Excellence, Connecting the World
Date	April 16 (Fri) - 17 (Sat), 2027
Venue	Grand Walkerhill Seoul, Seoul, Korea
With	The 16th Asian-Pacific Topic Conference (APTC 2027) of APAGE; SIDDS-RISE (Rising Star Academy) [April 14 - 15, 2027]
Website	*https://sidds.org/* *(KSG: www.gastrokorea.org)*

MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY

DR LAU SU YIN
Honorary Secretary, MSGH

GUT 2026: NAVIGATING THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF DIGESTIVE DISEASES

The Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (MSGH) held its Annual Scientific Congress, GUT 2026, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from 28th to 30th August 2026. Centered on the theme *"Navigating the Changing Landscape of Digestive Diseases"*, the Congress was chaired by Professor Dr Ida Normiha Hilmi, MSGH President and Organizing Chair. For the second consecutive year, the Congress was held alongside UMMC Live Endoscopy Workshop, jointly organised with the Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) under the leadership of Associate Professor Dr Chuah Kee Huat.

The three-day meeting brought together experts and healthcare professionals from local and overseas (a total of 966 delegates!). Highlights of the congress include:

→ KEYNOTE LECTURES AND JOINT SYMPOSIA

Three named lectures anchored the scientific programme:

- 4th Goh Khean Lee Distinguished Lecture by Professor Dr Amit Maydeo on the Past, Present and Future of Pancreatobiliary Endoscopy
- 26th MSGH Oration by Professor Dr Lim Seng Gee on Hepatitis B at a Turning Point, from Viral Suppression to Functional Cure
- 23rd Panir Chelvam Memorial Lecture by Professor Dr Gil Kaplan on the Emerging Burden of Inflammatory Bowel Disease in Malaysia

Second year running, a dedicated MSGH-GAT (Gastroenterological Association of Thailand) joint symposium continued to foster cross-border knowledge exchange, featuring two distinguished



GUT 2026 Organising Committee

Thai experts, Professor Dr Tawasek Tanwandee and Professor Dr Parit Mekaroonkamol, who shared their expertise during the Hepatology Symposium.

→ PRE-CONGRESS WORKSHOPS AND LIVE ENDOSCOPY

Building on the Congress' strong emphasis on clinical practice and procedural excellence, UMMC hosted a series of pre-congress workshops focusing on advanced endoscopic skills. These included an endoscopic ultrasound workshop centred on complex pancreatobiliary disease, alongside a luminal therapeutic endoscopy workshop covering rescue techniques for gastrointestinal bleeding, strictures and perforations. The workshop featured an international faculty comprising Professor Dr Amit Maydeo, Dr Luo Xiaobei, Dr Wang Zhen, and Dr Anthony Teoh.

Delegates also had the opportunity to observe live endoscopy demonstrations broadcast from UMMC, showcasing complex therapeutic procedures in both luminal and pancreatobiliary endoscopy. These sessions provided valuable opportunities for participants to learn from experienced operators.

→ LAUNCH OF TAKNAK COLON CANCER CAMPAIGN AND WEBSITE

Colorectal cancer awareness and early detection took centre stage in a dedicated segment of the Congress, with the launch of TakNak Colon Cancer (*"Say No to Colon Cancer"*) campaign and website. This initiative brought together MSGH, the Malaysian Society of Colorectal Surgeons (MSCRS), the Colorectal Cancer Survivorship Society Malaysia (CORUM), and the National Cancer Society Malaysia. The website aims to encourage colorectal cancer screening and empower the public with information to support earlier detection.

→ ADVANCING SUSTAINABILITY IN SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Sustainability remained an important focus at GUT 2026. Led by Professor Dr Lee Yeong Yeh, the Congress incorporated green initiatives to encourage delegates to adopt more environmentally responsible practices. Participants were invited to register as Green Ambassadors, pledging their commitment to sustainability and advocating for greener practices beyond the meeting itself.



TakNak Colon Cancer Campaign Launch

→ RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

GUT 2026 also provided an opportunity to recognise individuals who have made significant contributions; MSGH presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon, in recognition of more than three decades of dedicated service in building gastroenterology services and developing training across the country. The congress also celebrated the next generation of researchers through its Young Investigators Awards.

→ LOOKING AHEAD

GUT 2026 brought together scientific exchange, clinical innovation, public health advocacy, environmental responsibility, and professional recognition under one roof. As digestive diseases continue to evolve in complexity and burden, the Congress reaffirmed the importance of collaboration, continued learning, and collective action in advancing gastroenterology and hepatology in Malaysia.



Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Datuk Dr Jayaram Menon



Professor Dr Tawasek Tanwandee presenting at MSGH-GAT Joint Symposium

MYANMAR GI & LIVER SOCIETY

Myanmar GI & Liver Society (MGLS) was established in 1999 and composed of gastroenterologists, hepatologists, physicians and surgeons. MGLS has continued to grow in strength and visibility every year.





MARCH 2026, ADVANCED ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOP IN COLLABORATION WITH AIG BY SUN PHARMA ACADEMIC (SPACE) PROGRAMME

In March 2026, MGLS organised the SPACE Workshop at the Wyndham Grand Hotel, Yangon, Myanmar. The programme was designed to strengthen clinical education through a standardised practical approach, combining interactive lectures with hands-on training (ESD, POEM, EUS & ERCP).

31st MAY 2026, IBD SYMPOSIUM: EMERGING DISEASE IN MYANMAR

Recognising the rising burden of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in Myanmar, the symposium was held in Melia Hotel, Yangon, Myanmar. It brought together about 300 attendees who



SPACE Workshop held on 26th to 29th March 2026







IBD Symposium Emerging Diseases in Myanmar

included physicians, surgeons, pediatricians, family physicians, nutritionists and researchers to discuss the challenges of diagnosis and management in a resource-limited setting.

The programme emphasised the importance of early recognition, standardised treatment pathways, and the integration of intestinal ultrasound as a cost-effective monitoring tool. This event marked a milestone in raising national awareness of IBD and aligning Myanmar's practice with international treat-to-target strategies.

ADVANCED ENDOSCOPY HANDS-ON WORKSHOP (3rd & 4th APRIL 2026)

The ERCP and advanced EUS workshop was led by Professor Thawee Ratanachu-ek from Rajavithi Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand who is never reluctant to help us every time we need his expertise.

Also, in collaboration with the Zhongshan Hospital, Shanghai, China, our department hosted a hands-on workshop on Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD) on the same day.

We were kindly trained and supervised by Dr Ming Yan Cai from Zhongshan Hospital, Shanghai, China, an expert in the field of EFTR.

The training focused on techniques for early gastric, esophageal and colonic cancers. This collaboration not only enhanced local expertise but also strengthened regional ties.





Advanced Endoscopy Workshop (ESD and ERCP)



Advanced Endoscopy Workshop (ESD and ERCP)

PAYING HOMAGE CEREMONY (20th OCTOBER 2026, MELIA HOTEL, YANGON, MYANMAR)

Beyond clinical and academic achievements, the Paying Homage Ceremony reflected the cultural and professional values that underpin our community. Held at the Melia Hotel in Yangon, Myanmar, the event honoured senior mentors and teachers who have dedicated their lives to advancing gastroenterology in Myanmar. It served as a reminder that progress in medicine is built not only on innovation but also on respect, gratitude, and continuity across generations.

Together, these events illustrate the dynamic growth of gastroenterology in Myanmar from tackling emerging diseases, to mastering advanced procedures, to honoring tradition and mentorship. Each initiative contributes to our shared mission of improving digestive health, fostering collaboration, and strengthening the Asia-Pacific gastroenterology community.





Paying Homage Ceremony

Welcome To 8th Myanmar Gastroenterology and Hepatology Conference, 13th & 14th December 2026



PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

Advancing Gastroenterology Through International Collaboration, Scientific Exchange and Hands-on Training

The Pakistan Society of Gastroenterology (PSG) continues to promote excellence in gastroenterology through scientific conferences, international collaborations, and specialised training programmes. Recent academic activities, including the 9th Hands-on ERCP Training Course, Gastro Summit 2025, and EndoLive 2026, have provided valuable opportunities for healthcare professionals to exchange knowledge, enhance clinical expertise, and explore advancements in gastrointestinal endoscopy.

→ 9th Hands-on ERCP Training Course – Karachi, Pakistan

The 9th Hands-on Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) Training Course was successfully conducted on 17th to 19th September 2026 at the Sindh Institute of Advanced Endoscopy and Gastroenterology (SIAG), Karachi, Pakistan, under the leadership of Professor Dr Saad Khalid Niaz.

The three-day programme featured distinguished international faculty, Dr Khalid Hassan from the Center for Interventional Endoscopy, AdventHealth, Orlando, Florida, USA, and Dr Mustafa Arain from UTHealth Houston, Texas, USA.

Bringing together national and international participants, the course featured state-of-the-art lectures, simulation-based training, live ERCP demonstrations, and supervised hands-on sessions. Interactive discussions and practical demonstrations provided participants with valuable insights into contemporary pancreaticobiliary endoscopy.

The programme reinforced SIAG's commitment to advancing endoscopic education, strengthening international academic partnerships, and developing expertise in therapeutic endoscopy across Pakistan and the wider region.



→ Gastro Summit 2026 – Strengthening Scientific Collaboration

Gastro Summit 2026 was held on 25th & 26th July 2026 under the leadership of Professor Dr Shahab Abid, brought together more than 120 national and international delegates for scientific discussions addressing emerging challenges in gastroenterology.

The scientific programme highlighted important topics in luminal gastroenterology and hepatology, including the spectrum and management of metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD), the growing burden of childhood obesity, and the need for South Asian-specific research on dietary interventions, particularly fermentable oligosaccharides, disaccharides, monosaccharides and polyols (FODMAPs), and their relationship with gastrointestinal health.

The Summit emphasised the importance of regionally relevant research, multidisciplinary collaboration, and evidence-based approaches to gastrointestinal disorders. It also provided a platform to explore opportunities for strengthening PSG's role in collaborative research, academic representation, and scientific exchange at national and international levels.



→ EndoLive 2026 – Showcasing Advances in Therapeutic Endoscopy

EndoLive 2026, organised under the patronage of Patron-in-Chief Professor Ghias-un-Nabi Tayyab from 1st to 3rd October 2026, successfully brought together gastroenterologists and physicians with specialised interests in advanced luminal and pancreaticobiliary interventions.

A major highlight of the conference was the live demonstration of 40 basic and advanced endoscopic procedures, showcasing contemporary techniques and approaches to complex clinical challenges. These included peroral endoscopic myotomy (POEM), endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD), endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle biopsy (EUS-FNB), EUS-guided celiac neurolysis, and EUS-guided biliary drainage.

The scientific programme was complemented by comprehensive hands-on training using specialised simulation models, allowing participants to engage directly with advanced endoscopic techniques.

The event featured distinguished international experts, including Dr. Ali Siddiqui and Prof. Faisal Jafri from the United States, and Prof. Wang Yun from China, alongside prominent national faculty. Their participation facilitated meaningful scientific dialogue, exchange of technical expertise, and discussion of evolving therapeutic approaches.







VIETNAM ASSOCIATION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

In 2026, Vietnam Association of Gastroenterology (VNAGE) regularly updated its Scientific activities and published this information in the APD News Journal. This issue provides an update on VNAGE's Scientific achievements over the past three months (August to November 2026)

1. ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON GASTROENTEROLOGY 2026 (ASCG 2026)

VNAGE held its conference over two days (9th & 10th October 2026) in Ha Long City, Quang Ninh Province. This marked the third time the VNAGE, in collaboration with Vietnam Federation for Digestive Endoscopy (VFDE) and the Quang Ninh Department of Health, has organised this significant event. The Conference welcomed nearly 1200 delegates in Gastroenterology, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and Hepatology, as well as experts from related fields such as Pathology, Immunology and diagnostic imaging.

The Conference also featured International Speakers from Japan, China, Singapore and Thailand. A total of 108 presentations were accepted, organised into various tracks: Postgraduate training (4 sessions), plenary session (2 sessions), lunch symposium (3 sessions) and concurrent session (12 sessions). Among the 12 concurrent sessions, 4 sessions were conducted in English and designed for young physicians under the age of 35. Over 10 years, the Association has consistently prioritised the younger generation, recognising them as a vital cohort that will play a key role in upcoming International Conferences (APDW 2026 Manila, APDW 2027 Hong Kong and APDW 2028 Hanoi).

VNAGE awarded prizes to young physicians. VNAGE has entered into an agreement with the International Association for the Study of the Liver (IASL) and Asian Health Foundation (AHF) regarding a Travel Award programme for young physicians under the age of 35. This programme is Chaired by Professor Mindie H Nguyen.



Delegates attending the plenary session of the conference (1.200 delegates)



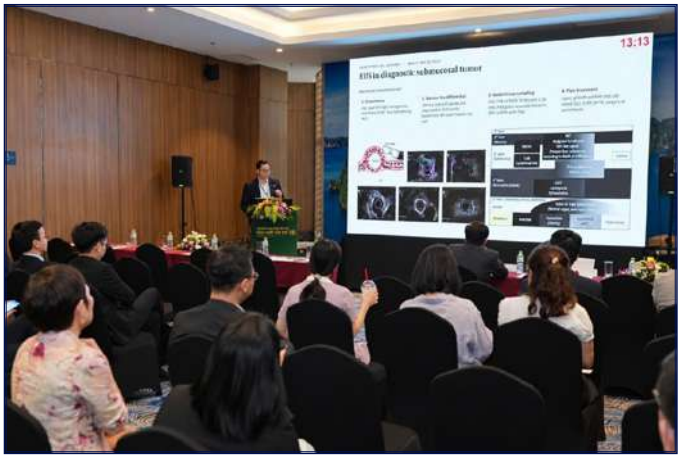
Discussion session on the topic - "How to write research papers for International Journals".



Young gastroenterologists presenting their research in English during the competition sessions



Head of the Committee presents certificates to young doctors



D. Nguyen Trong Nga of K Hospital, Hanoi, presenting his study during the English scientific presentation session for physicians under 35 years of age at the Conference



The VNAGE Executive Committee with the young physicians

2. ATTENDING APASL STC 2026 KUMAMOTO

Over the past two years, VNAGE has actively participated in the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of Liver (APASL) conferences, including the APASL Single topic Conference 2026 events held in various countries (Singapore in July 2026 and Kumamoto in September 2026).

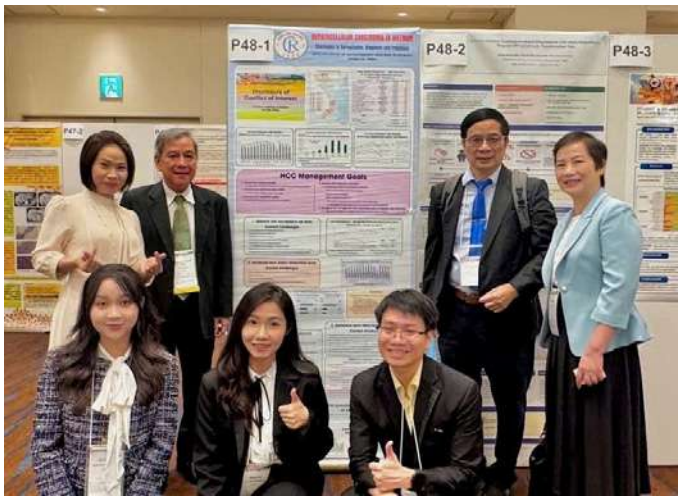


Vietnamese delegation of physicians and Professor Mindie H. Nguyen (USA) at APASL STC 2026, Kumamoto



VNAGE and VASLD promoting APASL STC 2027, Da Nang

In September 2026, 10 physicians from VNAGE and Vietnam Association for the Study of Liver Disease (VASLD) attended the APASL STC 2026 in Kumamoto, Japan, held on 18th & 19th September 2026. The delegation participated in the full programme, and the organisers presented them with awards for an *"Outstanding Poster"* and for *"Young Clinical Research"*. The conference proved highly valuable, fostering expanded collaboration and helping Vietnam prepare for the APDW 2028 in Hanoi.



Vietnamese delegation of doctors photographed at the Outstanding Poster Award



Vietnamese physicians (Dr Ta Dieu Ngan- Hanoi Medical University) attended and received certificates at the IASL-APASL STC Joint Symposium