

AOFOG NEWS



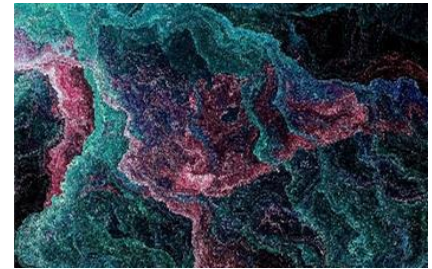
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Ultra Sound Committee



MIGS Committee



Oncology Committee



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(Thailand)



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**Council
Representative**
Hifoaki Kajiyama

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April 13th-15th marks the Thai New Year festival, as well as celebrations in several other AOFOG countries like Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and..... [Read More...](#)



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The time passes so swiftly We have already reached the end of the term of the present council under the..... [Read More...](#)



Uro-gynaecology Committee



Member Society
Corner



YGAA & MFM Committee



Message from JOGR

AOFOG Committee Chairs 2022/2024

Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

Tsukasa Baba
(Japan)

Maternal & Fetal Medicine

U D P Ratnasiri
(Sri Lanka)

Oncology

Ka Yu Tse
(Hong Kong)

Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility

Huang Zhongwei
(Singapore)

Sexual & Reproductive Health

Unnop Jaisamrarn
(Thailand)

Ultrasound

Voon Hian Yan
(Malaysia)

Urogynaecology

Thomas Man-Jung Hung
(Taiwan)

Fellowship selection

Pak-Chung Ho
(Hong Kong)

YGAA

Jaydeep Tank
(India)

President's Message



Dear AOFOG members,

April 13th-15th marks the Thai New Year festival, as well as celebrations in several other AOFOG countries like Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka. I wish you and your family a belated Happy New Year 2024 and beyond!

This also marks my final communication as the AOFOG President. Time truly flies, and my tenure in this role will conclude in May 2024. During the AOFOG 2024 Congress in Busan, Korea, I will officially transfer the presidency to Dr. John Tait, AOFOG President-Elect.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the members of the Executive Committee and the Chairpersons of the standing and special committees. Your great contributions over the past two years have been invaluable to AOFOG. I also want to thank the Royal Thai College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RTCOG), the Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Society of India (FOGSI), and the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS) for kindly hosting the AOFOG Executive Committee and Action Plan meetings in Bangkok, Kolkata, and Manila, respectively. Special thanks go to the Vietnam Association of Gynecology and Obstetrics (VAGO) for hosting the AOFOG Council meeting in Hanoi last June. I'm pleased to see VAGO return as an active member of AOFOG. Finally, I would like to offer my heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, AOFOG Secretary General, as well as Ms. Flora Philip, Executive Assistant, and Ms. Nimali Gunasinghe, Accounts Executive, for their tireless and effective secretariat support.

Two years ago, I began my term emphasizing the importance of evidence-based medicine. Today, I want to celebrate its transformative power, exemplified by the incredible work of Cochrane Thailand. Evidence-based medicine uses the best available research, combined with clinical expertise and patient values, to guide patient care. This is precisely the approach that Cochrane Thailand has been working closely with Cochrane since its inception in 2002. Located at Khon Kaen University, this dedicated team has tirelessly worked to synthesize research, translate findings into clear, actionable knowledge, and empower healthcare providers across Asia with the skills to conduct rigorous Cochrane reviews and published them in Cochrane Library. Their impact has been truly remarkable. Through their training workshops, Cochrane Thailand has built a community of researchers equipped to generate the robust evidence needed to inform clinical practice and health policy. In fact, many of the Cochrane reviews they contribute have been incorporated into influential WHO guidelines, shaping healthcare on a global scale. Esteemed colleagues, this is the transformative power of evidence-based research. Cochrane Thailand's tireless efforts to bridge gaps, build capacity, and champion rigorous syntheses are improving healthcare outcomes not just in Thailand, but across the Southeast Asian region. Evidence-based medicine is clearly the future of healthcare, and organizations like Cochrane Thailand are leading the way. Let us be inspired by their example and continue committing ourselves to this vital cause. Together, we can use the power of research to transform lives and shape a healthier world.

Please find more information about Cochrane Thailand at <https://www.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-thailand-bridging-gaps-and-building-capacity>.

I was honored to be invited to the 32nd International Scientific Conference at the Seagull Hotel in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, where I delivered a plenary lecture on "Non-clinical Interventions for Reducing Unnecessary Caesarean Sections." This was a timely topic, as Bangladesh is facing a rapid rise in its cesarean section rate, which is now 2.5 times higher than in previous decades. Many private healthcare providers are recommending cesarean deliveries without proper medical indications, putting both mothers and babies at unnecessary risk. In my lecture, I emphasized the need for the Bangladeshi government authorities, in collaboration with the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB), to ensure the proper utilization of cesarean sections and encourage normal births whenever possible. The conference also featured a FIGO-AOFOG session on "Climate Change, Environmental Toxins and Reproductive Health," coordinated by Prof. Krishnendu Gupta, as well as an AOFOG session on "Cervical Cancer Elimination Strategies," led by Dr. Christia S. Padolina. These sessions highlighted the critical importance of addressing environmental factors and promoting cervical cancer elimination strategies in the region.

AOFOG was actively involved in the 63rd Annual Congress & The 10th International Symposium of the Taiwan Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology (TAOG), held on March 9-10, 2024 at The Grand Hotel in Taipei. The AOFOG session was chaired by Prof. Tsung-Hsien Su, Prof. Kazunori Ochiai, and Prof. Joo Hyun Nam. The session featured several important topics, including: (1) "Operationalizing Cervical Cancer Elimination in AOFOG" by Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon; (2) "Heavy Menstrual Bleeding - Strategies to Best Cure" by Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa; (3) "The Impact of Climate Change, Environmental Toxins, and Pollution on the AOFOG Region: What Can OBGYNs Do?" by Prof. Krishnendu Gupta. The event also included the 5th Japan-Korea-Taiwan Joint Conference, which provided a great platform for young doctors from the three countries to present their research work. The overall scientific and social program, as well as the exceptional hospitality provided by the TAOG under the leadership of President Prof. Shee-Uan Chen and Secretary General Dr. Jian Pei Huang, was extremely impressive.

On March 23rd and 24th, 2024, AOFOG, in collaboration with Jhpiego, hosted a landmark event titled "Uniting for Quality: A Joint Consultative Workshop on Landscaping Quality of Care (QoC) in Maternal and Newborn Health across Asia-Pacific Regions." This initiative was spearheaded by Dr. Jaydeep Tank, who drew on his experience with the successful Manyata QoC project by FOGSI in India, with the goal of expanding it to other AOFOG countries. Dr. Tank, on behalf of AOFOG, has been tirelessly working with Jhpiego and with the support of MSD for Mothers to push this important initiative forward. The workshop underscored the significance of cross-country collaboration to share learnings and best practices for implementing QoC initiatives. Representatives from five Asia-Oceania countries - Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the Philippines - presented comprehensive landscape analyses, shedding light on the existing QoC mechanisms in their respective contexts, including the key drivers and determinants. This allowed for the



identification of opportunities to implement QoC initiatives in maternal health tailored to each country's unique needs and challenges.

Always in service,



Pisake Lumbiganon
President, AFOG.

Secretary General's Message



The time passes so swiftly We have already reached the end of the term of the present council under the able leadership of Prof Pisake Lumbiganon. We were kept very busy with numerous activities throughout the last two years. So we all didn't feel the time passing by.

AFOG participated in the Annual conferences of many member societies and I thank the member society presidents for inviting AFOG for their congresses. This has given AFOG the opportunity to interact with the officers and the members of the societies and to strengthen the bonding and relationship between AFOG and the National Societies. AFOG looks forward to collaborating with the other National Societies likewise.

The Committee chairs conducted numerous programmes and activities throughout the term, covering the various subjects within their committees. I thank all the Committee chairs and their committee members for their solid work.

President Prof Piske Lumbiganon not only guided us but led from the front in achieving all the targets. Also the other Exec Board members, Immediate past president Prof Kazunori Ochiai, Incoming President Dr. John Tait, Vice President Prof Charles Su, Tressurer Prof Joong Shin Park, Deputy Secretary General, Prof Krishnendu Gupta, Council representative to the Exec Board Dr. Christia Padolina and the EIC JOGR Prof Hiroaki Kajiyama supported and contributed and advised when it was needed to accomplish all the work successfully. My sincere thanks to all of them.

Flora and Nimali in the secretariat who attended to all the work so promptly with dedication, helped all of us to carry out the Secretarial work and other AFOG activities so smoothly, we appreciate their commitment and dedication to the AFOG and I thank them for taking care of the Secretariat work.

1. Sessions in National Society conferences. These are highlighted in the President's Message.

- **32nd International Scientific Conference of the O & G Society of Bangladesh** was held at the Seagull Hotel, 15th–17th February 2024 in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. We had two sessions AOFOG - FIGO Session: Theme: "Climate Change, Environmental Toxins and Reproductive Health" & the AOFOG Session - RISE up to AOFOG's Cervical Cancer Elimination Program. I Thank OGSB President Prof Farhana Dewan and Sec. General Prof Salma Rauf for all the assistance and congratulate them on conducting a very successful conference.
- **63rd Annual Congress & The 10th International Symposium of the Taiwan Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology (TAOG)**, was held on March 9-10, 2024 at The Grand Hotel in Taipei. I Thank TAOG President Prof Chan and Sec Gen Prof Hwang for all the assistance.
- **76th Annual Congress of Japan Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology April 2024.** AOFOG Session was on - SRHR in South Asia. We had a very successful meeting between the officers of JSOG and AOFOG. My thanks due to Prof Kiyoko Kato, Chairperson of the Executive Board and Prof. Yutaka Osuga, President of the 76th Annual Congress for all the assistance given to AOFOG and for conducting an AOFOG session.



2. Quality of Care to improve Maternal outcomes

Dr. Jaydeep Tank, Chair YGAA committee initiated a project on the lines of the FOGSI Manyata Programme with the Support of MSD for mothers to evaluate Quality of Care to improve Maternal outcomes in Private/ Public hospitals.

All the National Society Presidents were written about the programme, asking about their Society's desire to join the programme Mongolia, Nepal, Bangladesh, Philippines & Pakistan agreed to join.

A Workshop on "Uniting for Quality: A joint consultative workshop on landscaping quality of care in Maternal and Newborn health across Asia-Pacific regions."

It was hosted by Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG) in collaboration with Jhpiego, held on March 23rd and 24th, 2024 In Bangkok, Thailand with the participation of officers from AOFOG, the 5 countries and Jhpiego to discuss the programme and to arrive at decisions. Participants were,

- Dr. Urjindelger Tserensambuu – President, Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
- Dr. Narmandakh Suldsuren - Chief Executive Officer, Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
- Dr. Saroja Karki Pande – President, Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- Dr. Shreyashi Aryal - Executive Member, Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- Dr. Saima Zubair - Chapters Coordinator, Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Pakistan.
- Prof. Farhana Dewan – President, Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh.

AOFOG was represented by Prof Pisake Lumbiganon, Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Dr. U.D. P Ratnasiri and Dr. Jaydeep Tank.

Key outputs of the workshop were

- Summarizing the landscape of QoC initiatives across the selected regions,
- In-depth SWOT analyses of the QoC initiatives for each country, and
- Development of tailored roadmaps for implementing QoC initiatives, recognizing the diverse needs and contexts of each country.



Committee Activities - given in the reports of the Committee Chairs

- [MIGS Committee](#)
- [Oncology Committee](#)
- [US Committee](#)
- [Urogynecology Committee](#)
- [MFM Committee](#)

AOFOG 2024

We are on the verge of the AOFOG 2024. All the arrangements for the congress are almost finalized with a very enlightening scientific programme covering all the areas in Obstetric Gynaecology. Programme includes 8 plenary lectures delivered by world recognized eminent speakers. YGAs and the Past YGAs will make their presentation in 4 sessions Also we have 12 Pre - congress workshops organized by AOFOG Committee chairs, KSOG, ICOE Group of the O & G Society of Malaysia and by the JOGR to celebrate the publication of the 50th Vol: this year.

Participation of FIGO, RCOG, EBCOG, IFFS and WHO has enriched the value of the congress very much. The two AOFOG Statements on PPH, AOFOG recommendation on Postpartum Hemorrhage Care Bundle approach to improve adherence to the WHO guidelines & the use of Heat Stable Carbetocin (HSC) in the prevention of PPH will be released during the Congress & the AOFOG's Declaration on Violence Against Women will be released during the inauguration ceremony of the congress. In addition, the organisers have included exciting cultural programmes and social events with food and drinks and song and dance.

We are happy to note that we have more than 1000 participants from our member countries outside Korea registered for the congress up to now. Highest participation from outside Korea is from Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, Taiwan, India, Bangladesh, Mongolia Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

Our heartfelt sincere thanks go to the Congress President Prof Joong Shin Park who is also the treasurer of AOFOG, Secretary General Prof. Chulmin Lee. Scientific Committee chair Prof. Jung-Ho Shin, & YGA & CFP Committee chair Prof. Jee Yoon Park who have been working throughout the past year organizing the Congress. We also express our thanks to the KSOG Chairman and the President and all the members of the KSOG board for their unstinted support which made this congress a reality.

We appreciate very much the untiring work done with commitment and dedication, & most efficiently with professionalism by Ms Julia CEO Plan & Co, the event organizing company and her entire staff.

I request you not to miss this golden opportunity of joining this wonderful congress. Look forward to seeing everyone in AOFOG 2024.

Rohana Haththotuwa
Secretary General, AOFOG

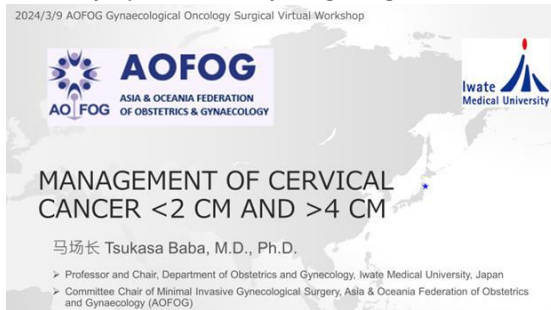
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MIGS Committee Report

During the first quarter of 2024, the MIGS Committee had a joint on-line surgical video competition with the Oncology Committee. Total 5 Gyne-Onco MIGS videos were submitted, and the top 3 videos were selected to proceed for the live presentation on March 9th 2024. On the webinar day, there were 6 Gyne-Onco MIGS lectures for conducting MIGS treatment on controversial issues, and Our Committee Chair, Tsukasa Baba, provided a lecture " Management of cervical cancer <2 cm and >4 cm ". There were hot discussions after each presentation, and through the surgical video competition, Dr. Joella Ang from Singapore won the 1st place in the AOFOG Gynaecological Oncology Surgical Video Competition. Congratulations! Tsukasa Baba had four MIGS lectures and a cadaver surgical training in the 4th ICGS workshop at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok during March 28-19th 2024.

And our committee members, Chulumin Lee, Celene Hui, and Tsukasa Baba plan to conduct a half-day surgical workshop at AOFOG2024 in Busan on May 17th which contains not only introductory talks from our president and our members but talks for safe vNotes hysterectomy by 3 experts from Korea, Japan, and Singapore. In this workshop, hands-on-seminar will be provided for 20 participants who had registered in the beginning of this January.

- The collaborative webinar for Gynecologic Oncology Scientific Symposium and young surgical video competition



- The 4th ICGS workshop at Chulalongkorn University



Prof Tsukasa Baba
Chair, AOFOG MIGS Committee

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Oncology Committee Report

The Oncology Committee, together with the Minimally Invasive Gynaecologic Surgery Committee, ran a surgical video competition for the trainees, oncology fellows and young gynaecological oncologists. Invitation was sent to different National Societies in Dec 23, and all participants had to submit a 5-minute video on any aspects related to gynaecological cancer surgery, such as novel operations, alternative operation routes, complex skill demonstration, tackling structural abnormalities, and management of complications. The videos had been reviewed by the chairs and members of both the Oncology and MIGS committees. Four participants were finally shortlisted for the finale, including two from Hong Kong, one from Japan and one from Singapore.

Then, a virtual surgical workshop was held on 9 Mar 24. We invited experts from different countries to provide an update on surgical advances in gynaecological cancers. The four finalists of the surgical video competition also had opportunities to present their videos with real-time narration, followed by a 5-minute question session. The quality and content of videos, and the performance of the finalists, were assessed by a panel of experts including the committee chairs and the speakers, as well as all the audience. The first-place winner was Dr. Joelle Ang (Singapore General Hospital, Singapore), the second-place winner was Dr. Jessie Chiu (United Christian Hospital, Hong Kong), and the third-place winner was Dr. Ayako Otsuka (Osaka Rosai Hospital, Japan). The virtual workshop was well attended with 152 participants, and 96.7% rated the event as good or above. In particular, 100% of those who filled in the questionnaire rated good or above for the video competition in terms of educational content, usefulness to current practice and quality of the presentation.

Our committee will hold two pre-congress workshops in the AOFOG 2024 in Busan on 17 May 24. The 'State-of-the-art of Management of Ovarian Cancer' will focus on the management of advanced and rare ovarian cancer, with lectures and panel case discussion. The 'Lymph Nodes Dissection' will be composed of lectures and video sharing. Furthermore, our committee will join the Cervical Cancer Elimination Working Group to organize a symposium on various guidelines and set-up of cervical cancer prevention programs in Asia.

The Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong will organize an Annual Scientific Meeting in Hong Kong on 5-6 Oct 24. Representatives from the AOFOG will be invited to talk or chair during the meeting. In addition, our committee will also organize a webinar on 'Management of Lower Genital Diseases' in Aug/Sep 24. More details will be announced in due course.

AOFOG 2024 Busan Pre-congress Workshop 4 - State-of-the-art of Management of Ovarian Cancer.

Organizer: Oncology Committee, AOFOG

Objectives

- To update the knowledge on the management of advanced / recurrent epithelial ovarian cancer.
- To learn the importance of molecular profiles in treating epithelial ovarian cancer.



Highlights

- Lectures covering pre-clinical and clinical advances in epithelial ovarian cancer.
- Panel discussion on a few interesting cases.
- Interactive discussion with experts in different countries.



AOFOG 2024 Busan Pre-congress Workshop 11 - Lymph Nodes Dissection.

Organizer: Oncology Committee, AOFOG

Objectives

- To update the knowledge on various aspects related to lymph node dissection in gynecologic cancers
- To learn the advances in the surgical approach of retroperitoneal lymphadenectomy

Highlights

- Lectures covering topics related to lymph node dissection in various gynecologic cancers
- Video sharing on different approaches of retroperitoneal lymphadenectomy
- Interactive discussion with experts in different countries

**ASIA & OCEANIA FEDERATION
OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY**

**09 Mar 2024 (Sat)
08:50 – 13:15 (Hong Kong time)**

AFOG Gynaecological Oncology Surgical Virtual Workshop

*Co-organizers: Minimally Invasive Gynaecologic Surgery Committee, AFOG ¹
Oncology Committee, AFOG ²*

Chairmen: Prof. Tsukasa Baba ¹, Dr. Ka Yu Tse ²

08:50 Welcome
Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa (Secretary General, AFOG)

09:00 Management of cervical cancer <2 cm and >4 cm
Prof. Tsukasa Baba (Chair, MIGS Committee, AFOG)

09:30 Laparoscopic pelvic exenteration
Dr. Michiko Kodama (University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan)

10:00 Vulval reconstruction
Dr. Ai Ling Tan (Ascot Hospital, New Zealand)

10:30 The role of HIPEC in ovarian and peritoneal cancer
Dr. Ka Yu Tse (Chair, Oncology Committee, AFOG)

11:00 Break

11:15 Robot-assisted surgery for advanced ovarian cancer
Prof. Myong Cheol Lim (National Cancer Center, Goyang, Republic of Korea)

11:45 Managing haemorrhagic complications during robotic gynaecological cancer surgery
Dr. Joseph Ng (National University Cancer Institute, Singapore)

12:15 Video sharing of winners of AFOG video competition

13:00 Award presentation and closing remarks
Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon (President, AFOG)

Free Registration

Ka Yu Tse

Chairperson, Gynaecological Oncology Committee

Ultrasound Committee Report

Completed Activities

- Type: Workshop
- Title: AOFOG-LAOG Ultrasound Outreach
- Dates: 29th February – 1st March 2024
- Venue: Setthathirath Hospital, Vientiane & Mother and Newborn Hospital, Vientiane
- Co-organisers: Laos Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology (LAOG)
- Funding: General Electrics, AOFOG
- AOFOG Speakers: Dr Voon Hian Yan (Malaysia), Dr Archana Baser (India), Dr Nelinda, Pangilinan (Philippines), Dr Alongkone Phengsavanh (Laos), Dr. Keudone Thammavong(Laos), Dr Douangphachanh Xaysomphou (Laos)
- Participants: number and type 90 consultants/specialists, residents and interns (Didactics) 28 consultants/specialists (Hands-on)

After several months of planning, the AOFOG Ultrasound Committee is delighted to collaborate with Laos Association of O&G for this outreach program. AOFOG Ultrasound Committee has had several collaborations with LAOG prior to this, including an on-site training about five years ago. The last collaboration was in May 2021 when a virtual webinar entitled “Impact on Clinical Decisions”.

AOFOG was represented by the Chair of Ultrasound Committee Dr Voon Hian Yan from Malaysia, Dr Nelinda Catherine Pangilinan from the Philippines(Advisor) and Dr Archana Baser from India (Committee member). The local faculty included LAOG vice-president Dr Alongkone, Dr Keudone and Dr Douangphaphachanh who are the leading Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialists.

The event began on 29th February 2024, which was attended by more than 90 participants of various cadres from throughout Laos and held in Setthathirath Hospital. The lectures were partitioned into a trio of related topics, with adequate time allocated for it to be delivered at a slower pace and allowed a summary after each session by the local faculty. Essential topics ranging from infertility ultrasound for general OBGYNs, IOTA classification to first and second trimester anomaly scans were presented.

Management of uterine fibroids, placenta accreta spectrum (PAS), complications of monochorionic twin pregnancies and ultrasound in fetal infections were subsequently discussed. We were informed of recent maternal mortality cases involving PAS and increasing cases of congenital syphilis seen locally. These topics were particularly useful and received attention from the attendees.

The day ended with gynaecological topics on endometriosis, myometrial pathology and introduction to pelvic floor ultrasound, which was relatively new and interested a section of the more senior attendees.

A recap was done at the end of the session with feedback submitted by the participants (details in the Appendix below) Overall, the didactic lectures were well-organized with excellent space despite the crowd and good audiovisuals.

The second day involved hands-on sessions where selected participants, largely comprising of specialists and consultants were divided into three separate stations. They each rotated between Gynaecological, Early pregnancy and obstetric stations. There were many patients available as they were attending antenatal/gynaecological clinics during that time, in Mother and Newborn Hospital. The demonstration sessions were very fruitful as several of the patients had various pathologies which required MFM/Gynaecological review. Many cases meant for subspecialty referral were able to be diagnosed and seen in the same setting.

Recommendations/Remarks:

1. Translation of abstracts and distribution of key learning objectives in Lao prior to the event. This approach would also be useful in countries where English is not spoken widely.

- Several topics which has not been covered but relevant to OBGYN in Laos have been identified e.g Fetal anemia/Thalassemia and breast ultrasound. Topics such as breast ultrasound may require future collaboration with radiologists/local Laos OBGYN experts.
- Participants have requested for a longer duration and for the course to be conducted more regularly in future. This would be dependent on the funding received but we plan to design webinars specific to their educational needs in future. This will ensure that AOFOG-LAOG collaboration continues with the next Ultrasound Committee and does not end as a “one-off” event.



Image 1: A really encouraging turn out from the enthusiastic participants



Image 3: The speakers giving introduction to some of their lectures



Image 4: Dr Duoangphachanch, Dr Voon and Dr Sisouvanh with the Head of OBGYN Mother and Newborn Hospital



Image 2: Dr Nelinda, Dr Voon, Dr Archana and Dr Alongkone posing after the completion of the course



Image 5: A picture with the local organizing committee

Voon Hian Yan

Chair, AOFOG Ultrasound Committee

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Urogynaecology Committee Report

As we enter into the Summer of 2024, the Urogynecology Committee is extremely grateful for the continued support of our members for the various events that we have conducted.

On April 27th, we were able to successfully organize the AOFOG interactive symposium on female IC/BPS co-sponsored by AOFOG, the Taiwanese Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology (TAOG), the Taiwan Urogynecology Association (TUGA) and the Foundation for Women's Health and Urogynecology of Taiwan (FWHUT). It was an extremely successful event with a great turnout! We had the privilege of having AOFOG President Dr. Pisake Lumbiganon, AOFOG Vice President Dr. Tsung-Hsien Su and AOFOG Secretary General Rohana Haththotuwa join our symposium as esteemed guests who gave welcome addresses as well as served as session moderators. Furthermore, our Urogynecology Committee members all served as session moderators. We were able to hear speeches from a variety of urogynecology and urology experts regarding a wide variety of topics related to Interstitial Cystitis/Bladder Pain Syndrome (IC/BPS) including the diagnostic pitfalls, the role of urodynamic studies in diagnosis, as well as current treatment options such as oral medications, multimodal therapies, bladder instillation therapies and future promising therapies. The Q&A sessions were filled with insightful and thought-provoking questions which encouraged a lot of in-depth discussions. Thank you so much to everyone who attended and we hope you had a wonderful learning experience!

We are excited for the AOFOG Congress coming up in May 2024 and we encourage everyone to attend the AOFOG Pre-Congress Workshop 5: Narrated Video Demonstrations of Urogynecological Procedures on May 17, 2024. The AOFOG Urogynecology Committee in conjunction with the Taiwanese Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology (TAOG) and Taiwan Urogynecology Association (TUGA) has arranged a pre-congress workshop where we will go in-depth and present narrated video demonstrations on a wide variety of urogynecological procedures including anti-incontinence procedures (e.g., TVT, TOT, and mini sling), pelvic organ prolapse surgeries (e.g., native tissue repair, pectopexy, sacrocolpopexy, and transvaginal mesh), bladder injection therapy and cosmetic gynecology. Speakers will include members of our AOFOG Urogynecology Committee including Dr. Suvit Bunyavejchevin (Thailand), Dr. Nazli Hameed (Pakistan), and Dr. Thomas MJ Hung (Taiwan) as well as urogynecology experts from TAOG & TUGA.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!



Thomas Man-Jung Hung

Chair, AOFOG Urogynaecology Committee

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MFM Committee Report

MFM committee with YGA committee conducted a workshop on Step Towards Enhancing Maternal Health in Asia-Oceania Region. This work shop was meant for Improvement Quality of care provision in maternal and newborn care in AOFOG countries. A joint consultative workshop on landscaping quality of care in Maternal and Newborn health across Asia-Pacific regions was held in Marriot hotel Bangkok Thailand on March 23rd and 24th, 2024. Initially five countries were selected for the QOC workshop Including Bangladesh, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan and Philippines.

The Manyata initiative led by the Federation of Obstetric and Gynecological Societies of India (FOGSI), supported by MSD for Mothers and Jhpiego has served as a successful blueprint, demonstrating the potential of replicable, sustainable and scalable Quality-of-Care (QoC) frameworks especially within mixed health economies. Dr. Jaydeep Tank, chair of the YGAA committee had several meetings with the AOFOG Exco and representatives of Jhpiego and MSD for mothers to initiate this noble task and my gratitude towards him for taking great efforts for making it a reality.

The workshop was conducted with the following objectives:

- To develop a prototype of QoC initiatives in the Asia-Oceanic region through analysis and synthesis of the landscape analysis from 5 countries.
- To develop country-specific contextually relevant and feasible roadmaps for implementing QoC initiatives, based on landscape analysis findings and aligned with regional and national visions for QoC in MNH.
- To issue a collective call for action under the stewardship of AOFOG and national stakeholders, advocating for a QoC initiative to enhance MNH services across Asia-Pacific.

Key outputs of the workshop were

- A. A summary of the landscape of QoC initiatives across the selected regions.
- B. In-depth SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats) analyses for country led QoC initiatives), and
- C. Development of tailored roadmaps for implementing QoC initiatives, recognizing the diverse needs and contexts of each country.

The event culminated in a strong commitment to action, with AOFOG and Jhpiego pledging continued support to the participating countries in their journey to implement the QoC initiatives

The following representatives participated in this critical dialogue:

- Dr. Urjindelger Tserensambuu - President, Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
- Dr. Narmandakh Suldsuren - Chief Executive Officer, Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
- Dr. Saroja Karki Pande - President, Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- Dr. Shreyashi Aryal - Executive Member, Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- Dr. Saima Zubair - Chapters Coordinator, Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Pakistan.
- Prof. Farhana Dewan - President, Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh.
- Prof. Feroza Begum - President Elect, Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh.
- Dr. Christia Padolina - Past President, Philippines Obstetrical and Gynecological Society.

The Following dignitaries were represented by AOFOG

- Prof Pisake Lumbiginon - President
- Dr. John Tait - President elect
- Dr. Rohana Hatthhotuwa - Secretary General
- Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri - Chair, MFM committee
- Dr. Jaydeep Tank - Chair, YGAA committee

Following Officers were present from Jhpiego

- Dr Shweta Jindal - Senior Advisor, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
- Dr. Alan Noble John - Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Officer
- Suranjeen Pallipamula - Director Strategy and Partnership Jhpiego India

Key note address was delivered by Ms. Pompy Srithar Director MSD for mothers India



Planned activities

Formulating a statement of AOFOG recommendation on E MOTIVE Care Bundle approach for the detection and treatment of Post partum Hemorrhage by MFM committee.

U.D.P. Ratnasiri

Chair, AOFOG MFM Committee

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Member Society News Corner

1. Korean Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (KSOG)

The 17th Breast-Thyroid workshop for OB/GYN doctors was held in Sejong University Dae-Yang AI Center, Seoul, Korea on 24 March 2024. This workshop featured in-depth lectures on "Utilization of chat GPT from the perspective of medical ethics and the pros and cons of Artificial Intelligence (AI) utilization based on medical ethics" in the essential education session. Additionally, sessions on imaging evaluation were held, covering topics such as the assessment of microcalcifications seen in mammography, techniques for obtaining clear images in breast ultrasonography, and the topic of image-based evaluation focusing on thyroid nodules requiring fine needle aspiration cytology.

During the third session, discussions were held on counseling for breast symptoms, outpatient thyroid hormone tests, and ultrasound examinations. Following these, topics were prepared on legal disputes arising from breast treatment cases and what to do when thyroid tissue examination results are inconclusive.

The last session revolved around practical discussions on actual breast and thyroid treatment practices.

Upcoming Event: The 70th Obstetrics and Gynecology Training Courses and Development Meetings is scheduled on May 17, 2024 in Grand Moment Youth Hostel, Busan, Korea.

2. Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Mongolian Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (MFOG) and the Ultrasound Committee of the Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG) successfully organized workshop on "Ultrasound workshop on Obstetrics and Gynecology" on 5-6th of April 2024, at the Urguu Maternity Hospital conference hall.

Introducing pelvic floor ultrasound for the first time at the workshop likely drew a larger number of participants than usual due to the novelty and relevance of the topic. Participants may have been eager to learn about this new tool and its applications in their respective fields, leading to increased attendance at the workshop. The interactive nature of the workshop, combined with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with pelvic floor ultrasound, likely made it an attractive learning opportunity for many healthcare professionals.

The presence of Dr. Voon Hian Yan and Dr. Nelinda Catherine Pangilinan, along with Mongolian facilitators, at the joint workshop on "Ultrasound Workshop on Obstetrics and Gynecology" added significant value to the event.

Dr. Voon Hian Yan and Dr. Nelinda Catherine Pangilinan are likely respected and experienced professionals in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, known for their expertise in ultrasound diagnosis and related areas. Their participation would have brought insight, knowledge, and practical experience to the workshop, enriching the learning experience for all participants.

The involvement of Mongolian facilitators also highlights the collaboration between international experts and local professionals, fostering knowledge exchange and capacity building within the local healthcare community. Such collaborative efforts contribute to the advancement of healthcare practices and standards in the region, benefiting both healthcare providers and the patients they serve.

During the event, the participants learned about various topics related to ultrasound imaging in obstetrics and gynecology. These topics included "Cesarean scar ectopics: How ultrasound guides management," "First-trimester screening for structural anomalies: Is it practical and achievable?," "Pelvic floor ultrasound clinical vignettes in obstetric Doppler across the trimester," "Ultrasound in deep infiltrating endometriosis," and "IOTA guidelines for evaluating ovarian cysts." The participants also attended lectures presented by invited doctors and domestic doctors on the topics of "Pelvic floor ultrasound during urinary incontinence," "Strategies for detecting complications of monochorionic twin pregnancy," and "Fetal hydrops. The participants divided into six groups to undertake ultrasound diagnostic practice at three stations. The

stations included "Ultrasound examination of the pelvic floor", "Detection of the first trimester: chromosomal, structural, pre-eclampsia", and "Doppler examination during pregnancy".

Participants in the workshop on gained valuable knowledge and skills. The training involved lectures and practice sessions, allowing participants to learn from the experts who are facilitators from AFOG. Moreover, we would like to express our gratitude to the staff of SHINJYUKU company which is distributor of Mindray machine manufacturer for sponsoring the workshop.



3. OGSMMMA

Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society Myanmar Medical Association (OGSMMA)



Training on Basic Gynecological laparoscopic Surgery

Prof Dr Khin May Thin, the President of OGSMMMA and Prof Kyaw Shwe the Rector of University of Medicine 1 were both in attendance to officiate the event. The event took place on April 9th and 10th, 2024 at Medical skills, Simulation and Research Center, University of Medicine 1 Yangon.



Day 1 of the event concentrated on principle of safe laparoscopy and complications of laparoscopy. In the evening, with video clip of TLH and hands on drill with endo-trainers.

Day 2 of the event included such as specimen retrieval, ergonomomy of laparoscopy and suturing techniques.

Training on BEmOC

On March 29th, 2023, refresher course on Obstetric Emergencies was successfully organized with the aims to avert death and disability among pregnant women and newborn babies.



From the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecological Research (The AFOG Journal)

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 3 has been published; Editor's choice has been updated; and below Editor's choice articles from this issue is free **until the end of April 2024.**

- Risk factors for antibiotic therapy failure in women with tubo-ovarian abscess: A systematic review and meta-analysis. (*Tugba Kinay, Arife Akay, Munevver Aksoy, Fatma Celik Balkan, Yaprak Engin Ustun*)
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15870>
- Adverse outcomes in subsequent pregnancies in women with history of recurrent spontaneous abortion: A meta-analysis. (*Dan Jia, Fengdan Sun, Sisi Han, Lijuan Lu, Yuanyuan Sun, Qingxia Song*)
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15848>

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 4 has been published; Editor's choice has been updated; and below Editor's choice articles from this issue are free **until the end of May 2024.**

- Association between semen parameters and recurrent pregnancy loss: An umbrella review of meta-analyses. (*Lei Zhang, Honglin Li, Letian Han, Liang Zhang, Zhihui Zu, Jianwei Zhang*)
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15886>

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 5 has been published; Editor's choice has been updated; and below Editor's choice articles from this issue is free **until the end of June 2024.**

- Role of the mitophagy-apoptosis axis in the pathogenesis of polycystic ovarian syndrome. (*Hiroshi Kobayashi, Hiroshi Shigetomi, Sho Matsubara, Chiharu Yoshimoto, Shogo Imanaka*)
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15916>
- First-trimester preterm preeclampsia prediction model for prevention with low-dose aspirin. (*Ritsuko Kimata Poo*) <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15908>

JOGR Volume 49, Issue 11 & 12; Volume 50, Issue 1 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated here;

<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14470756/current>

[https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1447-0756.editors-choice](https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/(ISSN)1447-0756.editors-choice)

We hope these articles will be useful as references and updates for our members.



Prof. Hiroaki
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