

5th Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology Meeting

Shangri-La Mactan Island Resort, Cebu,
the Philippines

The Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology (APSP) in collaboration with the Philippines Society of Periodontology held its 5th meeting at the Shangri-La Mactan Island Resort, Cebu, the Philippines, 1–2 December 2003. The theme of the meeting was “Changing Trends in Periodontology in the Asian Pacific Region. A Decade in Review” and was attended by some 120 delegates. As in past years the meeting was generously sponsored by the Procter & Gamble Company as well as Sunstar Corporation.

The scientific programme commenced with a presentation by Dr Ken Zhang from the Procter & Gamble Company. His presentation looked the issue of changing paradigms in dentistry with particular reference to tooth whitening, tooth brushing and periodontal prosthodontic interrelationships. The meeting was then divided into four main areas of discussion:

Session 1: Periodontal Diagnosis and Disease Recognition

Dr Jincai Zhang from China presented interesting data concerning the use of genetic markers in Chinese populations and highlighted how some markers are of particular significance when determining “at risk” patients.

Dr Tara Taiyeb Ali from Malaysia continued with the theme of diagnosis and focussed particularly on tradition diagnostic methods as well as the developing use of computerized periodontal probes.

Dr Nitish Surathu from India elaborated on the current technological advances being made in periodontal diagnosis and disease recognition and made the particular point that there are still many difficulties facing researchers and clinicians in this complex area.

Dr Yuniarti Syafril from Indonesia presented material concerning periodontal diagnosis in the clinical setting of student clinics as well as community clinics. A particular issue which was highlighted was the continuing confusion over the use of the latest classification system as proposed by the American Academy of Periodontology.

Dr Leyvee Lynn Cabanilla originally trained in the Philippines but took her graduate training in the USA and now resides in the USA presented a very comprehensive overview of the problems and concepts involved in periodontal diag-

nosis. It was interesting to note that similar problems are faced in the USA as are faced in the Asian Pacific region with regards to periodontal diagnosis.

Session 2: Treatment Strategies in Periodontal Disease management

Dr Rod Marshall from Australia considered risk assessment in periodontics and particularly focussed in a most comprehensive manner the effects of smoking on periodontal disease and its management.

Dr Tino Mercado originally trained in the Philippines but took his graduate training in Australia and now resides in Australia presented material concerning host modulation in periodontal treatment with a particular focus on various medications currently available and being developed. It was important, he said, to recognize that the disease is not solely related to dental plaque but many other factors come into play to bring about disease and active destruction.

Dr Hyun-Ju Chung from Korea focussed mainly on the effect the ageing population is going to have on periodontal management and drew on data being collated in Korea. He highlighted the need for improved collaboration between general dental practitioner and periodontist. He completed his presentation with an interesting consideration of tooth transplantation as a viable treatment option for teeth lost due to periodontitis.

Session 3: Trends in Periodontal Research and Future Directions in Periodontal Research

Dr Esmonde Corbet and Dr LJ Jin from Hong Kong together considered risk assessment in the management of periodontal disease. In particular it was highlighted that multi-level risk assessment will be necessary in order to comprehensively assess an individual's or site's risk potential.

Professor Ishikawa from Japan presented a very comprehensive overview of the effect of periodontitis on systemic health drawing on material from his own original research. He particularly focussed on the presence of periodontal pathogens in atherosclerotic plaques and the potential role of oral *H. pylori* in stomach ulcers.

Professor Mark Bartold from Australia concluded the day's presentation with an overview of periodontal regeneration and the latest trends in the developing field of tissue engineering.

Session 4: Poster Viewing and Awards

This year's posters continued with the excellence noted in previous years. The following were selected as the best presentations:

1st Place: Dr Senerath Minuwangodage Pradeep Mahendra Ruwanpura (Tokyo Medical and Dental University). Prostaglandin E2 regulates IL-1 beta induced MMP-3 production in human gingival fibroblasts.

2nd Place: Dr Amir Pourzarandin (Tokyo Medical and Dental University) Accelerated bone healing created by ER-YAG laser irradiation.

3rd Place: Dr Sergio Poco Jr (Niigata University) PCR detection of selected periodontal pathogens in Filipinos with chronic periodontitis.

Next Meeting of the APSP

The 6th biannual meeting of the APSP will be held in Chennai, India on November 4-6, 2005 and will be held in association with the Indian Society of Periodontology.

Mark Bartold
Honorary Editor

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