

Report of the 6th International meeting of the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology

The 6th International meeting of the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology was held in Chennai, India on November 4th 2005 immediately preceding the 30th annual conference of the Indian Society of Periodontology. Over 350 delegates attended the APSP meeting making it the largest meeting held to date and indicates the growing interest in this group in the region.

At the Inauguration Ceremony the chief guest Dr CV Bhirmanandham, Vice Chancellor of the Tamil Nadu Dr MGR Medical University in Chennai opened the meeting. Of note was that Professor Birmanandham is a cardiologist and expressed his clear interest in the developing relations between periodontics and cardiology. Following this the President of the APSP Dr Nanette Vergel de Dios declared the meeting open. The one-day programme was very full with 12 presentations from speakers from 9 countries in the region. In addition 43 posters had been selected for presentation from over 200 submissions!

A brief overview of the presentations follows:

Dr Nanette Vergel de Dios (Manilla, The Philippines) – Laboratory research and clinical periodontics: Bridging the gap in the Asian region

Professor Isao Ishikawa (Tokyo, Japan) Directions in periodontal research in the Asian Pacific Region

Professor Tara Taiyeb Ali (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) Future potential directions in periodontal research in the Asian Pacific region

Dr LJ Jin (Hong Kong) Research advances in periodontal etiopathology

Dr Jincai Jang (Guangzhou, China) Research Advances in periodontal diagnosis

Dr D Aranachulam (Chennai, India) Research advances in establishing a contemporary clinical protocol in periodontics

Dr Poch Sophearith (Cambodia) Clinical applications of current research in periodontal disease prediction and recognition

Dr Narongsak Laorisin (Thailand) Clinical applications of current research in periodontal pharmacotherapeutics

Dr Nitish Surathu (India) Clinical applications of current research in periodontal wound healing and regeneration

Dr KM Chung (Singapore) Contemporary clinical techniques for enhanced periodontal prognosis

Dr Regina Santos-Morales (Makati City, The Philippines) Contemporary clinical directions in regenerative periodontics

Professor Mark Bartold (Adelaide, Australia) Future potential directions in clinical periodontics in the Asian Pacific region

A number of important issues were raised and discussed from these presentations. Professor Ishikawa highlighted how publication of research from the region has grown in the last 10 years with many countries making significant contributions to the international literature. The clinical and research papers presented at the meeting highlighted how these two fields are inextricably intertwined. Major areas of discussion between speakers and delegates were periodontal diagnosis, etiopathology and molecular pathogenesis, anti-microbial therapy (including the use of natural products), periodontal regeneration, implants and epidemiology. There was at times some very good vigorous debate from the audience on these topics.

The poster sessions were very successful and in keeping with tradition from previous meetings three prizes were awarded for the poster judged to be the best on the day. The winners of the poster competition (which included a cash award) were:

First place: Shashi Bala (Govt Dental College, Rohtak, Haryana, India) – Preterm low birth weight and dental intervention – is there any risk?

Second Place: Mara Gomez Flores (Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan) – Periodontal regeneration based on multi-layered cell sheet engineering

Third Place: Yiwen Chen (Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan) Serological analysis of the implication of periodontitis in vascular diseases.

At the conclusion of the day's presentations a business meeting was held and the following officers were elected:

President: Dr Aranachalam (Chennai, India)

Immediate Past President: Dr Nanette Vergel de Dios (Manila, The Philippines)

President Elect: Dr Jincai Zhang, Guangzhou, China

Secretary General: Professor Isao Ishikawa, Tokyo, Japan

Treasurer: Professor T Arai, Yokohama, Japan

Editor: Professor PM Bartold, Adelaide Australia

Councillors:

KM Chung - Singapore

LJ Jin - Hong Kong, China

L Naraongsak - Bangkok, Thailand

N Surathu - Chennai, India

T Taiyeb Ali - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

XH Meng - Beijing, China

The next meeting of the APSP will be held in Beijing, China on September 21, 2007.

Further information about the APSP can be found at <http://www.dentistry.adelaide.edu.au/bartold/apsp.html>

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