

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2003

22 August 2003

Pain Workshop

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Organised by Dr Lily Ng (KK Hospital), the regional meeting will include an introduction on pain and its physiology, pharmacology, complications and management of pain, patient controlled analgesia and epidurals as well as the practical aspects of using the PCA pumps and epidural infusions. Aimed at all medical staff, doctors, nurses and medical assistants, involved in anaesthesia and pain management.

27 – 28 September 2003

Refresher Course in Anaesthesiology – Physiology and Pharmacology Principles

Hospital Sultanah Aminah Johor Bharu

Details in the Berita.

11 October 2003

Fellowship Conferral Night (Academy of Medicine of Malaysia)

Grand Seasons Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

Hosted by the College of Radiologists.

16 October 2003

National Anaesthesia Day

Hospital Sultanah Aminah in Johor Baru has agreed to hold an exhibition to mark the event and raise public awareness regarding Anaesthesia.

15 – 19 October 2003

ASEAN Congress of Anaesthesiologists

Surabaya

The meeting is still on! Participating in the programme are several of our members delivering talks on anaesthesia, monitoring and research among other topics.

17 – 19 October 2003

National Conference in Intensive Care

Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

This will be the Annual Scientific Meeting of the College for 2003.

13 – 14 December 2003

1st Malaysian International Symposium on Respiratory Care (MISRC)

Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

Originally scheduled for the 31 May and 1 June 2003, this was postponed to present date due to the SARS outbreak.

2004

3 – 4 April 2004

Annual General Meeting / Annual Scientific Meeting, MSA

The Scientific Programme will be organised by the Pain Management Special Interest Group.

17 – 23 April 2004

13th World Congress of Anaesthesiologists

Paris

As is usual, the MSA will sponsor those participating in the World Congress, i.e. invited speaker or presenting paper, up to a maximum of RM5,000 per person. Full details on eligibility to receive a subsidy has been published in this issue of the Berita.

Please note that the final quantum will depend on the individual applicant as recommended by the Selection Committee, and that those already receiving alternative sponsorship but still requesting MSA funds will have to produce original receipts when wishing to claim for airfare, registration or accommodation.

Write in...



Dear Members

There will be a space in the Berita Anesthesiologi for any member to express their opinions, state their stands, make their queries, publicise their activities, say their hellos or blast their Exco,anything at all (within publishable limits of course).

Just address it to

Write In...

Berita Anesthesiologi

mail to

**19 Jalan Folly Barat
50480 Kuala Lumpur**

or fax to

03-2093 0900

or E-mail to

**acadmed@po.jaring.my
or drkpng@hotmail.com**

We welcome any communication in our effort to open up the MSA to the participation of all members. Identities of contributors of letters published need not be revealed according to your preferences, but all the mail to the column must be accompanied by full name and contact address / number should any clarification be required.

I will start the ball rolling with some observations made by individual members to various members of the Exco in passing, which may be of interest to some anaesthesiologists around the country.

Just what is the role of the Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) that have been issued from the various Colleges of the Academy of Medicine Malaysia? The College of Anaesthesiologists have to date produced CPGs on Preoperative

Fasting, Minimum Monitoring, Perioperative Blood Transfusion (in print). Does anyone follow these CPGs and is there any medico legal implication attached to these CPGs? Should the College continue to produce more guidelines? What do you think? Have you read them? Did you know they existed?

How come anaesthetic fees are all tagged to the surgical fees? Is this a disadvantage to the anaesthetist? Is there a possibility of change? Does anyone know?

Write in please. Even if you feel your say may not interest everyone, it will definitely interest someone. Looking forward to hearing from anyone out there....

K P Ng
Editor

Financial Support for Attendance at Conferences Overseas

I. Criteria

- A. Must be a member of the MSA in good standing for the three years. This means that for the past 3 consecutive years, the member must have paid his/her subscription within the year it is due.
- B. Must be:
 1. presenting a free paper(s), or
 2. attending as an invited speaker, or
 3. representing the Society (see below)
- C. Must be attending one of the following meetings held outside Malaysia:
 1. World Congress of Anaesthesiologists.
 2. Asian Australasian Congress of Anaesthesiologists.
 3. Asean Congress of Anaesthesiologists.
 4. Congress of the Asian and Oceanic Society of Regional Anaesthesia.
 5. Congress of the Western Pacific Association of Critical Care Medicine.
- D. Must apply in advance to the Executive Committee for approval before going for the conferences.
- E. For free papers, the study must not have been presented, in part or as a whole, at an overseas or international conference before.

For the purpose of this paragraph:

 1. Overseas conference refers to any meeting held outside Malaysia.
 2. International conference refers to any meeting where the sponsoring body is a regional organisation. This includes all the conferences mentioned in Para 1 (C) above.
 3. Part of the study refers to:
 - a. Preliminary data from the study
 - b. A previous presentation in which similar conclusions were derived using data from the study.
- F. Must not have received a financial subsidy (for presentation of free papers or as an invited speaker) from the Society in the previous year. This means that members are only allowed one subsidy every two years except when officially representing the Society as per Para 1 (B) (3) above.
- G. Must not have made any false declarations to the Society previously.
- H. Must obtain the agreement of the co-authors that he/she be allowed to present the paper.

II. Financial Consideration

- A. The amount of subsidy will depend on the region where the meeting is held. At the present point in time, the maximum amounts, are:

1. Within ASEAN	RM 2000
2. Asia/Australia (except Japan)	RM 3000

3. Japan/Europe/S Africa/America RM 5000

The amount of subsidy shall not be more than the cost of registration and half the airfare.

- B. Priority categories will be of the following order:
 1. Invited speakers who are presenting for the first time overseas, with or without outside sponsorship.
 2. Oral free paper/poster discussion presenters without outside sponsorship.
 3. Invited speakers without outside sponsorship
 4. Invited Key speakers (Plenary lecturers), with or without outside sponsorship.
 5. Oral free paper/poster discussion presenters with outside sponsorship.
 6. Invited speakers with outside sponsorship.
 7. Presenters of poster presentations, with or without outside sponsorship.
- C. Designated Conferences

At the beginning of each financial year, the Executive Committee will decide which of the conferences mentioned in Para 1(C) above will be designated as conferences in which members may apply for a subsidy. When making the decision, the Executive Committee will consider the following factors.

 1. Priority will be given to WFSA sponsored conferences – World Congress, Asian Australasian Congress, Asean Congress.
 2. Priority will be given to conferences within the Asean region.
 3. The financial position of the Society.
- D. Limiting total amount of subsidy per conference (Capping).
 1. The Executive Committee reserves the right to set a limit to the amount of subsidy to be given in order to allow proper budgeting
 2. In order to prevent the capped limit from being exceeded, the Executive Committee reserves the right to decrease number of successful applicants.

III. Approval of subsidy for invited speakers / presenters of free papers

- A. Selection Committee

Composition:

 1. MSA Chairman, who shall chair the committee.
 2. MSA Treasurer.
 3. One to three members of the Society, one of whom shall be involves in academia full-time.

Function:

 1. To review the submitted abstracts and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.
- B. Selection Process
 1. A copy of the abstract sent to the organizing committee of the conference, together with the letter of acceptance, must be sent to the Selection Committee.

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2. A cover letter must be completed in full and returned to the Selection Committee. This cover letter will include:
 - a. a declaration by the applicant that all the criteria have been met.
 - b. a declaration by the applicant of all financial support obtained from other sources for the purpose of attending the conference.
 - c. a declaration by the applicant that agreement of the co-authors, that the applicant be allowed to present the paper, has been received.
 - d. certification by the Head of Department or Director of Research in the Institution where the study was carried out.
 - e. a statement by the applicant agreeing to the decision of the Executive Committee with regard to the application and amount of subsidy granted.
 - f. official receipts.

IV. Delegates appointed by the Society

Delegates appointed by the Society will automatically enjoy the subsidy without need for further application. Such appointments must be recorded in the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings. This includes:

1. Society representatives at WFSA/CASA business meetings.
2. Speakers appointed by the Society e.g. at the Presidents' Forum.

V. Decision and Appeal

- A. The Executive Committee will make the decision on whether to grant any subsidy taking into consideration the recommendation of the Selection Committee.
- B. The Hon Secretary will inform unsuccessful applicants within a reasonable time interval.
- C. Unsuccessful applicants can appeal to the Executive Committee. The decision of the Executive Committee when considering an appeal will be final.

VI. Review

This policy is subject to review from time to time by the Executive Committee and will depend on the prevailing financial position of the Society.

Prepared by:

Assoc Prof Lim Thiam Aun

Dr V Kathiresan

Adopted by Executive Committee on 22 August 2000

Report on the 5th National Heads of Anaesthetic Departments in MOH by Dr Ng Siew Hian

The 5th National Meeting of the heads of anaesthetic departments in Ministry of Health was held on 19 – 20 May at the Vistana Hotel Kuala Lumpur. A total of 46 specialists from 28 hospitals attended the meeting officiated by the Deputy Director General Datuk Dr Ahmad Tajuddin.

A number of issues were discussed and among them were:

1. Strategies to overcome the severe shortage of ICU beds in the state hospitals.

Measures advocated were the strict adherence to admission and discharge guidelines, development of clear patient management plan, practice withholding and withdrawing of life-support therapy when indicated and networking of ICU beds especially in the Klang Valley. These 'good practices' are deemed necessary to reduce the demand for ICU beds and to allow some 'breathing space' while awaiting for more ICU beds to be created under the Dasar Baru projects.

2. Pre-anaesthetic clinics in all KKM hospitals.

This will be made a national policy and a taskforce will be formed to formulate guidelines for its implementation in Ministry of Health hospitals. It is envisaged that in the near future, all patients scheduled for surgery under anaesthesia will be assessed in the anaesthetic clinic.

3. Respiratory care and haemodynamic monitoring course for ICU medical assistants.

The course will expand the roles of the MAs in the ICU especially in the transportation of patients and the provision of basic ventilatory care.

4. Training for anaesthetic assistants.

Structured training for anaesthetic assistants is necessary to improve their level of competence. Training will include formal lectures and the use of a log book for procedures.

5. Standardisation of incident reporting.

Standardisation of incident reporting in a computerised format will be established to enable compilation and review of meaningful information.

Beside clinical issues, the following administrative matters were raised during the Q&A session:

1. Unequal distribution of specialists and the difficulty in getting specialists to work in East Malaysia.
2. Rules and requirements under the subspecialty training programme.
3. Insufficient department budget.
4. Lack of equipment in certain hospitals especially district hospitals.

A special dinner to bid Dato' Inba farewell was organised on the first night of the meeting. The group presented Dato' with a gold plated pewter shield as a show of appreciation for the immense number of contributions he has made in anaesthesia and intensive care in the country.

Overall the meeting was a success. Most participants felt that the meeting was useful and hoped that similar meetings will be held yearly, perhaps at venues outside of KL.

Calling All MSA Members

Members:

1. The membership dataform is in this issue of 'Berita Anestesiologi' and will soon be available at the MSA website. Please help us update your data via any of these:

Email : acadmed@po.jaring.my
(Attn: Ms Kong, MSA secretariat)

Snail mail : MSA Secretariat
19 Jalan Folly Barat
50480 Kuala Lumpur

Tel : 03-2093 0100, 2093 0200

Fax : 03-2093 0900

Website : www.msa.net.my

2. Please visit the MSA website as we value your comments, contributions and suggestions.
3. You are welcome to contribute articles, letters to the editor, etc. for our MSA newsletter 'Berita Anestesiologi'. Just email to the MSA secretariat at acadmed@po.jaring.my. This newsletter is also 'available' at the website.
4. We have appointed MSA state representatives with whom you can liaise with for easy access to us, particularly in terms of CME organisation and financial assistance. Their names are listed in this issue of 'Berita Anestesiologi'.

STATE	MSA REPRESENTATIVE
Johor	Dato' Dr Subrahmanyam Balan
Kedah	Dr Ahmad Zaini
Kelantan	Assoc Prof Dr Nik Abdullah Nik Mohamed
Melaka	Datin Dr V Sivasakthi
Negeri Sembilan	Dr Jenny Tong May Geok
Pahang	Dr Asmarawati bt Mohd Yatim
Penang	Dato' Dr Jahizah bt Hj Hassan
Perak	Dr Kavita Bhojwani
Perlis	Dr Ismail Ahmad
Sabah	Dr Lily Ng Mooi Hang
Sarawak	Dr Norzalina bt Esa
Terengganu	Dr Aisai Abdul Rahman

Guidelines for Regional Meetings of MSA

1. Each region takes turns to organise one scientific meeting every year.
2. Speakers for meetings consist of Society members as far as possible.
3. Financial subsidy: a maximum of RM 4000/ for each region.
 - Regional representative or organising chairperson to submit copy of programme with anticipated budget.
 - Society subsidises expenses incurred by speakers.
 - Submit statement of accounts at end of meeting.

For details, please call:
Datin Dr V Sivasakthi
at Hospital Melaka
Tel: 06-270 7397

Get going, folks!!!