



ASIA PACIFIC PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION

formerly known as Association of Pediatric Societies of the SouthEast Asian Region (APSSEAR)

HONORARY PRESIDENT:

- Dr. Chok-wan Chan - *Hong Kong*
- Dr. Mohd Sham Kasim - *Malaysia*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- **President:**
Dr. Aman B Pulungan - *Indonesia*
- **Immediate Past President:**
Dr. Naveen Thacker - *India*
- **Secretary General:**
Dr. Zulkifli Ismail - *Malaysia*
- **President-Elect:**
Dr. Iqbal A Memon - *Pakistan*
- **Deputy Secretary General:**
Dr. Hung Liang Choo - *Malaysia*
- **Treasurer:**
Dr. Selva Kumar Sivapunniam - *Malaysia*

STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- **East Asia**
Dr. Lilian Wong - *Hong Kong*
Dr. Takao Takahashi - *Japan*
- **South East Asia**
Dr. Daniel YT Goh - *Singapore*
Dr. Melinda M. Atienza - *Philippine*
- **South Asia**
Dr. Binod Bajracharya - *Nepal*
Dr. Santosh T. Soans - *India*
- **Oceania**
Dr. Catherine Choong - *Australia*
Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Sultan - *Pakistan*
(Co-opted member as Editor-in-Chief of *Asia Pacific Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health*)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Fairos Nazri - *Malaysia*

ASSISTING APPA PRESIDENT:

Dr. Saskia Octariza - *Indonesia*

SECRETARIAT ADDRESS:

Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA)
3rd Floor, National Cancer Society Building
66, Jalan Raja Muda Abdul Aziz
50300 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
E-mail: appa.kl.secretariat@gmail.com
Website: www.a-p-p-a.org
Twitter: @Asiapacific_Ped
Facebook: [facebook.com/Asia-Pacific-Pediatric-Association](https://www.facebook.com/Asia-Pacific-Pediatric-Association)

AFFILIATED TO:

International Pediatric Association (IPA)

PRINTED BY:

Suria Time Enterprise
No 32, Jalan Tembaga SD5/2H
Sri Damansara Industrial Park
52200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 6011-3322 8830
Fax: 603-6730 9062
E-mail: suriatime@yahoo.com

Volume 82

MAY - AUGUST 2021

No. 72



VACCINATING MALAYSIAN TEENAGERS

MALAYSIA BEGINS VACCINATING TEENAGERS



Photo by nst.com.my

Malaysia will begin vaccinating teenagers under 18 next week (beginning the week from September 6, 2021), starting with East Malaysian state of Sarawak, says new Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar.

"We will start with teens in Sarawak, as the state has reached its benchmark of 80% vaccinated adults," he said on Saturday, September 4, 2021.

The Health Minister added that the Ministry will set up a target for adolescents vaccination according to the supply of vaccines it gets."

"I am hoping that as many teens as possible will get vaccinated in the next 100 days."

"We want that at the start of the school term next year, all teens have completed their vaccinations."

So far the government has only approved the usage of Pfizer BioNTech vaccines for adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17.

Meanwhile, Sarawak state Deputy Chief Minister, Amar Douglas Unggah Embas said, Sarawak will start giving COVID-19 vaccinations to teenagers below the age of 18 from Wednesday, September 8, 2021.

- thestar.com.my, September 4 & 5, 2021



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Distinguished Fellow Pediatricians,

The coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic is one of the most significant challenges defining the global health crisis. For more than a year, we are still wondering when this pandemic will end. Many efforts have been made to slow down the

spread of the virus by testing, contact tracing, restrictions, including mass vaccination; despite all of those, most countries in the Asia Pacific Region are still experiencing a surging number of COVID cases, especially during the last couple of months.

The number of infections and death in children have risen sharply over the past few months in several countries. Moreover, variants of concern are suspected to be involved in increasing number of infections and death, which some of them are more contagious. Our children are becoming more vulnerable to get infected by these new variants of concern.

Following this condition, health care workers, including paediatricians, are still struggling with patient care. At the same time, they become more vulnerable to transmission and infection. Many paediatricians have passed away in this pandemic war. We have lost many of our teachers, mentors, colleagues during these devastating times. We must all take

care of our health at this time; there should be no more paediatricians who become infected and ill due to SARS-CoV-2.

Despite these conditions, there are signs of hope since mass COVID-19 vaccination have already begun. It is one of the significant steps toward ending the pandemic. Many countries in the Asia Pacific Region are speeding up vaccinating their citizens. The vaccination is readily available for adults. The good news is some countries have started to roll out vaccination among children above 12 years old. There is no one too young to be vaccinated. As long it is proven safe, and there is sufficient scientific evidence for its safety and benefits, we should not delay the children from receiving vaccination.

However, we must remember, vaccines are a powerful tool against the pandemic. But, they are not the only tool. Wearing masks, keeping a safe distance from one another, and washing hands regularly could save lives. Remember to stay away from crowds, closed quarters, and poorly ventilated rooms. By being consistent in doing all these above health regimes, we could control the virus from spreading even further. Keep safe and stay healthy!

Best regards,

Professor Dr. Aman B Pulungan, MD, PhD, FAAP, FRCPI (Hon.)
President of Asia Pacific Pediatric Association



HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS!

Dear All APPA members,

Results of the International Pediatric Association (IPA) Election held during the IPA Virtual Council of Delegates Meeting, organised on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 7-10am Chicago time | 12-3pm UCT/GMT.

Heartiest Congratulations to:

1. Dr. Naveen Thacker for being elected as President-Elect of IPA.
2. APPA President, Professor Dr. Aman Bakhti Pulungan for being elected as Executive Director of IPA.

3. Professor Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura (Japan), Professor Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Sultan (Pakistan) and Professor Dr. Manzoor Hussain (Bangladesh), elected as Standing Committee (SC) of IPA from the APPA region respectively and

4. Dr. Bakul Jayant Parekh as President of IPA Congress 2023 India.

- Professor Dr. Zulkifli Ismail, Secretary General, APPA



Asia Pacific Countries Vaccinating Children Against COVID-19

* **Singapore** opened up its vaccination programme to adolescents aged 12-18 from June 1, 2021.

* **Japan** on May 28, 2021 approved the use of Pfizer's vaccine for those aged 12 and above. Announced in June 2021 that it will vaccinate children aged 12 to 15 during the summer break.

* The **Philippines** on May 26, 2021 decided to allow the Pfizer-BioNTech's vaccine for emergency use in children aged 12-15. (reuters.com, June 3, 2021)

* **Mongolia** started vaccinating children aged 12-17 against COVID-19 in late June, 2021. (xinhuanet.com, July 1, 2021)

* **China** began vaccinating students aged 12-17 in July 2021. (reuters.com, September 15, 2021)

* **New Zealand** medicines regulator has provisionally approved the use of Pfizer's vaccine for 12-15 year olds, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said on June 21, 2021.

* **Indonesia** on June 28, 2021, approved China's Sinovac vaccine for children aged 12 to 17.

* **Hong Kong** began distributing the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to children aged 12 to 15 from June 11, 2021. (thenationalnews.com, August 23, 2021)

* **Australia** will expand its COVID-19 vaccination drive in September 2021 to include around one million children aged 12-15. (channelnewsasia.com, September 13, 2021)

* **Nepal** has initiated a process to procure six million doses of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to be administered against COVID-19 to children above 12. (myrepublica.nagariknet.com, July 31, 2021)

* **Pakistan** will begin vaccinating teenagers with Pfizer vaccine in the age group between 15-17 against COVID-19, starting from Monday, (September 13, 2021). (indiatvnews.com, September 12, 2021)

* **Thailand** announced that beginning September 21, 2021, students aged 12 to 18 will be eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. - Centre for Strategic and International Studies (csis.org, September 16, 2021)



A student receives a dose of COVID-19 vaccine at a vaccination point of Wenshu middle school in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu Province, August 23, 2021. - Photo by Xinhua.

* **Bangladesh** to start giving Pfizer vaccine to students aged between 13 and 17 years old within the next 15 to 20 days, said Health Minister Zahed Maleque on September 18, 2021. (thedailystar.net, September 19, 2021)

* **India** plans to begin COVID-19 vaccination for children in the 12-17 age group who have co-morbidities like obesity, heart disorders or immunodeficiency by October - November 2021. (m.timesofindia.com, September 15, 2021)

* **South Korea** aiming to vaccinate 12 to 17-year-olds later in the year. (amp.theguardian.com, September 2, 2021)

* The **Sri Lankan** government has made plans to start a step-by-step vaccination program for children over 12 years of age as soon as teachers-principals-staff vaccination is completed. (colombopage.com, August 15, 2021)

* Children aged from 12 to 17 years old in **Taiwan** will have the option to take Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in addition to Pfizer-BioNTech after school opens, depending on the vaccination arrivals and quantities, said the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) Head, Chen Shih-Chung. (taiwannews.com.tw/channelnewsasia.com, August 18, 2021)

* **Vietnam** is negotiating with several countries to secure COVID-19 vaccine doses for children aged 12-18, said its Health Minister Nguyen Thanh Long. (e.vnexpress.net, September 6, 2021)

Compiled by Fairos Nazri, Assistant Editor, APPA Bulletin.



1.5 MILLION CHILDREN LOST PARENTS TO COVID-19



A child looks at the "Naming of Lost Memorials" at the Green-Wood cemetery in Brooklyn, New York, USA.
- photo by Reuters

During the first 14 months of the pandemic, an estimated 1.5 million children worldwide experienced the death of a parent, custodial grandparent or other relative who cared for them, as a result of COVID-19, according to a study published in The Lancet on Tuesday (July 20, 2021).

The orphanhood estimates are drawn from mortality data from 21 countries that account for 77% of global COVID-19 deaths and from the United Nations Population Division.

"From every two COVID-19 deaths worldwide, one child is left behind to face the death of a parent or caregiver," Dr. Susan Hillis from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Response Team, who led the study said in a statement.

The number of COVID-19 orphans will increase as the pandemic progresses, she added.

There is an urgent need to prioritize these children and "support them for many years into the future," Hillis said.

Said study co-author Lucie Cluver of Oxford University, "And we need to respond fast because every 12 seconds, a child loses their caregiver to COVID-19."

- reuters.com, July 21, 2021



Children Less Affected By Long COVID, Says British Study

According to a British study, children very rarely experience what had come to be known as Long COVID-19, when symptoms can last several weeks or even months. The vast majority of young people take less than a week to recover. Only a small percentage of children have been found to still have symptoms eight weeks after infection.



Photo by Shutterstock

Six days. That's the average time it takes a child to recover from COVID-19, according to findings from King's College London.

The number of children still showing symptoms between four and eight weeks is "low".

A total of 258,790 children aged 5-17, participated in the study, which was published in the journal Lancet Child and Adolescent Health. Data came from reports made by parents and caregivers via a mobile app. Between September 1, 2020 and January 24, 2021, 1734 youths reported a positive PCR test after experiencing symptoms.

Their health status was reported on and tracked until recovery. On average, children aged 12 to 17 years take

slightly longer to recover from COVID-19, one week, compared to five days for those aged 5 to 11 years. Of the 1734 youths who tested positive, 4% had symptoms for 4 weeks or more and 2% for more than 8 weeks.

Some 84% of children with long COVID reported feeling tired at least once during their recovery. Two other symptoms were prominent: headaches, often reported early in the disease and loss of smell, somewhat later.

"It is reassuring that the number of children experiencing long-lasting symptoms of COVID-19 is low. Nevertheless, a small number of children do experience long illness with COVID-19 and our study validates the experiences of these children and their families," outline Professor Dr. Emma Duncan of King's College London, lead and senior author of the study.

"Our data highlight that other illnesses such as cold and flu can also prolong symptoms in children and it is important to consider this when planning for paediatric health services during the pandemic and beyond," explains Michael Absoud, a senior author of the study.

In his conclusions, the senior lecturer at King's College London warns about the "prevalence of these illnesses" increasing with the loosening of preventive measures.

- ETX Studio/malaymail.com, London, August 5, 2021



Put Obese Children Under The Knife To Cut Diabetes Risk, Say Experts



Hundreds of obese children and teenagers should be given weight loss surgery to reverse their diabetes, experts say.

Britain's obesity crisis means almost 800 patients under the age of 18 are now receiving treatment for type-2 diabetes, with cases among young children as young as six.

Type-2 diabetes normally occurs among overweight adults, often in middle age, after decades of weight gain. Nine in 10 cases are fuelled by excess weight. But soaring obesity rates in under-18s have seen the number of young children with the condition more than double in five years.

Experts are now calling for young people to be offered operation like gastric bypasses and bands in a bid to prevent long-term damage.

Surgeon Andrew Beamish, an honorary senior lecturer at Swansea University, said children should be offered surgery soon after being diagnosed.

"We need to catch diabetes (in young people) early and we need to treat it with an operation," he told the virtual Diabetes UK Professional Conference. "This is a much more aggressive disease that progresses much more rapidly than in adults. We need to make sure we shut the gates before the horse bolts."

There were 790 under-18s receiving treatment for type-2 diabetes from a paediatrician in England and Wales in 2018/2019, - up from 340 in 2013/2014, figures from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPH) show.

Children as young as six have been diagnosed with type-2 diabetes and the number of 13 and 14-year olds with the condition jumped 39% between 2017/2018 and 2018/2019. Untreated or poorly managed diabetes can lead to serious health problems, including heart attacks, strokes, kidney failure, blindness and amputation.

But Dr. Beamish said common treatment for type-2 diabetes such as medications and insulin therapies, are not effective at preventing damage from the condition in children as in adults.

Studies suggest these 'first line' treatments stopped working for one in five obese teenagers within a year, and for more than half within five years. Weight-loss surgeries such as gastric bands, can reverse diabetes for up to nine out of 10 patients who undergo it, but research suggest it works best when they have only had the condition for short period of time.

- **The Telegraph, May 3, 2021**



PHILIPPINE POLIO FREE AGAIN AFTER VACCINE CAMPAIGN



The Philippines is once again polio free, the World Health Organization (WHO) said Friday (June 11, 2021) after a successful vaccination campaign that has raised hopes for COVID-19 inoculations in a country plagued by mistrust of jabs.

Polio re-emerged in the country in 2019, nearly two decades after its last cases were detected, sparking nationwide effort to immunise millions of children against the crippling disease.

The Health authorities said they have not detected the virus in a child or the environment in the past 16 months.

"We are celebrating freedom from polio," said Dr. Rabindra Abeyesinghe, WHO representative in the Philippines. More than 80% of vaccinated children were immunised in the nationwide effort, which Dr. Abeyesinghe said was "adequate to interrupt the transmission."

The 2019 outbreak began shortly after deadly dengue fever and measles epidemics and as vaccination coverage plunged partly due to the botched roll-out of dengue shot a few years earlier.

Polio is highly infectious and can lead to paralysis and even death. There is no known cure.

- **AFP, June 11, 2021**



“In Observance Of The World Breastfeeding Week, The Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA) Organised A Central Webinar And Series Of Meetings At The Medical Colleges

1. A webinar was held on August 5, 2021 at 11:30 AM titled Impact of Breastfeeding on Childhood Nutrition to celebrate “World Breastfeeding Week 2021” Jointly organised by the Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA), Institute of Public Health and Nutrition (IPHN) & National Nutrition Service (NNS). Professor Dr. Abul Bashar Mohammad Khurshid Alam, Director General of Health Service was the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Manzoor Hussain, President, BPA chair of the session. Professor Dr. Mohd Zahid Hussain, Secretary General, BPA, Professor Dr. Nasir Uddin Mahmud, Director, IPHN & Dr. SM Mustafizur Rahman, Line Director, NNS was the special guest. Professor Dr. Md Rukunuzzaman, Chairman, Department of Paediatric Gastroenterology, BSMMU was the keynote speaker.

2. A webinar was held on August 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM titled Impact of Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility to

celebrate “World Breastfeeding Week 2021” organised by Department of Paediatrics, Dhaka Medical College.

3. A seminar was held on August 19, 2021 at Rajshahi Medical College to celebrate “World Breastfeeding Week 2021” organised by Department of Paediatrics.

4. A colorful Rally was also arranged in celebration of World Breast feeding day by Paediatric Department, Rajshahi Medical College.

Regards,
Manzoor Hussain
President, Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA)
Member Standing Committee, International Pediatric Association (IPA)



Delta Variant Not Specifically Targeting Children: WHO

The Delta variant of the coronavirus is not specifically targeting children, the World Health Organization (WHO) said Friday (July 30, 2021).

The WHO's COVID-19 technical lead, Maria Van Kerkhove said the evidence showed that the variant first detected in India was rather being transmitted among people who were socially mixing.

"Let me be very clear: we are not seeing the Delta variant specifically target children," the US expert told a press conference.

Delta has now being detected in 132 countries and is more transmissible than earlier versions of the virus, including other variants of concern.

The UN health agency said, work was under way to gain a better understanding of the dynamics of Delta and why it is more transmissible.

"There are some suggestions that the variants specifically targeting children, but that actually is not the case. What we are seeing is that the variants will target those who are socially mixing," Van Kerkhove said. "What we do see is that the variant that are circulating will infect people if they are not taking the proper precautions," she added, referring to measures such as physical distancing and avoiding gathering in poorly ventilated, crowded indoor spaces.

The WHO published a plan detailing ways in which schools can reopen and stay open in safety.

"But do we really need to drive down transmission in the communities to make sure that they can open safely," Van Kerkhove said.

- AFP / thedailystar.net, Geneva, August 1, 2021

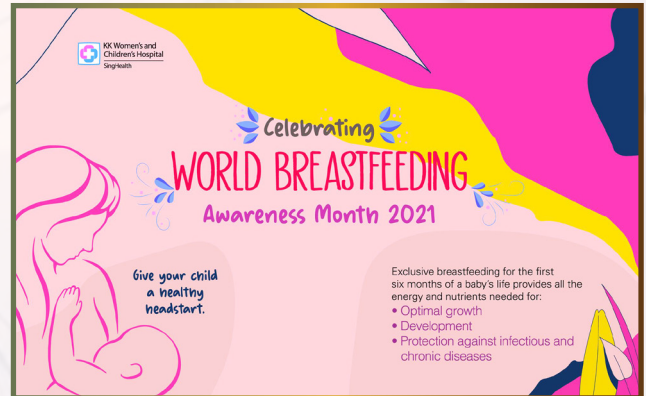


World Breastfeeding Week 2021 Activities From SINGAPORE

The following were activities conducted in conjunction with World Breastfeeding Week 2021 at the major institutions in Singapore on a national basis:

1. The NUHS (National University Health System) comprising National University Hospital (NUH) Singapore and National University of Singapore organised "Breastfeeding - a shared responsibility in COVID-19 Pandemic" webinar on Saturday, August 14, 2021.

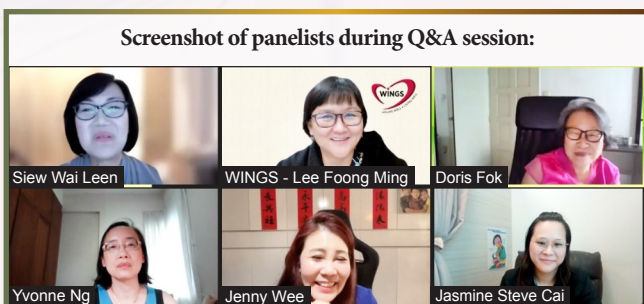
There were 348 attendees for the 2-hour lively session consisting of 4 talks. The opening speech by Dr. Yvonne Ng [neonatologist - International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC), NUHS Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) steering committee chairperson] addressed the World Breastfeeding Week 2021 theme and the importance of various actors in the warm chain for breastfeeding support. The 4 speakers then spoke on: role of a lactation consultant in a BFHI hospital, pro-breastfeeding confinement nannies training scheme, promoting breastfeeding at the workplace



and breastfeeding across the generations. The webinar was moderated and facilitated by an IBCLC fellow, Mrs. Doris Fok.

2. KK Women's and Children's Hospital, Singapore celebrated World Breastfeeding Week by raising public awareness on the importance of breast feeding. World Breastfeeding Week also coincided with the 4th anniversary of the opening of the KKH Human Milk Bank. This is supported by the Temasek Foundation and benefited many high-risk newborn infants in the country. Many neonates, both in the public and private sectors, benefited from this service. The milk bank expresses its gratitude to the continuous support from the various milk donors in Singapore for this very worthy cause.

Both these events were publicised in the hospital's website and Facebook page.



Screenshot of panelists during Q&A session:





Indonesian Pediatric Society - Asia Pacific Pediatric Association Online Symposium and Panel Discussion World Immunization Week: “Immunization in Pandemic Era”

Each year, the world commemorates World Immunization Week from the 24th to the 30th of April. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the delivery of routine immunizations, causing a decline in the national coverage of routine basic immunization, thus increasing the susceptibility of countries to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases. The Indonesian Pediatric Society (IPS) along with the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA) recognize that it is more important than ever to voice the importance of routine vaccinations and end the disruption in vaccination services and urgently resume routine vaccination programs to prevent another outbreak.

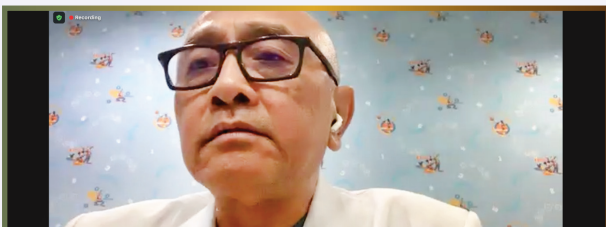
Joining forces from nations throughout Asia Pacific, IPS and APPA conducted an online symposium and panel discussion entitled, “Immunization in Pandemic Era”, on Thursday, 29th of April 2021. The event drew more than 600 participants across various nations who joined in via Zoom.

The online symposium was chaired by Professor Hartono Gunardi (Indonesia), Chair of the APPA Technical Advisory Group on Immunization. To officially begin the online symposium, Professor Aman Pulungan, as IPS & APPA President, delivered his opening remarks.

The discussion in the online symposium covered a wide range of topics regarding immunization in the pandemic era, providing perspectives, innovations and lessons learned from different nations as well as insights regarding the development of the COVID-19 vaccine in children. Speakers in the online symposium featured Professor Sri Rezeki Hadinegoro (Indonesia), Professor Feng-Cai Zhu (China), APPA President-Elect, Professor Iqbal Memon, (Pakistan) and Dr. Arun Wadhwa (India). Three panelists, Professor Zakiudin Munasir (Indonesia), APPA Secretary General, Professor Zulkifli Ismail (Malaysia) and APPA Standing Committee, Dr. Binod Lal Bajracharya (Nepal) also provided their insights and perspectives regarding the issues covered by the speakers.

The end of the COVID-19 pandemic is still far from sight. However, routine immunizations for children must go on. Countries have to adapt to a better system that ensures the safety of our children in the midst of an uncertain world. We hope that through the online symposium and panel discussion conducted by IPS and APPA, nations across Asia Pacific are able to work towards a world where all our children are protected regardless of where this pandemic may lead us.

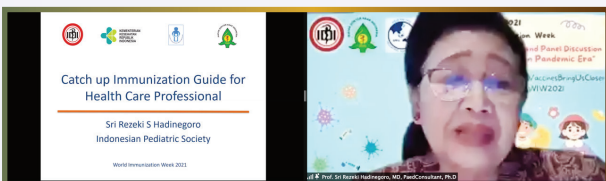
- Dr. Saskia Octariza, Asistant to APPA President & Ms Helena Arnetta Putri, Content Creative, APPA social media



Opening speech by, Professor Aman Pulungan, as APPA President



Professor Iqbal Memon presenting his topic entitled, “Immunization Program during Pandemic: Lesson Learnt from Sindh Pakistan.”



Professor Sri Rezeki Hadinegoro, presenting her topic entitled “Catch up Immunization Guide for Health Care Professional”



Dr. Arun Wadhwa presenting his topic entitled, “Innovation in Immunization: From Production into The Implementation”



Professor Feng-Cai Zhu, presenting his topic entitled, “Progress of the Studies on COVID-19 Vaccines for Children?”



Professor Zulkifli Ismail, presenting the disruption in Immunization on Malaysia



Indonesian Pediatric Society - Asia Pacific Pediatric Association Online Symposium and Panel Discussion World Autism Day: “Better Care for Better Future Autism Kids”

On the 1st of May 2021, the Indonesian Pediatric Society, along with the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association and the Turkish National Pediatric Society joined forces to create an online symposium and panel discussion commemorating World Autism Day, entitled, “**Better Care for Better Future Autism Kids**”.

Children with autism have long faced many difficulties and inequalities, those of which have been further exacerbated by the pandemic, including deprivation of health care, education, and opportunities to engage in communities. As the world commemorates World Autism Day on the 2nd of April, this joint discussion aims to find breakthroughs so that the management and intervention of autistic children may gain momentum to rebound towards improved outcomes.

The online symposium was chaired by Purboyo Solek, MD (Indonesia). To officially begin the symposium, there were two opening remarks from Professor Aman B. Pulungan, MD, PhD, FAAP, FRCPI(Hon) as the President of the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association and the Indonesian Pediatric Society, as well as from Professor Yildiz Camcioglu, MD, as the President Elect of the Turkish National Pediatric Society.

The topics covered by the speakers ranged from the implementation of telehealth to care for autism children in Indonesia during pandemic, advanced treatment of autism in India to sharing lessons learned from Turkey regarding the long-term outcomes of autism.

The speakers for the sessions include Professor Hardiono D. Pusponegoro, MD, Ph.D (Indonesia), Samir Hasan Dalwai, MD, DNB, DCH, FCPS, FIAP, LLB (India) and Professor Ebru Arhan, MD, Ph.D (Turkey). Three panelists Professor Shazia Maqbool, MD (Pakistan), Norazlin Kamal Nor, MD, PhD (Malaysia) and Professor Tatsuya Koeda, MD, PhD (Japan) provided further insights regarding the care of autism children in their respective countries as well as better strategies to provide care for children with autism in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

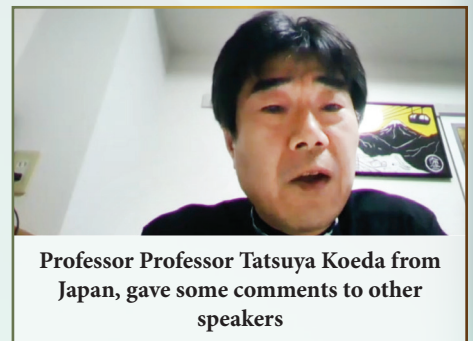
The online symposium drew more than 600 participants from across the region, who actively participated in the discussion session by posting numerous questions that prompted a fruitful discussion amongst all the speakers and panelists. From the online symposium and panel discussion, it is crystal clear that there is still so much that we can do to provide better care for a better future for our children with autism.



Opening remarks from Professor Aman B. Pulungan, as the President of the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association and the Indonesian Pediatric Society



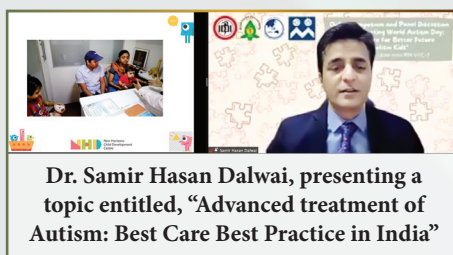
Professor Hardiono D. Pusponegoro, presenting a topic entitled, “Care of Autism Children in Indonesia during Pandemic: Telehealth for Monitoring”



Professor Professor Tatsuya Koeda from Japan, gave some comments to other speakers



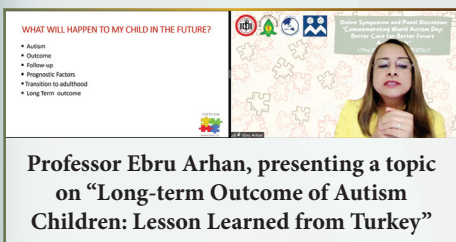
Opening remarks from Professor Yildiz Camcioglu, as President-Elect of the Turkish National Pediatric Society



Dr. Samir Hasan Dalwai, presenting a topic entitled, “Advanced treatment of Autism: Best Care Best Practice in India”



Dr. Norazlin Kamal Nor, from Malaysia gave some comments to other speakers



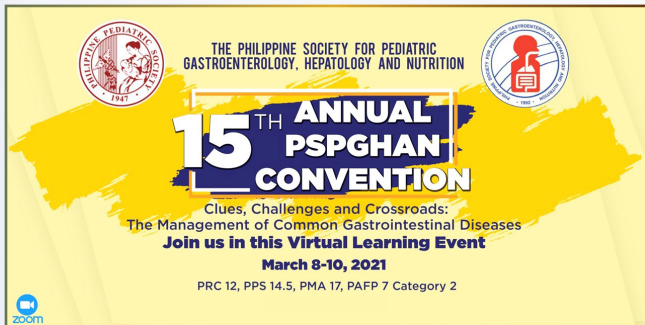
Professor Ebru Arhan, presenting a topic on “Long-term Outcome of Autism Children: Lesson Learned from Turkey”



Professor Shazia Maqbool, from Pakistan gave some comments to other speakers



Focusing on Gastrointestinal Concerns: PSPGHAN's First Online Convention



The 15th Annual Convention of the Philippine Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (PSPGHAN) was held on March 8-10, 2021. The convention was intended for the health care professionals and allied health care providers handling pediatric patients with common gastrointestinal diseases.

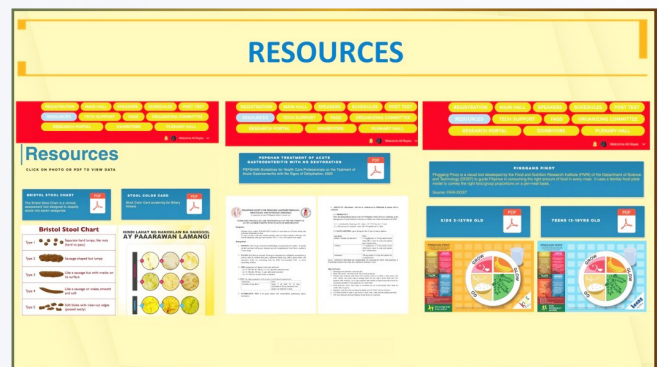
The convention entitled "Clues, Challenges and Crossroads: The Management of Common Gastrointestinal Diseases" was a 3-day event that was facilitated through a virtual online platform. The conference aim to help Pediatricians and other allied health care professionals to gain more knowledge on the clinical clues and help overcome challenges in managing pediatric patients with gastrointestinal concerns.

The Dr. Perla D. Santos Ocampo Professorial Lecture was one of the highlights of the convention. Dr. Carmencita Padilla, Chancellor of University of the Philippines Manila, delivered the lecture on "Personalized Medicine and Pharmacogenomics in Gastrointestinal Diseases".

The other scientific lectures were delivered by the esteemed speakers that focused on providing updates on topics on gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition that are commonly encountered in the clinics. Dr. Vicente Belizario, Jr. was a guest speaker who shared his expertise on the facts of intestinal parasitism. The PSPGHAN speakers of the convention were a combination of senior and younger colleagues.

Resource materials such as Bristol stool chart, Stool color card, Pinggang Pinoy and the 2020 PSPGHAN Guidelines for Health Care Professionals on the Treatment of Acute Gastroenteritis with no signs of dehydration were posted and made accessible for the attendees.

The society also encourages participation of young scientists in the conduct of research. Twelve researches participated in the e-poster presentation. The best research was chosen to receive the first "Dr. Arturo Ludan Research Award". A video tribute dedicated to honor one of the pillars of the Society, Dr. Ludan, was presented in the closing ceremonies.



The Organising Committee was headed by Dr. Ma. Charina Dizon with the support from PSPGHAN President Dr. Marilou Tan and the Board of Trustees. The first virtual PSPGHAN Convention was a great success despite the challenges of the pandemic. The convention registration fee was waived to more than 5000 delegates who attended the virtual convention.

This article was shared by Dr. Sarabeth de Castro, a pediatric gastroenterologist and a member of the Philippine Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.

SPEAKERS





INTERNATIONAL PAEDIATRIC EVENTS

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions, conferences in many countries have either been re-scheduled, postponed, cancelled or will be held as scheduled. Please confirm with organisers.

2021

6th International & 22nd Biennial Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA) Hybrid Conference

Date: October 22-23, 2021

Venue: Convention Center, Auditorium, Milton Hall & Milton Hall of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

Conference Secretariat Email: bpa.conf2021@gmail.com

Phone: 018-4333 8546

BANGLADESH

72nd Virtual Annual Scientific Meeting of the Paediatric Society of New Zealand Inc.

Date: November 2-4, 2021 **Venue:** Rotarua, New Zealand

Website: www.paediatrics.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND

12th ISTP of International Society of Tropical Pediatrics (ISTP)

Date: November 23-27, 2021

Venue: Intercontinental City Stars Hotel, Cairo, Egypt

E-mail: contact@iccgroupp.com / operations@iccgroupp.com

Website: www.ictp.2020.com **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/ictp2020

EGYPT

11th Asia Pacific Paediatric Endocrine Society (APPES) Biennial Scientific Meeting in conjunction with the 43rd Annual Conference of the Malaysian Paediatric Association (MPA)

Theme: "Towards Best Practices in Paediatric Endocrine Disorders & Diabetes."

Date: November 25-28, 2021

Venue: Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

E-mail: secretariat@appes2020.org **Website:** www.appes2020.org

Tel: 603-7931 2131 **Fax:** 603-7932 2132

MALAYSIA

2022

The 17th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (APCP) Hybrid Conference

Organised and hosted by the Pakistan Pediatric Association (PPA)

Theme: "Every New Born, Every Child, Every Where"

Date: March 10 -13, 2022

Venue: Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore, Pakistan

Email: ppa.apcp2021@gmail.com / apcp21sc@gmail.com

Website: www.ppa.org.pk / apcp-pak.live

PAKISTAN

7th World Congress of Pediatric Surgery (WOFAPS)

Theme: "Towards Best Practices in Paediatric Endocrine Disorders & Diabetes."

Date: October 12-15, 2022

Venue: Prague, Czech Republic

E-mail: wofaps2022@guarant.cz

Website: wofaps2022.org

CZECH REPUBLIC

2023

30th International Pediatric Association (IPA) Congress 2023

Theme: Quality Care for Every Child Everywhere

Date: February 19-24, 2023

Venue: Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

E-mail: info@ipa2023congress.org

INDIA

Note:

These paediatric events are for information purposes and does not constitute any endorsements from the APPA Secretariat.

- Updated and compiled by Fairos Nazri, Executive Secretary, APPA



World Health Organization

Countries in the WHO South-East Asia Region:

Bangladesh
Bhutan
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
India
Indonesia
Maldives
Myanmar
Nepal
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Timor-Leste

Countries, territories and areas in the WHO Western Pacific Region:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| American Samoa (USA) | Macao SAR (China) | Philippines |
| Australia | Malaysia | Pitcairn Island (UK) |
| Brunei Darussalam | Marshall Islands | Republic of Korea |
| Cambodia | Federated States of Micronesia | Samoa |
| China | Mongolia | Singapore |
| Cook Islands | Nauru | Solomon Islands |
| Fiji | New Caledonia (France) | Tokelau |
| French Polynesia (France) | New Zealand | Tonga |
| Guam (USA) | Niue | Tuvalu |
| Hong Kong SAR (China) | Northern Mariana Islands (USA) | Vanuatu |
| Japan | Palau | Vietnam |
| Kiribati | Papua New Guinea | Wallis and Futuna (France) |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | | |



17TH Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics

Hybrid Conference

Lahore, Pakistan 10th to 13th March, 2022



Theme:
Every New Born, Every Child, Every Where



Khalid Shafi
Secretary General, PPA



Habibullah Babar
President, PPA
Co Chair Organising Committee, APCP



Iqbal A. Memon
Chairman Organising Committee, APCP
President Elect, APPA



Aman B Pulungan
Executive-Director, IPA
President, APPA



Zulkifli Ismail
Secretary General, APPA



Gohar Rehman
General Secretary, APCP

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- APCP Symposia
- Pre Congress Workshops
- Oral Presentations
- Plenary Sessions
- Meet the Expert
- Poster Viewing

PRE CONGRESS WORKSHOPS ON

- Vaccine Hesitancy
- Appa Workshop
- Anti-microbial Resistance

Registration Fees

| | |
|--|---------------|
| International Delegate | USD. 250/- |
| International Delegate Accompanying person with Registration | USD. 100/- |
| Special Rates for SAARC Countries | USD. 200/- |
| For Overseas participants attending Virtually | USD. 50/- |
| Pakistan Rates for Consultant & General Physician | PKR. 12,000/- |
| Pakistan Rates for PG's | PKR. 3,500/- |
| Skill Building Workshop | PKR. 3,000/- |

CONCURRENT SYMPOSIA

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Infectious Diseases | Cardiology | Pulmonology |
| Neonatology | Gastroenterology | Endocrinology |
| Neurology | Nephrology | COVID-19 |
| Neglected Tropical Diseases | Hematology / Oncology | Community Pediatrics |
| Child Protection | Adolescent Health | Emergency and Critical care |

Web: www.apcp-pak.live

Email: apcp21sc@gmail.com | ppa.apcp2021@gmail.com

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

PAKISTAN PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION (PPA)

Plot # 57-C, 11th Commercial Street, Phase II Extension,
Defence Housing Authority, Karachi - Pakistan

Phone # +92 21 35387473

Website: www.ppa.org.pk



Event Management

Orbit
Advertising | Events | Productions

