

# AOFOG NEWS



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**AOFOG participation at SAFOG & SLOG Congress**



**AOFOG 2024**



**Member Society News Corner**



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“

I feel like it is in a flash that we are now approaching the last quarter of the year. For me, the year 2022 is.... [Read more](#)



“

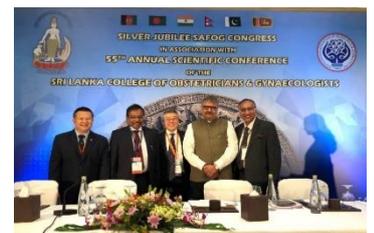
The new council under the able Presidency of Prof Pisake Lumbiganon took office during the AOFOG congress in May.... [Read more](#)



**MFM Committee**



**REI Committee**



**SRH Committee**



**Obituaries**



**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,

I feel like it is in a flash that we are now approaching the last quarter of the year. For me, the year 2022 is a blessing and it is also quite overwhelming with loads of responsibilities. It is a blessing in a sense that during the so-called post COVID period I completely realize that we live in a remarkably interconnected world; and I say this in a no epiphany manner. For a few years that we had been disrupted and obstructed by the pandemic, resulted in all aspects of life limitations we can ever imagine, I can see that both academic and professional institutions still, stronger, and harder than before, work collaboratively to solve the important questions and issues of our time through mutual desires for intellectual and research partnerships.

A few months ago, I had a great opportunity to take a modest part in the 11<sup>th</sup> HPV Summit Consortium hosted the Philippines HPV Summit. Since 2012 when the first annual HPV Summit officially commenced, I have been following the progress of the consortium, joining together distinctive members of the Department of Health, Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society, and the Cervical Cancer Prevention Network, to pursue the ultimate goal of the Summit which is to provide an overview of the current situation of HPV-related cancers and diseases and its control and prevention in various Asia Oceania countries. On behalf of AOFOG, I would like to show my appreciation on the Summit's continuous hard work and urge supports from our AOFOG members to build regional awareness of this preventable and early detectable disease. I do hope that in years to come, we could expand the collaborative works with some member countries in which the cervical cancer rates are still apparently high, like Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Indonesia.

Between the 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, I also had another great opportunity to attend the Quali-Dec General Assembly in Paris, France; the Assembly was jointly hosted by the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), Population and Development Center (CEPED), and the World Health Organization (WHO) with the main objective to discuss with QUALI-DEC consortium of researchers the state of progress of the QUALI-DEC project.





For some of you who may have never heard about the QUALI-DEC project before, please allow me to give you a very brief introduction here as the two country-members of AOFOG – Thailand and Vietnam, have been actively participating in this project. The QUALI-DEC project is a research project aiming to improve the appropriate use of Caesarean section. As we all know that the over-use of caesarean sections can no longer be seen solely as the result of inappropriate clinical practices. We found the need to appropriately design,

adapt and test non-clinical interventions for the appropriate use of Caesarean section and we are now implementing the interventions in the four pilot countries around the world – Argentina, and Burkina Faso, Thailand, and Vietnam. These non-clinical interventions include providing a decision analysis tool to give knowledge to pregnant women about the benefit and risk of vaginal delivery and Caesarean section, allowing a family member to accompany the woman during childbirth, having opinion leaders to encourage evidence-based clinical practice, audit and feedback of caesarean section indications by health practitioners. Robson Ten Group Classification for Caesarean Section is used to monitoring Caesarean section rates. Reduction in the rates of Caesarean birth has long been a goal of the World Health Organization and we have been working on it to tackle the issue. Though we realize that we may still have a long way to go and a lot of works to do, it'll be worth it after all to be able to make some changes. As Nelson Mandela stated, *"It always seems impossible until it's done."*

I wholeheartedly believe in the potential of our AOFOG to rise above the challenges we have faced over the last two years and thus remain the preeminent voice for the obstetricians and gynecologists in Asia & Oceania. I am honored to serve as your President and look forward to engaging you all in ranges of activities we are working on now. Please find a way to get involved. We are stronger together!

Always in service,

**Pisake Lumbiganon**  
President, AOFOG.

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## Secretary General's Message



From the beginning of our term, we had to sail through the rough seas of Covid 19 having to face and overcome several waves. Though Covid disrupted all our activities and forced us to be locked down on several occasions a new experience for most of us, we were able to make our way through due to the commitment of all our fellow members who came forward during the difficult times, to deliver the care for our patients & women, risking their own lives and we are very sad to know that several of our colleagues lost their lives during the pandemic. The pandemic helped us to get used to new methods of taking care of our patients.

Although the epidemic now appears to have been finally positioned outside the danger zone in many parts of the world allowing people to resume their normal way of living, we cannot totally be off-guard just yet, as there can still be possibilities of new waves caused by subvariants

Just as we were able to take a breath of relief after the virus, we were faced with another global threat which manifested. That is the impact of the continuing Russian and Ukraine war which has affected the development and growth of many countries. This has brought about food shortages and much economic difficulties to our people. Unfortunately, we have seen countries in our region also been affected particularly Sri Lanka. It can be expected that the most vulnerable groups, women and children would be inevitably affected by this situation.

Moreover, we heard about the devastating floods which affected Pakistan. By mid-June, more than 1400 people had died including 500 children, and millions have been displaced. UNFPA reports that almost 650,000 pregnant women in the flood-affected areas require maternal health services to ensure a safe pregnancy and childbirth, will need skilled birth attendants, newborn care and support. Compounding this problem is the fact that more than 1,000 health facilities are either partially or fully damaged in Sindh province. Our prayers are with Pakistan and it's people wishing that situation will return to normal soon. AOFOG along with our member societies, will be always there to assist our member Society SOGP in this hour of need.

***"When the times get tough, the tough get going"***, Our committee chairs have been able to carry on with many activities even during these troubled times.

Outlined below are some of the activities carried out by our committees and some of the planned activities.

### 1. 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology

74<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology was held from August 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at Fukuoka International Congress Center, Fukuoka, Japan under the Congress theme "Beyond diversity and space", which represents our desire to co-create a new dimension in Obstetrics and Gynecology from diverse perspectives to open up the future together.

On the morning of August 6<sup>th</sup>, we had the AOFOG Presidential lectures which were delivered by, Past President Dr. Ravi Chandran, Immediate Past President Prof. Kazunori Ochiai and the President Prof Pisake Lumbiganon.

AOFOG is thankful to Congress President Prof Kiyoko Kato and, all the officers of JSOG and the Organising committee for dedicating one full day of the congress for AOFOG sessions. This was followed by a video session where each committee chair of AOFOG spoke about their activities.



In the afternoon session organised by the Chair AOFOG MIGS committee. Prof Tsukasa Baba was held. The session was titled

**Ideal educational exchange program for MIGS training in this era: In the AOFOG society, what did we learn and what should we continue?**

Further a meeting of the JSOG and AOFOG officers was held during the congress. Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, Prof. Kazunori Ochiai, Dr. Ravi Chandran, Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa & Prof. Joong-Shin Park represented AOFOG in person and Prof. Tsung-Hsien Su & prof Tsukasa Baba joined virtually. Prof. Tadashi Kimura, Prof. Kiyoko Kato Prof. Aikou Okamoto Prof. Yutaka Osuga, Dr. Takeshi Nagamatsu Represented JSOG & Ms. Kayoko Takeda was in attendance. Following the welcoming words from Prof Kiyoko Kato and Prof Tadashi Kimura Prof Pisake Lumbiganon offered the greetings from AOFOG. Among matters discussed were the progress of the Cervical cancer programme of JSOG and how JSOG could assist in the projects of AOFOG in this term namely, Optimizing caesarean section rates, elimination of cervical cancer, Violence against women and climate change and environmental toxins.



## 2. SAFOG Silver Jubilee Congress in association with SLCOG 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

AOFOG was invited to participate in the SAFOG Silver Jubilee Congress in association with the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual conference of the SLCOG which was held from 30<sup>th</sup> Sept to 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct at the Shangri La hotel Colombo. Prof Kazunori Ochiai, Immediate Past President AOFOG was invited as the Guest of Honour at the opening ceremony and he also delivered the AOFOG plenary Lecture. In addition, AOFOG conducted a symposium on Evidence Based Sexual and Reproductive Health care.

This brought AOFOG closer the South Asian countries and SAFOG leading the way to closer cooperation between the two federations. [Read more...](#)

## 3. Committee Activities,

- I. [MFM committee.](#)
- II. [REI Committee.](#)
- III. [Ultrasound Committee.](#)
- IV. [Oncology Committee.](#)
- V. [SRH Committee.](#)

I am happy to see our member national societies inviting AOFOG to join in their National Congresses. I also invite our YGAAs to play a more active role and organize and participate in AOFOG activities. Dr. Jaydeep Tank the Chair YGAA committee will always be willing to assist the YGAs.

Looking forward to working with collaboration.

**Rohana Haththotuwa**

Secretary General, AOFOG

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## AOFOG Participation at the, SAFOG Silver Jubilee Congress in association with SLCOG 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

SAFOG Silver Jubilee Congress in association with SLCOG 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference was held at the Shangri-La hotel Colombo, Sri Lanka from 30<sup>th</sup> Sept to 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2022.

Prof Kazunori Ochiai was invited by the Organisers as the Guest of Honour at the Inaugural ceremony of the congress and Prof Ochiai made an address to the audience.

Prof Ochiai also delivered the AOFOG plenary lecture in the Scientific programme on *“What have we learned from the Covid 19 pandemic and what should we do next”*

AOFOG also conducted a session with the theme *“Evidence Based Sexual and Reproductive Health care”* and it was organized by the SRH committee Chair Prof Unnop Jaisamran of Thailand. The session was chaired by Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa the Secretary General and Dr. Jaydeep Tank Past Deputy Secretary General of AOFOG & Chair YGAA committee.

The chairman of the SRH committee Prof. Unnop highlighted the importance of bringing evidence in *“Sexual and Reproductive health practice”* in his illustrative presentation. Prof. Krishnendu Gupta Deputy Secretary General from India delivered his lecture on *“Contraception in those with medical conditions”* and he stressed the importance of using the Contraceptive app in the smart phone to find the suitable contraceptive in medical disorders in pregnancy.

Assistant Professor Susan Logan of Singapore made a virtual presentation on *“Benefits beyond Birth Control of Contraceptive methods”* in her elaborative lecture. This Symposium was attended by many local and foreign participants of SAFOG countries and it was well received by the audience. The Secretary General Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa distributed certificates of appreciation to the speakers and thanked the speakers and the audience concluding the session.

**U.D.P. Ratnasiri,**

*Chair, AOFOG MFM Committee.*



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# MFM Committee Report

The MFM committee of AFOG conducted several activities since the appointment of its new committee in Bali congress in May 2022.

The first of its series was a webinar conducted with Association of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Society of Singapore. The topic was *“Management of Monkeypox in pregnancy”*. This webinar was successfully coordinated by Prof. Mahesh Choolani of National University Singapore. My sincere thanks go to him for all the efforts taken to make it a successful webinar. The topics were very appropriate for the current epidemic of Monkeypox and the speakers were experts in the field.

The second activity was *“Optimizing Caesarean Section”* symposium in the Annual Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology society of Hong Kong held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Two speakers from AFOG and one from WHO participated in this symposium. It was current and hot topic among the most of national societies and was well appreciated by the participants.

I attended the MFM society of Bangladesh international conference in Dhaka on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2022 and delivered a lecture on Ethical issues in Prenatal screening, diagnosis and fetal therapy with the attendance of many international speakers.



Dr. Rohana Hattotuwa Secretary General AFOG and the President of SAFOG. Dr. W.W.Simpaico past Secretary General spoke on the general overview of the topics discussed. This webinar was attended by many participants in the AFOG region online.

As the chairman of the AFOG I delivered the SLCOG *“D.A. Ranasinghe oration”* on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September in Shangri-La hotel Colombo on the Topic of *“Radical to Conservative, A decade of revolution of Placenta Accreta Spectrum of disorders”*. This oration was attended by many participants from SAFOG countries.

I'm planning to deliver a plenary online in the Philippine Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on the topic of *“Next Generation Strategies for the Prevention of Preterm births”* in November on an invitation by the society. Another lecture on *“Ethical issues in prenatal screening and diagnosis”* will be delivered by me in Annual scientific session of Perinatal society of Sri Lanka on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 at Hotel Galadari in Colombo, Sri Lanka. An online workshop will be planned on the topic of *“Induction of labour”* with the new Guidance published by the WHO in the near future with the participation of committee members as per advice by the President of AFOG Prof. Pisake lumbginon.

**U.D.P. Ratnasiri,**  
Chair, AFOG MFM Committee.

College of Clinician Scientists  
Academy of Medicine, Singapore

**CCS Webinar**

## MANAGEMENT OF MONKEYPOX

2 JULY 2022, SATURDAY  
2:00PM - 4:00PM SGT (GMT+8)

**CHAIRS**

- Assoc Prof Mahesh Choolani  
President, College of Clinician Scientists  
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology  
National University of Singapore
- Dr Catherine Ong  
Consultant, Division of Infectious Diseases  
Department of Medicine  
National University Hospital, Singapore

**SPEAKERS**

- Dr Shwam Visco  
Clinical Director  
National Centre for Infectious Diseases  
Singapore
- Dr Darfaz Olcayna  
Senior Consultant, Division of Infectious Diseases  
National University Hospital, Singapore
- Prof Asma Khalil  
Consultant, Obstetrics and Maternal  
Fetal Medicine  
St George's University Hospital, United Kingdom

**PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS**

- 2:00 - 2:10pm Welcome and Introduction  
Assoc Professor Mahesh Choolani
- 2:10 - 2:40pm Monkeypox Basics  
Dr Shwam Visco
- 2:40 - 3:10pm Infection prevention issues  
in Monkeypox  
Dr Darfaz Olcayna
- 3:10 - 3:40pm Monkeypox in Pregnancy  
Professor Asma Khalil
- 3:40 - 4:00pm Q&A and Panel Discussion  
Panelists

FOR ZOOM REGISTRATION, PLEASE CLICK HERE OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE

A workshop was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October with SAFOG - AFOG webinar with the participation of 4 speakers from AFOG. There were 5 presentations on important common problems in practical Obstetrics namely preterm labour and novel concepts, Parturition related emergency situations, Management of prelabour rupture of membranes, Pre-eclampsia and how to overcome the challenges in managing Postpartum haemorrhage were presented. This webinar was chaired by the President of AFOG Prof Pisake Lumbiganon and



# REI Committee Report

The AFOG REI Committee 2022 – 2024, comprises of the following members - Dr Huang Zhongwei is the elected AFOG REI Committee Chair with Dr Jennifer Ko, from Hong Kong, as Deputy Chair. The Committee members are Prof.Parveen Fatima (Bangladesh), A/Prof Masahito Tachibana (Japan), Dr. Eileen M. Manalo (Philippines), Prof.Kamthorn Pruksananonda (Thailand), Prof.William Ledger (Australia) and Dr.RM Udayar Pandian Ramachandhiran (Malaysia).

The AFOG REI Committee had conducted a pilot workshop on Embryo Transfer Simulation in Singapore on 18 June 2022, sponsored by Ferring Pharmaceuticals Pte Ltd Singapore. This workshop was conducted by Dr Huang Zhongwei and attended by 13 OBGYN residents and specialists, which was well received with positive feedback from the participants.

The workshop started with a short introduction on the principles of embryo transfer, the theoretical aspects on the steps for embryo transfer and finally a short demonstration by Dr Huang. All participants agreed that the simulator is easy to use and realistic. All participants want to learn more about embryo transfer after the simulation with almost 90% do not feel stressed or discouraged when using the simulator. They also mention that there were technical issues with the ultrasound probe and images as well as hoping to have more time to try all the scenarios on the embryo transfer simulator. Overall, the workshop achieved its objective of familiarizing the participants to a procedure specialised for REI and it allowed the trainees to have first-hand experience on practicing on a procedure before performing for women. This also result in AFOG REI Committee in discussion with Ferring Pharmaceuticals Pte Ltd to collaborate on a long-term basis to bring such a model of training to other AFOG countries and to targeted groups of clinicians to benefit from embryo simulation training.



## Upcoming planned activities for AFOG REI Committee

An invitation by Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (SLCOG) for REI experts to speak on a seminar, “Updates on evidence-based management of infertility” in October/November 2022. AFOG REI Committee members who are sharing based on their expertise are, Professor Kamthorn Pruksananonda, Keynote Speaker on topic, “Modern Ovarian Stimulation - What is state of Art?” Associate Professor Masahito Tachibana will be an Invited Speaker on topic, “Repeated implantation failure: any options?” and Professor Parveen Fatima, who will be an Invited Speaker on Genital Tuberculosis and Infertility: 21st Century Approach.

A joint-webinar on Onco-fertility will be conducted on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 with AFOG Oncology Committee. This seminar has speakers from both AFOG REI and Oncology committees and include Dr Tse Ka Yu, Dr Huang Zhongwei, Prof Kazunori Ochiai, Prof Ting Chang, Dr Eileen Manalo, Prof William Ledger, Dr Jennifer Ko and Dr Tan Ai Ling. The topics will include, Impact on fertility by gynecologic cancer treatment, Fertility sparing treatment in gynaecological cancer, The Role of Ovarian Reserve Testing in Fertility Preservation, Optimising stimulation for oncofertility patients, Uterine transplantation and a Panel discussion.

**Huang Zhongwei**

*Chair, AFOG MFM Committee.*

# Ultrasound Committee Report

## Completed Activities

Ultrasound Committee Meeting 1/2022 -

The committee was formed and met virtually on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 to discuss and draft the action plan over the subsequent 48 months of office. The annual plan of action (APM) was presented via video recording by Dr Voon to the AOFOG executive committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2022.

## Planned Activities (from October 2022 onwards)

### 1. AOFOG Short term training/ Observer ship in O&G Ultrasound is planned From October 2022 to May 2024

Venues: As stated below

Co-organisers: Respective institutions and state health departments

Participants: 1-2 per centre at any time. Applicants to be vetted by their respective national organizations

Institution	Program offered	Supervisor
Akash Hospital Indore (Indore, India)	Short-term training Observership	Dr Archana Baser archanabaser@gmail.com
Sarawak General Hospital (Kuching, Malaysia)	Observership	Dr Voon Hian Yan vhaxyn@gmail.com
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (Sydney, Australia)	Observership	Dr Jose Garcia Flores Joserafael.Garciaflores@health.nsw.gov.au

AOFOG believes in the importance of the continued exchange of knowledge and development of relationships with healthcare professionals from around the Asia-Oceania region and beyond. This program allows healthcare professionals from the region to update and enhance their knowledge in O&G ultrasound while learning about different healthcare systems in their host country.

Short-term training is “hands on” and may include general skills such as patient interaction, coordination with nurses and staff and a general sense of hospital working. The recommended duration is 8 to 12 weeks. On the other hand, observerships will not have direct patient contact or take on any sole responsibility. Both will be supervised at all times. The training posts are honorary but applicants not receive any funding or living expenses from AOFOG. There will be no fees imposed on this programme but each country/institution may have respective visa or administrative fees.

### 2. ISUOG Symposia Asia 2022 (in collaboration with AOFOG)

Will be held virtually from 19-20th November 2022. Co-organiser of the event is International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynecology (ISUOG). AOFOG Speakers will be Dr Voon Hian Yan, Dr Nelinda Catherine Pangilinan, Professor Pisake Lumbiganon, Dr Rohana Haththotuwa.

AOFOG is pleased to be working with ISUOG to offer our members an exclusive 20% discount on the registration fees for their ISUOG International Symposium, Asia 2022 (19-20 November 2022). This scientific event in OBGYN will offer you the opportunity to engage with expert regional speakers and renowned international faculty on topics which impact regions in Asia. The joint session between AOFOG and ISUOG is shown in the poster.

Find out more about the **2-day full scientific program** which includes plenary lectures, scan demonstrations and live discussions at <https://www.isuog.org/asia22>



Saturday 19 November

Great obstetrical syndromes

Session collaboration with  AOFOG

Welcome and introduction	Co-Chair, Hian Yan Dan Voon (Malaysia) Co-Chair, Nelinda Catherine Pangilinan (Philippines)
Introduction from AOFOG President	Pisake Lumbiganon, (Thailand)
Is uterine artery Doppler the only ultrasound tool for prediction of preeclampsia?	Fabrizio da Silva Costa (Brazil)
Demonstration of techniques: uterine artery and ophthalmic artery	An Chi Mu (United Kingdom)
Screening and prevention of pre-eclampsia in multiple pregnancies	Jon Hyett (Australia)
Cervical length screening: TA or TV?	Hian Yan Voon (Malaysia)
Screening for GDM: is sonographic maternal fat assessment feasible?	Narelle Kennedy (Australia)

You can see the full [ISUOG International Symposium program](#) on the ISUOG website.

**Register here** and as a AOFOG member, you can receive an exclusive 20% discount by using the code **ASIA2220PC01** when registering for the event.



### 3. Webinar

This webinar on “Clinical Vignettes in O&G Ultrasound” to be held virtually on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 from 1000-1230 hrs at Nepal Standard Time (GMT +5:45). Will be held in collaboration with Nepal Society of O&G.

AOFOG Speakers will be Dr Voon Hian Yan, Dr Jose Garcia Flores, Dr Urjindelger Tserensambuu, Dr Archana Baser, Dr Rosina Manandhar and session Moderator will be Dr Sandesh Poudel. The suggested programme is as follows.

**Voon Hian Yan**

Chair, AOFOG Ultrasound Committee.

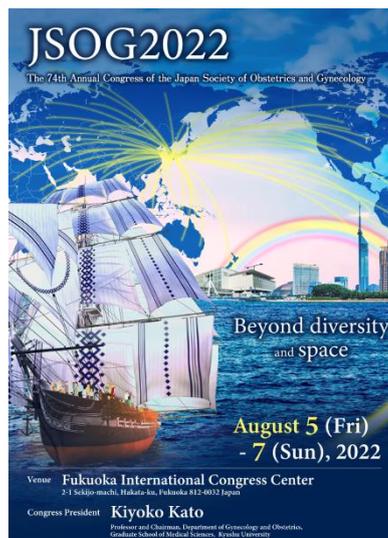
Time	Topics	Speakers
1000-1010	Welcoming address	Dr Ganesh Dungal (President NESOG) Prof Pisake Lumbiganon (President AOFOG)
1010-1030	First trimester screening: Never too early	Dr Voon Hian Yan (Chair of Ultrasound Committee)
1030-1050	Midtrimester anomaly screening: Tips for the busy clinician	Dr Rosina Manandhar (Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist, Nepal Medcity)
1050-1110	Fetal growth restriction in twins	Dr Urjindelger Tserensambuu (Head, Reproductive Outpatient Clinic, NCMCH Mongolia)
<b>Obstetric session Q&amp;A</b>		
1130-1150	Performing ultrasound in a woman seeking fertility treatment	Dr Archana Baser (Director Akash Hospital, Indore)
1150-1210	Common findings on gynaecological ultrasound	Dr Jose Garcia Flores (Staff specialist, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital)
<b>Gynaecological session Q&amp;A</b>		
1210-1225		
1225-1230	Summary and closing remarks	Dr Voon Hian Yan (Chair of Ultrasound Committee) Dr Rohana Haththotuwa (Sec General, AOFOG)

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## Oncology Committee Report

The Gynaecological Oncology Committee 2022–24 was appointed at the 27<sup>th</sup> AOFOG Congress in Bali on 26 May 2022. We expressed our sincere gratitude to the past president, Prof. Sarikapan Wilailak, for her leadership of the committee. We are also privileged to invite her to be the advisor of the new committee. In the past few months, we had continued some work from last term and had started some new tasks.

In the 74<sup>th</sup> Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology Annual Congress held in Fukuoka, Japan, our committee held a session on Elimination of Cervical Cancer in AOFOG Region on 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2022. It was chaired by Prof. Kazunori Ochiai and Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, and Dr. Jitendra Pariyar, Prof. Efen J. Domingo, Prof. Kimio Ushijima and Prof. Sarikapan Wilailak had given four lectures discussing the current burden and preventive strategies in cervical cancer.



DAY 2: Saturday, August 6, 2022	
13:40 - 15:10	AOFOG Symposium 1
Elimination of Cervical Cancer in AOFOG Region	
<b>Chairs</b>	<b>Kazunori Ochiai</b> AOFOG Immediate Past President/Shin-Yuriyaka General Hospital <b>Pisake Lumbiganon</b> AOFOG President/Khon Kaen University, Thailand
<b>Introduction speech</b>	<b>Kazunori Ochiai</b> AOFOG Immediate Past President/Shin-Yuriyaka General Hospital
<b>Trend of cervical cancer in Asia-Oceania</b>	<b>Jitendra Pariyar</b> AOFOG Committee Member/Civil Service Hospital, Nepal
<b>HPV vaccination: How far has it worked?</b>	<b>Efen J. Domingo</b> AOFOG Deputy Committee Chair/University of the Philippines, Philippine General Hospital, Philippines
<b>Cervical cancer screening: How could we maximize them in Japan?</b>	<b>Kimio Ushijima</b> AOFOG Committee Member/Kurume University Hospital
<b>AOFOG efforts in Elimination of Cervical Cancer</b>	<b>Sarikapan Wilailak</b> AOFOG Committee Chair/Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand

On 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 2022, Dr. Ka Yu Tse was invited to speak on pelvic anatomy in the 14<sup>th</sup> Pacific Society for Reproductive Health Biennial Scientific Conference Samoa 2022. The session was facilitated by Dr. Ailing Tan, our committee member, and others. There was enthusiastic discussion as the audience did not have much opportunity to see deep pelvic structures using robotic system.

In addition, Prof. Sarikapan Wilailak proposed two survey projects. One of them, ‘Current status of cervical cancer screening in Asia-Oceania’ led by Dr. Ka Yu Tse, was in final revision phase. Another project, ‘Gynecologic Oncology Subspecialty Training in Asia-Oceania’ led by Dr. Perapong Inthasorn, is still collecting the replies from different national societies. Assistance from the new committee members was sought.

## Future Activities

Our committee envisaged to harmonize the practice across Asia-Pacific region. Therefore, in the coming two years, we will hold webinars to update the knowledge of general gynecologists and gynecologic oncologists, and will organise some workshops dedicated to enhance the skills of fellows and young gynecologic oncologists. The immediate coming one is a webinar on Fertility Preservation on Gynecologic Cancers, which is co-organised with the Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Committee.

**Ka Yu Tse**

Chair, AFOG Oncology Committee.

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## SRH Committee Report

### AFOG session in Silver Jubilee SAFOG Congress in Association with 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference of the Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologist

The SRH committee has organized a symposium entitled “**Evidence Based SRH Care**” on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 in this congress which was held in Colombo. The Chairpersons for this session were Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General AFOG and Dr. Jaydeep Tank, Chair of YGAA Committee AFOG. After the welcome address by Prof. Kazunori Ochiai, Immediate Past President AFOG, three speakers from SRH committee have given their lectures as follows:

- Bringing evidence into SRH practice - Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand)
- Contraception in women with medical conditions - Prof. Krishnendu Gupta (India)
- Benefits beyond birth control of contraceptive methods - Assist. Prof. Susan Logan (Singapore)



The presentation has received a lot of attention from the audience. A thoughtful Q&A session has then followed.

### Highlights of the session

**Bringing evidence into SRH practice** - Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (MD, MHS, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok).

A number of new findings from research in all medical fields including sexual and reproductive health (SRH) have been published every day, which can contribute to better clinical practice. These research findings can benefit patients if health care providers incorporate them into practice. Factors affecting the adoption of new evidence-based practices include the nature of new knowledge, the capacity of each provider and the organizational factors.

Guidelines and systematic reviews provide the best source of evidence for health care interventions. However, due to a difference in environmental and cultural background, selecting a good and appropriate evidence to change the practice is important. Various approaches for bringing evidence into clinical practice include educational activities, professional interventions, financial interventions, organizational and regulatory interventions. These approaches need to be tailored to suit local circumstances. Although changing professional practice is complex and takes a long time to achieve, the outcome is rewarding, that is better patient care.

**Contraception in Women with Medical Conditions** - Prof Krishnendu Gupta (MBBS, DGO, MD, FICMCH, FICOG, FRCPI (Ireland), FRCOG (Ad Eundem, UK), FACOG (Hon, USA), Vivekananda Institute of Medical College, Kolkata).

Concerns regarding contraception choices is often brought up when women requesting for options have pre-existing medical diseases.

It is imperative that when women of the reproductive age are offered birth control options, their past medical history and family history is carefully ascertained. Diseases like uncontrolled hypertension, venous thromboembolism and cancers can limit family planning options especially when considering the hormonal options.

Though in some cases there are risks of using hormonal contraception in women with medical diseases, the risks of an unintended pregnancy may sometimes be of more serious consequence. Therefore, it is prudent to balance the risk and benefits of contraception before offering to women with existing medical disease. Periodic evaluation is also necessary as the risk-benefit balance can alter with time.

The WHO Medical Eligibility Criteria (MEC) has been the traditional tool for tailoring contraception methods and guiding health care providers in a variety of medical diseases. Besides medical disease, women with non-modifiable risk factors and lifestyle issues are also listed. Recently in 2019, the WHO MEC has been modified into an app which can be downloaded and kept as a ready reckoner on android smart phones and iPhones. This tool is the digital version of the MEC Wheel. It contains the medical eligibility criteria for starting use of contraceptive methods, based on Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 5th edition, 2015, one of WHO's evidence-based guidelines. The tool includes recommendations on initiating use of nine common types of contraceptive methods:

1. Combined pills (COC: low dose combined oral contraceptives, with  $\leq 35\mu\text{g}$  ethinyl estradiol)
2. Combined contraceptive patch (P)
3. Combined contraceptive vaginal ring (CVR)
4. Combined injectable contraceptives (CIC)
5. Progestogen-only pills (POP)
6. Progestogen-only injectables: DMPA /NET-EN (depot medroxyprogesterone acetate intramuscular [IM] or subcutaneous [SC] or norethisterone enantate intramuscular [IM])
7. Progestogen-only implants (LNG/ETG: levonorgestrel /etonogestrel)
8. Levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device (LNG-IUD)
9. Copper-bearing intrauterine device (Cu-IUD).

The tool also provides a comprehensive list of medical conditions or characteristics for which all methods of contraception may be safely recommended to women provided there are no additional health concerns. Emergency contraception is also included as part of the "Additional information" section. A graphic representation of the effectiveness of different contraceptive methods is also provided.

Women with medical diseases seeking contraception may present a dilemma to the clinician. The risk of an unwanted pregnancy in the background of the disease needs to be weighed against the risk of contraception methods on the existing medical condition. The WHO MEC is an extremely useful document to facilitate the task of family planning providers in recommending safe, effective and acceptable contraception methods for women with medical conditions or medically-relevant characteristics.

**Benefits beyond birth control of contraceptive methods** - Asst. Prof. Susan Logan (MD, National University Hospital Systems (NUHS), Singapore)

Most contraceptive methods have benefits beyond contraception yet this aspect is often not discussed. When counseling concentrates on side effects and risks, users lack the information to take a more personalised approach to contraceptive choice. The importance of careful personal medical, family and drug history-taking will be emphasized in order to individualise options. Gynaecological conditions such as endometriosis, adenomyosis, primary dysmenorrhoea, fibroids,

endometrial polyps and endometrial hyperplasia can be effectively co managed. Non gynaecological benefits will also be highlighted. However, it is cancer reduction which has the greatest potential public health role. This includes risk reduction to both low risk women and those from genetic cancer families. In order to provide holistic care, contraception counseling should include non-contraceptive benefits, gynaecological and otherwise, in order to facilitate disease prevention in the reproductive years.

### International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP) 2022

During 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November, 2022, the world’s largest conference on family planning will take place in Pattaya City, Thailand. More than 5,000 delegates from around the world will be joining this event. Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn, the AOFOG SRH Committee Chair has proudly served as the Scientific Chair of the National Steering Committee of this conference. Speakers from AOFOG have been invited to join this event. Among these, Dr.Jaydeep Tank will represent the AOFOG to speak on “Role of professional association: AOFOG and Family Planning” in the session “Filling the gap in Family Planning through multi-stakeholders” on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

### Unnop Jaisamrarn

Chair, AOFOG Sexual & Reproductive Health Committee.

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## Obituaries

### Prof. Richard John Seddon

It is with much sadness that we inform you of the passing away of Prof Richard John Seddon of New Zealand, Fellow of AOFOG and a Past Vice President. He passed away on the 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2022 and a private funeral was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022

Prof Seddon has served the AOFOG in the following positions.

- 1985-1987 - Vice President
- 1987-1989 - Co-Chair Oncology Committee
- 1989-1991 - Chair, Education Committee
- 1991-1993 - Chair, Education Committee
- In 1995 awarded the Fellowship of AOFOG.

May his soul rest in peace.



**SEDDON, Richard John.** — Peacefully, at Dunedin. Dearly loved husband of Barbara\*, and loved partner of Chris, loved and loving father of Annette, Philip and Michael, loved grandfather of Peter, Connor, Liam, Jasper, and Shea, and great-grandfather of Ada (\*denotes deceased). Thanks to all the health professionals who supported Richard, in caring for him at St Andrews. — A private family service will be held. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Cancer Society would be appreciated. See [www.cancer.org.nz/donate-now](http://www.cancer.org.nz/donate-now) for details. Messages to 20 Ribbonwood Close, Normanby, Dunedin 9010.

*A life well lived.  
Much loved and missed.*

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## Member Society News Corner

### 1. The Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Singapore (OGSS)

The Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Singapore (OGSS), in conjunction with the College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Singapore (COGS) and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) have conducted a series of webinars over the last 18 months, as a means of providing continual professional education to the Members and Fellows of the RCOG, COGS and OGSS in Singapore and the Asia Pacific region during the COVID pandemic. The speakers have been the President and Vice Presidents of the RCOG, who have spoken across a broad number of topics in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Jointly Organised by  
 RCOG-OGSS-COGS  
 WEBINAR SERIES

**The OASI Care Bundle**

By Dr Ranee Thakar  
 Senior Vice President for Global Health, RCOG  
 President-Elect, RCOG

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 . Tuesday . 1900 SGT / 1100 GMT

Link to register :  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_99Gd3nCjQMisMTdTZXSjEQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_99Gd3nCjQMisMTdTZXSjEQ)

1 CME Approved

Join us in the final webinar in the series, where Dr Ranee Thakar, Senior Vice President for Global Health, and President-Elect, RCOG will share with us on Obstetric Anal Sphincter Injury and the OASI Care Bundle.

Topic: The OASI Care Bundle by Dr Ranee Thakar.

Click the link to join [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_99Gd3nCjQMisMTdTZXSjEQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_99Gd3nCjQMisMTdTZXSjEQ)

### 2. Society of Obstetricians & Gynecologists of Pakistan (SOGP)

About SOGP

Society is a large organization having around 4000 life members. It has 28 sub chapters all over Pakistan. SOGP is member organization of AFOG, SAFOG, FIGO, RCOG.

Aims & objectives of this organization are imparting knowledge, skills & awareness among the health workers dealing with woman health issues in the country.

As MMR in Pakistan is highest among other South Asian countries, main objective is to focus on strategies to reduce MMR in the country. To achieve this purpose SOGP arranges EMONC training of the health workers especially those working in rural areas of the country.

As MMR is more common in uneducated / multiparous women focus is to do advocacy for girl education and family planning and contraception.



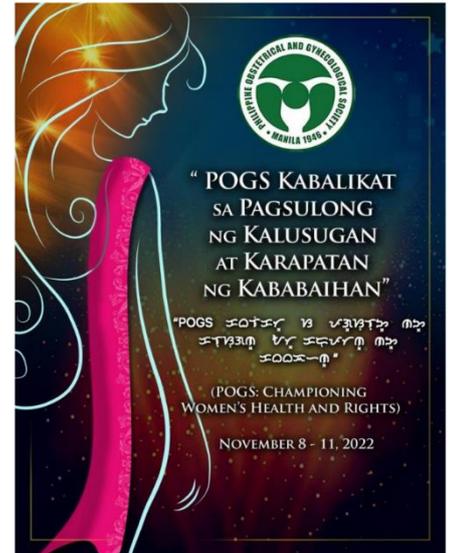
Prof. Azizunnisa Abbasi

**Prof. Azizunnisa Abbasi** (FRCOG, MRCOG, FCPS, DGO, MCPS Certified Specialists in Urogynaecology)  
 President, SOGP.

### 3. The Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS)

The Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS) invites you to attend the POGS 2022 Annual Convention and 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, which will be held on November 8 to 11, 2022. This year's convention with the theme "POGS: *Kabalikat sa Pagsulong ng Kalusugan at Karapatan ng Kababaihan*" (POGS: Championing Women's Health and Rights). As suggested by the theme, the convention will highlight the Society's commitment to champion women's health and uphold women's rights.

The Scientific sessions consist of a lineup of the most up-to-date topics that likewise complement the theme. Key sessions to watch are on *PAGHAHANDA* at *PAGSASAPANAHON* (reviewing new guidelines and recent advances on maternal health and welfare, and women's sexual and reproductive health), *PAG-UNAWA* (understanding the healthy and aging women's mind, heart and body), *KABALIKAT* (highlighting strategies and advocacies on women's health care), *PAGSULONG* (discussing our roles as empowered health professionals in the modern times), and *PANGAKO* (reinforcing our commitment to ensure women's health and rights). The annual convention is a hybrid convention. All the scientific sessions, however, remain purely virtual and may be accessed through the POGS Annual Convention website [pogsannual2022.com](https://pogsannual2022.com/).



To register and join the convention, please visit <https://pogsannual2022.com/>

We hope to see you there!

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# AOFOG 2024



Part 1 About AFOG 2024

Tentative Timetable

Time	May 17 (Fri)	May 18 (Sat)	May 19 (Sun)	May 20 (Mon)	May 21 (Tue)	
09:00 - 18:00	Booth set-up	Booth & meeting room set-up				
09:30 - 10:00	AFOG Executive Board Meeting (08:00 - 16:00)	AFOG Council Meeting (08:00 - 16:00) Pre-Congress Workshops (08:00 - 16:00) KSOG course for resident (08:00 - 16:00)	Plenary 1	Plenary 3	Plenary 3	
10:00 - 10:30			Refreshments	Refreshments	Refreshments	
10:30 - 11:30			Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	
11:30 - 12:30			Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	
12:30 - 14:00			Luncheon Symposium (6 parallel sessions)	Luncheon Symposium (6 parallel sessions)	Luncheon Symposium (6 parallel sessions)	
14:00 - 15:00			Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Plenary 4	
15:00 - 16:00			Plenary 2	Scientific Session (6 parallel sessions)	Debate Session	
16:00 - 16:30				Refreshments	Refreshments	Closing Ceremony
16:30 - 17:30						
18:00 ~				President's Night (18:00 - 20:30)	Opening Ceremony (17:00 - 18:30) Welcome Reception (18:30 - 20:30)	Banquet (19:30 - 21:00)



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## Message from The Editor in Chief, JOGR

### About JOGR

JOGR is the official journal of Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG) and Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (JSOG) issued monthly. It is an online only journal and the current volume is 48 this year. The Journal publishes original research articles, case reports, review articles and letters to the editor. The acceptance criteria for all papers are the quality and originality of the research and its significance to our readership. Except where otherwise stated, manuscripts are peer reviewed by anonymous reviewers and the Editor. The Editorial Board reserves the right to refuse any material for publication and advises that authors should retain copies of submitted manuscripts and correspondence as material cannot be returned. Final acceptance or rejection rests with the Editorial Board (one EIC and four sub-EICs).

Submission has been increasing year by year. We had 2600 submissions in 2021, which was a significant increase compared to the submissions before the outbreak of COVID-19. The most submitted countries are China, Turkey and Japan in 2021. Distribution our journal is to all over the world, not only AOFOG area but also Europe, UK, United States and Canada. The number of downloads is increasing, the top of downloading country is United States. The impact factor has increased from 1.091 in 2014 to 1.697 in 2022.

The problem during the journal publication process is an inappropriate act including Plagiarism, Repetitive publication, Fabrication, Salami publication and Paper mill. We discussed inappropriate acts during review process and the editorial board has determined cautions or sanction.

Manuscripts can be submitted online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jogr>.

When submitting an article, two forms ("[Manuscript Submission Check form](#)" and [Conflict of Interest form](#)) should be uploaded by the corresponding/submitted author. Available article types are Original Article, Review Article, Case Report and Letter to the Editor. In addition to these article types, Guidelines/Report/Invited Article are submitted/published on an editorial-board-invitation basis. All articles submitted to the Journal must comply with the instructions indicated in the journal [author guidelines](#). There are no submission/publication charges (except Open Access publication).

We look forward to your contributions.

**Kiyoko Kato**

*Editor-in-Chief, JOGR*



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

**JOGR Volume 48, Issue 8 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated here;**

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

Below Editor's choice articles from this issue are free **until the end of September 2022**.

- Vulvodynia: What is available online? A systematic review of information on the internet. (*Jemina Loganathan, Vishalli Ghai, Ragave Ilaalagan, Stergios K. Doumouchtsis*)  
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.15324>
- Updated meta-analysis on the diagnostic accuracy of serum anti-Mullerian hormone in poly cystic ovary syndrome involving 13 509 subjects. (*Shikha Anand, Amit Kumar, Anupa Prasad, Kiran Trivedi*)  
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.15233>

And below Editor's choice article from the same issue is Open Access.

- New challenges of fetal therapy in Japan. (*Seiji Wada, Katsusuke Ozawa, Haruhiko Sago*)  
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.15320>

Below Editor's choice articles from this issue are free **until the end of October 2022**.

- Association of BRCA1/2 mutations with prognosis and surgical cytoreduction outcomes in ovarian cancer patients: An updated meta-analysis. (*Yazhuo Wang, Na Li, Yanan Ren, Jing Zhao*)  
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.15326>
- Women's Health Care Committee, Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology: Annual report-2022. (*Masakazu Terauchi, Tsuyoshi Higuchi*) <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.15374>

And below Editor's choice article from the same issue is free for an indefinite period, as per Wiley's policy on COVID-19 related articles.

- Women's sexual function before and during COVID-19 pandemic: A systematic review and meta-analysis. (*Kamran Hessami, Nicolas Sayegh, Abolfazl S. Abdolmaleki, Safoura Bakht, Shohra Qaderi, Mohammadhasan Darabi, Tahere Shamsi, Fateme Bagheri*) <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.15337>

**JOGR Volume 48, Issue 8 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated here;** <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14470756/current>

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



Prof. Kiyoko Kato  
Editor-in-Chief,  
JOGR

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