BULLETIN of the

ASIAN PACIFIC PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION

(formerly known as Association of Pediatric Societies ... Region)

Volume 59 ... July - ... 2011 ... No. 36 & 37

14TH APCP

WELCOME TO MALAYSIA

14th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics & 4th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatric Nursing Sarawak, Malaysia

Dr. Zulkifli Ismail

Dear friends,

I am writing to inform and invite you to attend, and join us, at the next Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (14th APCP 2012) organised with the 4th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatric Nursing (APCPN) to be held on **8-12 September 2012** at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK) in **Kuching, Sarawak, MALAYSIA**. The theme is "Towards Equity in Child Health' and we are finalising the scientific programme and working on the social programme to make your experience here as enjoyable as it is intellectually stimulating. Once we have finalised and confirmed the availability of all speakers, we shall send you the final programme for dissemination to paediatricians, other doctors, trainees, nurses, allied health professionals and others interested in paediatrics and child health in your country. The dates of the congress is just a few days before Malaysia Day that is celebrated on 16th September to commemorate the union of the states of Sabah and Sarawak with Peninsular Malaysia in 1963. We invite you to extend your stay a few days as the Malaysia Day celebrations for 2012 is expected to be in Sarawak.

In addition to a packed scientific content and prearranged social programme, the areas surrounding Kuching city and the state of Sarawak will entice you with cultural diversity that is characteristic of Malaysia, and natural beauty that at some places will just take your breath away. The peaceful and slower pace will be a welcome respite for us all. Other than Kuala Lumpur, direct flight access from Singapore, Bangkok, Tokyo and Jakarta among other major cities may help you plan your travel itinerary.

We would appreciate it if you could disseminate preliminary information regarding the 14th APCP 2012 and 4th APCPN to your members via the association newsletter and other communications. Please don't forget to let the paediatric nurses know of this event as well. Details can be obtained from the http://apcp2012.org website and the Asian Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA) website at www.a-p-p-a.org.

We welcome you to Kuching, Sarawak in September 2012.

Yours sincerely,
Zulkifli Ismail
Chairman, Organising Committee, 14th APCP 2012

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THIS BULLETIN IS PUBLISHED BY THE APPA SECRETARIAT

We invite articles and feedback from readers. – Editor

9TH ICTP

Meeting a Thai Princess at 9th ICTP

Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn (seated in the middle), with the 9th ICTP Organising Committee. (Photos Courtesy of the 9th ICTP)

ceremony went very smoothly and when Her Royal Highness had left to officiate at the exhibition area, the ceremony proceeded with an entertaining performance and a drum to a buffet reception before adjourning

All were done with typical Thai hospitality and punctuality, and the food was simply fabulous!

The scientific programme was highly relevant to practice in the tropics. Even the early morning meet-the-expert sessions at 7:30am had reasonably good attendance. There was no attempt to discuss every possible topic, yet the common ones were covered.

oods in Thailand, including her capital city Bangkok, were the headlines in all local newspapers, CNN, BBC and Al-Jazeera news networks. It was also at this time that the International Congress of Tropical Pediatrics (ICTP) with the theme of Global Partnerships & Networking for Child Health was held from 18th to 20th October 2011.

As expected, continuous heavy rain greeted us on arrival on Sunday 16th October at Suvarnabhumi Airport and along the way to the hotel. The rain surprisingly stopped the next few days throughout the duration of the ICTP! It did not deter about a thousand registered delegates from converging at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre for the congress that started on Tuesday 18th October.

The first three plenary lectures on AIDS, the rights of the child (given by a law professor) and serving the underserved (given by a former Mexican Deputy Minister of Health) gave an excellent overview of the direction of the congress. The diverse symposia topics covered most of what delegates looked for and covered hot and current issues.

The opening ceremony starting at 4pm on the first day was presided by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. Looking at the rehearsal before the arrival of the Princess, it reminds one of the movie 'The King & I' and underlies the great respect the Thais have for their royal family. Almost all government employees in the committee looked resplendent in their wrinkle-free pure white official uniforms. Even the Chairperson of the organising committee and new President of the International Society of Tropical Pediatrics (ISTP), Prof Usa Thisyakorn and her husband Prof Chule Thisyakorn, were in uniform.

Tight royal protocol was closely followed upon arrival of the surprisingly humble princess who has worked hard in issues related to child health and HIV. As rehearsed, the opening

Prof. Usa Thisyakorn (in uniform), ushering HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn (right) to the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre for the oficial opening ceremony of the 9th ICTP. Looking on is APPA President, Prof. Xiaohu He (second from left) and Dr. Zulkifli Ismail (left).

The 34th Business Meeting of APPA was conducted during the congress on 18th October.

Congratulations and thanks must go to Prof Usa Thisyakorn and her committee and conference organisers for making the 9th ICTP in Bangkok such a resounding success. We did not see any rain or floods right up till the day we all returned to our hectic work schedules, with fond memories of meeting a Thai princess, until we meet again at the 10th ICTP in Kenya, Africa in 2014.

Zulkifli Ismail
Malaysia
drzulkifli.ismail@gmail.com

OUR FOND MEMORY

Our Fond Memory of The late Professor Dr. Prasong Tuchinda

Professor Prasong Tuchinda peacefully passed away on 24 February 2011 in Bangkok at the age of 89 years. He has been a great leader having served as President of Thailand Pediatric Society, President of the ASEAN Federation of Pediatrics, President of the Association of Pediatric Societies of the Southeast Asia Region (APSSEAR) and now known as the Asia-Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA), President of the International Society of Tropical Pediatrics and Member of the Standing Committee of the International Pediatric Association. He will be greatly missed by all members of the profession.

Professor Prasong Tuchinda was born on 19 January 1922. He graduated with an MD degree from the University of Medical Sciences, Bangkok, Thailand in 1945. He furthered his training in Pediatrics and Tropical Medicine at the University of London, United Kingdom where he obtained D.T.M. & H. (Eng) in 1952, and a Certificate of Senior Teacher of Child Health (a UNICEF & WHO Sponsored Course) in 1962. He was qualified as specialist by the Thai Board of Pediatrics from the Medical Council of Thailand in 1971 and was bestowed the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science in Medicine from Mahidol University and Rangsit University.

Professor Prasong Tuchinda served as Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University in Bangkok for 15 years (1969-1984). He was President of Pediatric Society of Thailand for 4 terms (1972-1974, 1976-1978, 1980-1982, 1984-1986). He also served as President of Organizing Committee of Third Asian Congress of Pediatrics in Bangkok in 1979 and became President of Association of Pediatric Societies of Southeast Asia Region during 1982-1986. Professor Prasong Tuchinda served as President of the International Society of Tropical Pediatrics during 1986-1989, and President of Organizing Committee of First International Congress of Tropical Pediatrics in Bangkok in 1987.

We are all sad that Professor Prasong Tuchinda has left us. To the profession, we have lost a great leader, a respected senior, a close friend and a great multi-talented colleague. To our children of the world, they will forever miss this great pediatrician who has devoted his lifetime to the promotion of their health and welfare. He has established a strong infrastructure for his successors to promote and demonstrated clear directions for his colleagues to follow. He will be eternally remembered by us all at the medical profession.

The late Professor Dr. Prasong Tuchinda

To his wife Professor Dr. Soodsakorn Tuchinda and family, we would like to convey our most sincere condolences.

Dr. CHAN Chok Wan
President of International Pediatric Association (IPA) 2007 to 2010
President of the Asia-Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA) 1997 to 2000

ACTIVITIES OF APPA AFFILIATES

Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA)

BPA is an organization of thousands of paediatricians which was established in 1972 by Prof. M R Khan. He was the President for four terms and is the seniormost paediatrician in the country and an elected member of the Executive Committee of BPA. BPA have been working for the interest of the children of this country since then. BPA have also been working with the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) in the policy making issues of child health in Bangladesh and have links all over the country through our paediatricians. BPA have also been working with NGOs like International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research Bangladesh (ICDDRB), WHO, UNICEF, Save the Children, USAID, Alive & Thrive, etc. Recently we have been working with ICDDRB in a large feasibility study on a cost-effective oral cholera vaccine in Mirpur to determine methods to decrease the incidence of cholera and overall diarrheal disease in the country and on November 16, 2011 the ICDDRB and BPA jointly organised a seminar on 'Typhoid Fever and the Bangladesh Perspective'. Previously BPA have collaborated various research protocols in the country with ICDDRB.

BPA have associated societies such as: Bangladesh Neonatal Forum (BNF), Paediatric Nephrology Society of Bangladesh (PNSB), Association of Paediatric Surgeons of Bangladesh (APSB), Paediatric Haematology & Oncology Society of Bangladesh (PHOSB), Bangladesh Paediatric Pulmonology Forum (BPPF), Bangladesh Society for Child Neurology, Development & Disability (BSCNDD), Bangladesh Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Society (BAPGANS), Bangladesh Society of Paediatric Infectious Disease (BSPID), Paediatric Cardiac Society of Bangladesh (PCSB) and Bangladesh Paediatric Endocrinology (BPE). All of the associated societies carry out their own programs throughout the year.

BPA also observed the World Pneumonia Day regularly on November 12, 2011 along with 21 public medical colleges and a few private medical colleges and last year we were awarded by IVAC. A lot of research has been carried out in the field of Paediatrics especially isolation of the strain of pneumococcal infection.

Future Plans

Infrastructure development of BPA: We are going to develop our own building (below) at our government provided land and it will be the permanent office of BPA along with associated societies.

It will be the centre of all activities of BPA.

The Executive Committee of BPA have decided to organize an international/regional conference on February 17-18, 2012 to be held at Celebrity Hall, Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC), Dhaka, Bangladesh where Minister of Health, Advisor for Health and other higher government officials will attend as chief guests. Special guests and representatives from WHO, UNICEF, Save the Children, USAID, etc. will also be present in the conference, including foreign guests and from SAARC Countries.Local hospitality (Transfer from airport to hotel, accommodation and food) will be provided to foreign guests (up to 10 foreign guests). – **Bangladesh Paediatric Association.**

BPA developing its own building which will be a permanent office of BPA.

ASVAC

Brief Report on the Third Asian Vaccine Conference (ASVAC) 2011

The third Asian Vaccine Conference (ASVAC) 2011 with the theme "Accessibility, Affordability & Accountability" organized by the Indonesian Pediatric Society, Asian Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (ASPID), International Society of Tropical Pediatrics – Philippines / (ISTP-Ph) Philippine Foundation for Vaccination (PFV), and Asian Strategic Alliance for Pneumococcal Disease Prevention (ASAP) was held at Gran Melia Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia from July 28-29, 2011 with Professor Sri Rezeki S. Hadinegoro as the over-all chair. Many distinguished international speakers were invited as well as members of the ASAP, the EPI and National immunization program managers of many Asian countries and the leaders of the three organizing societies, ASPID, ISTP-Ph and PFV. There were 500 participants from several countries mainly from Asia.

The ASVAC 2011 highlights the most cost-effective public health interventions-Immunization, when considering hard-to-reach populations in particular and the introduction of new vaccines. There are constraints however, ranging from low coverage of immunization in the developing world and sustainable adoption and financing of new vaccines. To reaffirm commitment for intensifying efforts to sustain current achievements and achieve universal coverage of routine immunization and in line with the global agenda, South-East Asia region will be declaring 2012; The Year of Intensification of Routine immunization.

The Scientific Program comprised Plenary, and Symposium sessions covering the global immunization challenges from vaccine development to implementation of immunization. Vaccine communication and advocacy were also addressed.

The ASAP Board meeting was held on the 30th July, 2011 and there was an unanimous vote for the new executive ASAP board members with Dr. Zulkifli Ismail for the Chair, Professor Usa Thisyakorn for Co-Chair and Dr. Daniel Goh for treasurer. Following the ASAP board meeting, visiting Bio Farma, Bandung was successfully organized by Professor Cissy B. Kartasasmita. Since its establishment in 1890, Bio Farma has been active in supplying high quality vaccines and serum for people. The need for EPI vaccines in Indonesia has been supplied solely by Bio Farma.

The next ASAP symposium entitled "Update on Pneumococcal Disease Prevention: What all Clinicians Need to Know" and the ASAP board meeting will be held on the 20th October, 2011 during the 9th International Congress of Tropical Pediatrics (ICTP) at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand.

Professor Usa Thisyakorn, M.D.
Advisory Board Member,
Asian Pacific Pediatric Association
President, the 9th international Congress of Tropical Pediatrics 18-20, October, 2011, Thailand

EVENTS

International Events For 2012 & 2013

Events In 2012

EGYPT

World Congress of Neonatology
Dates: February 1-4, 2012
Venue: Luxor, Egypt.
Website: www.neonatalevent.org
E-mail: congresssgood2015@gmail.com

NEPAL

The 16th Congress of Nepal Paediatric Society (NEPAS)
Theme: "The Challenges in Quality Health Care in Children."
Dates: March 22-24 March 2012
Venue: Kathmandu, Nepal.
Website: www.nepas.org.np
Email: nepas2010@gmail.com

RUSSIA

The 2nd Global Congress for Consensus in Pediatrics & Child Health, is to be held in Moscow, Russia.
Dates: May 17-20, 2012
Website: www.cipediatrics.org
E-mail: skrein@paragon-conventions.com

INDONESIA

The Indonesian Pediatric Society Annual Meeting will be held from October 13-17, 2012 in Bandung (West Java), Indonesia.
E-mail: ppidai@idai.or.id

CHINESE TAIPEI

The 4th World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition (WCPGHAN) will be held in Taipei, Taiwan.
Date: November 14-18, 2012
www.wcpghan2012.com
E-mail: wcpghan2012@gmail.com

PHILIPPINE

The 19th Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of Philippines Annual Convention
Dates: February 15 & 16, 2012.
Venue: Crowne Plaza Galleric, Manila, Philippines
Website: www.pidsphil.org
E-mail: pidsp@uplink.com.ph; pidspinc@yahoo.com
Tel: 632-3741855 Fax: 632-3741855

SOUTH KOREA

The 8th Congress of Asian Society for Pediatric Research (ASPR)
Theme: "Immunity & Disease in Asian Children"
Dates: May 17-19, 2012
Venue: Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel, Seoul, South Korea
ASPR Secretariat, MECI, 20th Floor, Koosan Tower, 3250 Bangbae 2-Dong, Seocho-Gu, Seoul 137-967, Korea.
E-mail: Secretariat@aspr2012.org
Phone: 82-2-6288-6316 / Fax: 82-2-6288-6399

MALAYSIA

The 14th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (APCP) & 4th Asia Pacific Nursing Conference (APNC)
Proposed theme: "Towards Equity in Child Health"
Dates: September 8-12, 2012
Venue: Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK) in Kuching, Sarawak state, Malaysia.
The event is organized by the Malaysian Paediatric Association (MPA), supported by the Sarawak State Government, the Sarawak Convention Bureau, the Malaysia Convention and Exhibition Bureau, and Tourism Malaysia.
Website: www.apcp2012.org
E-mail: secretariat@apcp2012.org

SRI LANKA

The 6th Asian Congress of Pediatric Infection Diseases (ASPID) to be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from October 24-27, 2012.
For more information, please e-mail: slcp@sltnet.lk

Events In 2013

AUSTRALIA

The 27th International Pediatric Association (IPA) Congress of Pediatrics, will be held in Melbourne, Australia.
The Congress is organised by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP).
Date: August 24-29, 2013
Website: www.racp.edu.au

The APPA Secretariat Wishes Everyone
A Very Happy, Safe And Productive 2012.

ACTIVITIES OF APPA AFFILIATE

The Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians

The Sri Lanka Paediatric Association, originally formed in 1953, progressed to become the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians (SLCP) in 1996. The SLCP is the apex academic body for child health care in Sri Lanka. It is closely involved in all academic activities with respect to paediatrics and child health care. This includes continuing professional development, formulation of guidelines and postgraduate activities. In addition, the SLCP helps to refine important statutory provisions on child health issues and advises the Ministry of Health of the Government of Sri Lanka on all aspects of child health.

Election of new office bearers for the year 2011 – 2012 was conducted in September.
The new office bearers are:

Official Position	Name	e-mail
President	Prof. Asvini D. Fernando	asvinif@gmail.com
Vice President	Dr. Kalyani Guruge	kalyani_guruge@live.com
President Elect	Dr. Srilal de Silva	desrilal@gmail.com
Hony. Secretary	Dr. Anuruddha Padeniya	anuruddhapadeniya@yahoo.com
Hony. Asst. Secretary	Dr. Srian Fernando	srianfdo@yahoo.co.uk
Hony. Treasurer	Dr. Samantha Waidyanatha	swaidyanatha@gmail.com
Hony. Asst. Treasurer	Dr. Rasika Gunapala	rgunapala@yahoo.co.uk
Public Relations Officer	Dr.Dilrukshi Ruberu	dilki@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Prof. Deepthi Samarage	deepthiks@sltnet.lk

The theme for the year 2010/2011:

'Developing Pathways for a Safer Childhood'
Three main areas of focus for this year would be:

- **Creating safe communities for children.**
  A pilot project titled "Creating Safe Communities for Children" is to be launched in two selected locations in the country soon. This project which has been designed by the Child Protection Committee of the College hopes to establish a network for the protection of Children from Abuse, Exploitation, Violence and Neglect in the community. It is hoped to expand it island wide after analysis of the pilot project.
- **Rational management of infectious diseases.**
  The sixth Asian Congress of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ACPID) will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from the 24th - 27th of October 2012. The theme for the congress is 'Rational management of infectious diseases - a pathway to a safer childhood.' An abundance of research papers on infectious diseases of valuable interest is expected.
  A pre congress workshop on Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) - which is a topic of immense relevance to our region is scheduled. A simultaneous pre congress workshop on neonatal infections is also planned.
  Details of the Conference may be accessed via http://archivusdesigns.net/ACPID/coy/
- **Optimizing Childhood Nutrition**
  This is the third area of focus and will deal with under nutrition as well as obesity in addition to other issues such as iron deficiency anaemia, unethical advertising and access of proper health related advice to parents and children.

In addition to these areas which have been identified the College will carry with its regular activities such as conducting monthly update lectures, courses for paediatric examinations, neonatal life support courses and advanced paediatric life support courses.

The Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health
The Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health is the official publication of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians. The journal was started in the 1950's as the Ceylon Journal of Child Health and the name was changed to Sri Lanka journal of Child Health when Sri Lanka became a Democratic Socialist, Republic. It is published quarterly and is the only journal exclusively devoted to child health and paediatrics in Sri Lanka. It entertains scholarly articles on any aspect of child health and publishes a variety of articles ranging from Original Articles to Personal Views. Submitted articles include those from within the country as well as those from abroad. The submissions are put through a rigorous peer – review process and the total turnaround time from submission to publication is around six months to one year, depending on the type of submissions.

The journal is now indexed in SciVerse Scopus and is also available through Google and Google scholar. It is electronically published through Sri Lanka Journals On Line (http://www.sljol.info/) and is also available through the College web site (http://www.srilankacollegeofpaediatricians.com/). All articles published are available as free full text publications in Portable Document File (.pdf) format. Over the last few years there is a documented exponential increase in the international visibility of the journal with its articles being accessed from right around the globe every day.

Apart from being host to the ACPID in October 2012 at the invitation of the Asian Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ASPID) the College will be conducting its Annual Scientific Sessions in July – August 2012. – **Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians.**

LATEST RESEARCH ON CHILD HEALTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Randomnised Trials in Child Health in Developing Countries 2011

Dear Colleagues,

Attached is a small booklet (www.ichr.org) which summarizes some of the latest research on child health in developing countries: evidence derived from all the randomized trials published over the last year. The aim is to make this information widely available to paediatricians, child health nurses, midwives, researchers, students and administrators in places where up-to-date health information is hard to find.

It is hoped that such information will be helpful in reviewing treatment guidelines, clinical practice and public health approaches, and in teaching about paediatrics and evidence-based medicine.

This year 4 trials reported significant reductions in child mortality:

* In Kenya, South Africa and Burkina Faso giving a combination of three antiretroviral (ARV) drugs to pregnant women who had HIV infection, from the last trimester through to six months of breastfeeding, reduced the risk of transmitting HIV to the baby and improved survival, compared to zidovudine in pregnancy and single dose nevirapine.
* In 11 centres in 9 African countries, among more than 5000 children with severe malaria, Artesunate substantially reduced mortality compared to quinine treatment.
* In rural China, iron and folic acid supplementation to pregnant women from the poorest households reduced neonatal mortality, and reduced low birth weight. Standard iron and folic acid provided more protection against neonatal death than multiple micronutrient supplements.
* In Pakistan, in a trial involving over 46,000 households, a community-based program involving lady health workers who delivered antenatal care and maternal health education, clean delivery kits, promoted facility births, immediate newborn care, identification of danger signs, and care seeking, significantly reduced still-births and neonatal deaths.

Other outcomes from studies in 2010-11 include:

* In Rwanda, paying primary health facilities for performance resulted in a 23% increase in the number of institutional deliveries and a significant increase in the number of preventive care visits by children
* In Bangladesh, day-care management of severe pneumonia in hospital was successful (as it was in four other countries), as long as children with hypoxia were identified and managed as in-patients
* A green banana-supplemented diet hastened recovery of acute and prolonged childhood diarrhoea managed at home in rural Bangladesh.
* There were several trials of zinc in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan this year. In a community-based effectiveness trial in India, educating caregivers to provide zinc supplementation to infants <6 months old reduced diarrhoea and acute lower respiratory infection. The extended protective effect of zinc when used as treatment for diarrhoea was the same whether zinc was given for 5 days or 10 days in Bangladesh; and in India there was no added effect of giving multivitamins or micronutrients on the treatment effect of zinc for diarrhoea. Although zinc supplementation in some populations seems to prevent acute respiratory infection, two trials this year from India showed no evidence that zinc was effective in the treatment of pneumonia.
* In a community-based trial in an urban slum in India, probiotics given daily for 12 weeks showed a 14% reduction in the occurrence of diarrhoea.
* Co-trimoxazole prophylaxis in HIV exposed children in rural Uganda provided 39% protection against malaria, when continued up to 2 years of age, and in a trial in South Africa, daily cotrimoxazole preventative therapy was associated with significantly lower risk of bacteraemia in HIV-infected children than intermittent prophylaxis given 3 times per week.
* In Zambia the use of rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) for malaria by community health workers resulted in more rational prescribing of antimalarials, with significant decreases in inappropriate prescribing of artemether-lumefantrine, and a significant increase in the prescribing of amoxicillin for pneumonia. Community health workers adhered closely to simple guidelines based on RDTs (in contrast to some earlier studies where health workers treated with antimalarials regardless of the result).
* In phase II trials in Tanzania and Kenya, the lead candidate malaria vaccine RTS,S/AS01E provided sustained protective efficacy of 39% and 45% at 12 and 15 months respectively against the first episode of malaria, when given to young infants with other routine EPI vaccines.
* While many trials in recent years have shown the protective effect of intermittent preventative treatment for malaria, the effectiveness in communities using insecticide treated bed nets was not established. This year two trials from Burkina Faso and Mali showed a strong protective effect (69% and 85% reduction in severe

cont'd on pg. 9

ASVAC

Rotavirus remains a major killer of children under age five worldwide

Rotavirus diarrhoea caused the deaths of 453,000 children under age five in 2008, despite the availability of vaccines which can prevent it, according to new research published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases. One of every 260 children born each year will die of rotavirus before their fifth birthday. Moreover, rotavirus causes over one-third (37 percent) of the more than 1.3 million diarrhoea-related deaths in children under five worldwide and is responsible for 5 percent of all deaths in young children.

Five countries accounted for more than half of all rotavirus deaths: India (22 percent), Nigeria (9 percent), Pakistan (9 percent), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (7 percent) and Ethiopia (6 percent). While rotavirus is found everywhere, more than 90 percent of rotavirus deaths were in low-income countries in Asia and Africa, where vaccination is not in widespread use. Less than 0.05 percent of rotavirus deaths occurred in high-income countries, many of which have already introduced rotavirus vaccines into their national immunization programs. Substantial declines in diarrhoea-related morbidity and mortality have been observed in the countries that have introduced these vaccines.

The World Health Organization recommends routine use of rotavirus vaccines in every country, particularly in those with high diarrhoea mortality. To date, most countries that have implemented rotavirus vaccination have low diarrhoea and overall child mortality rates. In the Western Pacific, only Australia, the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Niue and Palau have introduced rotavirus vaccination into their national immunization programs.

The GAVI Alliance plans to support the introduction of rotavirus vaccines in 40 low-income countries by 2015. GAVI co-financing for rotavirus vaccine introduction will fulfill a key role in reducing global rotavirus deaths because 95 percent of rotavirus deaths are in countries that are eligible for GAVI support.

Vaccines against rotavirus are saving lives and improving health in countries where children have access to them. The widespread use of rotavirus vaccines as part of a comprehensive strategy to prevent and treat diarrhoeal disease will reduce child mortality and morbidity and improve child health worldwide.

cont'd from pg. 8

malaria respectively; 46% reduction in hospitalisation in Burkina Faso; significant reductions in anaemia in both countries; and reduced malnutrition in Burkina Faso), among children who sleep under insecticide treated bed nets.

* To address treatment failure for visceral leishmaniasis with paramycin, three studies investigated high doses or for longer duration or combination drug treatment with amphotericin B alone, or amphotericin B and miltefosine, or paramycin and miltefisine. Combination therapy resulted in cure for more than 95% of patients.
* A 23 year follow-up of a cohort of people in China involved in an early RCT of Hepatitis B vaccine showed sustained protective immunity, meaning that booster doses are unnecessary in fully vaccinated children for over 20 years

This is the ninth edition of this booklet. It is part of a project supported by WHO, AusAID and many international partners, which critically appraises the evidence behind WHO's treatment guidelines. Previous editions (2003-2010) and further reviews of WHO guidelines are available at www.ichrc.org<http://www.ichrc.org/>

If you have a laser printer, the document may be printed out as a small booklet form to save trees. After clicking on "Print" go to "Properties" and select: "Print to both sides"; Booklet layout "Left edge binding"; Pages per sheet "two pages per sheet". Printing this way will use only 38 sheets. Then fold the A-4 pages in half to form a booklet.

Please feel free to make as many copies as you like or pass this document on to anyone who may find it useful.
Regards,
Trevor

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APC 2011

14th Asean Paediatric Congress 15th-17th April 2011

The 14th Asean Paediatric Congress (APC) and 3rd Asian Paediatric Otolaryngology Meeting was held at the Suntec City, Singapore, from 15-17th April 2011. It was jointly organised by the Singapore Paediatric Society, The College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Singapore, and the Asian Paediatric Otolaryngology group, under the auspices of the ASEAN Paediatric Federation (APF).

This meeting also had the formal participation of the Singapore Nurses Association (Paediatric and neonatal chapter), as well as The American Academy of Pediatrics.

The Congress consisted of 4 plenary sessions, 14 symposia, posters and free papers, as well as 7 pre-congress workshops. It was attended by an overwhelming record number of about 1200 participants from 48 different countries.

The 7 pre-congress workshops covered a broad range of topics and included:

* Allergy Testing workshop
* BAHA workshop
* Coblation Application in Paediatric Otolaryngology
* Facilitating Listening and Spoken Language Development in Children with Hearing Loss
* Medical Writing Workshop
* Paediatric Total Nutrition Therapy Workshop
* Vibrant Sound Bridge System Workshop

Plenary Lectures and Symposia

Dr Marion Burton, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics, started off the Congress with his plenary "The Changing Trends in Global Paediatric Care". This put into perspective some of the main global child health issues, and

cont'd on pg. 11

Report on the 7th World Congress of the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases

The executive committee of the Asian Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the WSPID 2011

The 7th World Congress of the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID) was held at Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia from November 16-19, 2011 with 1,700 participants from over 90 countries.

The opening ceremony took place on the evening of 16th November, 2011 with a greeting and welcome by Dr. Shabir Madhi, President of the WSPID; Dr. Andrew Pollard, Chairperson of the international scientific committee; Dr. David Isaacs Chairperson of the local organizing committee followed by the Australian girls' choir.

The scientific program started in the morning of the 16th November, 2011 and went on until the 19th November, 2011. Four hundred and fifty two abstracts were submitted, some were selected for oral poster presentation. At the closing, awards were given to the best poster and the best photography competition followed by indigenous dancers and didgeridoo.

The scientific program included vaccines, respiratory infections, gastroenteritis, antibiotic resistance, emerging infections, viral infections in children, evidence-based management, serious infections in children, group A streptococcal infections, dengue. Kawasaki disease, molecular approaches to diagnosis in host and bug, neonatal infections. Educational workshop for fellows, the regional societies symposia from Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America and Latin America, consensus symposia on the diagnosis and treatment of invasive fungal infections in children and neonates and pediatric UTI - management and prevention in 2011, the world lecture on immunity to influenza and 9 meet-the-professor sessions: tuberculosis, how to write a paper, otitis media, meningitis, pediatric HIV, infection control, gastroenteritis, rapid diagnostic/point of case diagnosis, vaccine safety.

The 7th World Congress of the WSPID brought together members of national and regional societies in pediatric infectious diseases worldwide in exchanging ideas, sharing new methods of prevention and treatment and breakthroughs, most of all it creates the worldwide partnerships that can cross borders not only to specialists, practitioners, researchers and scientists, but also to the patients as well.

The next World Congress of the WSPID will be held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2013.

Professor Usa Thisyakorn, M.D.
President, International Society of Tropical Pediatrics
President, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society of Thailand
Secretary General, Asian Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases

cont'd from pg. 10

Participants at the conference

was in line with the congress theme of "Trends, Issues and Priorities in Paediatrics".

Other plenary lectures were given by eminent speakers and included "Nutritional Management of Preterm and Low Birth Weight" (Prof Ekhard Ziegler), "Integrated Paediatric Care - The Model for Child Health Delivery of the Future" (Dr Steven Altschuler), "Disseminated BCG Infection - Time to Review Universal Vaccination" (Prof Jean- Laurent Casanova) and "Adolescent Health and Preventive Care" (Dr Jonathan Klein).

The 14 symposia were held in parallel tracks covering topics in paediatrics, paediatric nursing and paediatric ENT.

Prof. Estrella Villar (left) APF Past President handing-over the Presidency to the new APF President, Assoc. Prof. Daniel Goh

APF Business Meeting

In addition to regular poster displays, authors of 10 outstanding posters were invited to present their work during dedicated oral poster presentation sessions, with poster awards given out. The Young Investigator Award (YIA) saw 8 promising doctors and investigators shortlisted to present and discuss their work. The YIA was judged by Dr Marion Burton, USA, Dr Badriul Hegar, Indonesia, and Dr Zabidi Hussin from Malaysia.

In the usual tradition of previous ASEAN Paediatric Congresses, a trainees quiz was organised with participation by trainees from 7 different countries. The participants impressed the audience with their ability to answer difficult questions. After two very tough rounds, Dr Hlaing Chaw Su from Myanmar, was declared the winner.

Early morning Sessions

The Congress also held six early morning "Meet the Expert" sessions. These covered practical and useful tips in the practice of paediatrics. They included:

- Lung Function Testing in Children: Is it for every clinic?
- Fluid management in paediatrics: Are we doing it right?
- Genetic Testing in Dysmorphism: When is it useful?
- Choosing and interpreting autoimmune tests in children.
- Emergencies in everyday paediatrics.
- General paediatricians guide to screening for pervasive developmental disorders.

APF Business meeting

The ASEAN Paediatric Federation held its Business meeting during the APC. Assoc. Prof Daniel Goh took over from Prof Estrella B Paje-Villar as President of the APF. The venue for the next APC would be in Malaysia in year 2014.

Minutes taken by: Assoc. Prof Marion Aw –
Honorary Secretary (2009-2011)
Approved by: Assoc. Prof Daniel Goh, President (2009-2011)

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