



ENDOSCOPIC AND LAPAROSCOPIC SURGEONS OF ASIA

Singapore November 6, 2012

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Dear Friends Governors and ELSA Members

ELSA is the leading endo-surgical society in Asia with more than 1400 members and continues to grow and evolve. It is always important to remember that despite living in the largest continent in the world with the largest population and with great challenges, we can always bring in new initiatives into the forefront and provide excellence in patient care by spreading the use of MIS through education and awareness.

In the last few months, some initiatives were started and in the future months, more will be undertaken that will further and delineate the leading role of ELSA.

I need to thank all the Members of the different Subcommittees for their role in leading these new initiatives. Sparing their precious time to support ELSA in our daily hectic life is not an easy task and we value the effort of everybody to serve the purpose of our Society.

I will also take the chance to shortly update you and bring to your attention some issues and upcoming activities.

1. ELSA 2012 in Riyadh, KSA
2. ELSA Outreach Programme
3. Report from SubCommittee
4. Report from WCES Mexico 2012. Endorsed Events

1. ELSA 2012 in Riyadh - KSA

As planned, the 2012 ELSA Congress will be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from December 11-13 under the Presidency of Prof. A Aldohayan. The theme of the Congress is “*Dreams of Tomorrow are Today's Reality*”. A Hands-on Workshop will be on December 11 while the Main Scientific Congress will be held on December 12-13

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Emma Suleiman (Ms)

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at the Marriott Hotel. 4 Concurrent Halls will host Symposia, Plenary Lectures, Video Sessions, Oral Presentation with an outstanding Faculty from Asia and worldwide. The Local Organizing Committee together with the ELSA Scientific Committee have done an excellent work in lining up an attractive programme where from simple MIS procedures to NOTES, Robotic and Single Port Surgery will be scrutinized under an “academic microscope”, as Prof. Al-dohayan said in his Welcome message. Moreover, for the first time we will give “Voice to Asian Developing Countries”. In two dedicated sessions, some of the Board of Governors of these countries, (that I need to thank personally), will present their challenges, joy and frustration of performing and training MIS in a difficult setting.

I hope to see and welcome all of you in Riyadh and for more information, please

Visit the Website

<http://www.elsa2012riyadh.com/>



2. ELSA Outreach Programme

Since May 2012, we initiated an “**Outreach ELSA Programme**” in the ASEAN Countries to support an educational 3-year programme of “Training the Trainer”. The programme started in Myanmar. A business meeting was organized on February 26, 2012 with the local ELSA Governors, Prof. Win Mynt and Prof. Ye Mynt and altogether we lined up a plan for 2012-2014 educational activities. Four Courses were organized initially; in Yangon: May 25-26, Gynecology & Basic Lap Course and Suturing; July 27-28, Hernia Live Surgery and Workshop; while in Mandalay a Digestive Workshop and a Scientific Writing Course on October 24 and 25 respectively. A total of more than 400 surgeons attended the Courses.

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Two Laparoscopic Skills Training Labs were setup in both Yangon and Mandalay with 10 MIS fully equipped stations donated by ELSA with support from ASTC-NUH, together with teaching materials (skills training exercise, Manuals, etc), these allows to organize hands-on training all the Courses. We need to thank the ELSA Education Committee who supported the Programme and special thanks to Dr T Sathien from Thailand, Dr. Allen A Buenafe' from Philippines, Dr Anil Sharma from India, Dr Fong YF and Dr Ng KY from Singapore for their support as Faculty. Based on this experience, we will try to expand the ELSA Outreach Programme to other Countries like Nepal, Laos, Cambodia and Oman..

The programme is now kindly supported by an educational grant from Olympus and the NUS Surgical Training Centre (ASTC) but we hope to get more grants from other Companies and we also wish for your support as Faculty for future events, so let us know your interest and area of expertise

Business Meeting Between Myanmar EES and ELSA – February 25-26 2012



Yangon General Hospital - May 25-26, Gynecology & Basic Lap Course and Suturing: 40 participants





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Yangon General Hospital July 27-28, Hernia Live Surgery and Workshop: 103 Participants



Mandalay October 23, 2012: Medical Writing Course - 130 Participants



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Mandalay October 24, 2012: Digestive Surgery Workshop - 150 Participants



3. ELSA SubCommittee Report

As earlier announced, the ELSA Committee for the different areas started their excellent work. I really appreciate the time and the commitment the committee members showed to support and to play in evolving ELSA to further success. I know that 6 months or one year is a very short time to realize a project but at least they lined up some initiatives that will flourish in the near future.

Revision of By-Law Committee: lead by Rolf Hartung, Seigo Kitano and William Chen had provided some suggestions on how to update the Constitution. I am sure that all of you have received it and we will discuss further in Riyadh. Meanwhile I suggest that if any of you have any ideas or suggestions, to contact the Committee for Constitutional Revision lead by Rolf or the other members.

Education Committee (B Sutedja; WJ Lee; K Chowdhury; HL Tan – Paediatric; AA Buenafe') endorsed few important Congress in Asia in particularly: the AMESCON in

Dubai; the World Congress of Obesity Surgery in New Delhi, the Annual PALES Congress in Philippines; Asia-Pacific Congress on Metabolic Surgery for Type 2 Diabetes and other Workshops in different Countries. Moreover, the Paediatric Section under the leadership of Prof. Tan HL and the Thoracic Section under the leadership of Prof. Sang Hoon Jheon has been setup within ELSA to develop these subspecialties in Asia. The ELSA Outreach Programme started successfully

Scientific Committee (R Melchor Santos; Suchart C; Hong Jin Kim; C. Tsang, Anil Sharma). Great works has been done by the Scientific Committee collaborating with the LOC of the ELSA 2012 to make the event scientifically outstanding. Two “Voice for Asia” sessions will be the jewel of the Congress. An opportunity for all of us to share the joy and frustration of promoting MIS in our vast continent but also to discuss on how ELSA can help.

Membership & Corporate Committee (C. Arcilla; Venkatesh; Mumtaz Maher, Cheah WK, Chin KF). A good recruitment this year! We will finalize the number in Riyadh but approximately a few hundred new members joined ELSA. A promotional Campaign was setup in many International Congress (IFSES, IFSO, AMESICON, PALES, etc) We are glad to announce that the Myanmar Surgical Society with the help of ELSA was able to setup their own national Society and contributed with more than 70 new ELSA Members.

Prof. Al-dohayan is working closely with Middle East Countries to setup their own Society and join ELSA.

- Technological Committee (S Hilvano; Zameer Pasha; Y Kitagawa; S Shimizu). To implement new technology is not always an easy task but the ELSA hardliners prevailed with the successful initiative of Boy Hilvano (see ELSA website) and S Shimizu. The extent of APAN network for the ELSA Community reached its peak with the tele-broadcasting between several countries. In March, UP Manila under the leadership of S Hilvano and C Arcilla partnered with VietDuc with Prof, Tran Van Giang for a live surgery Symposium. An ASEAN APAN Medical Group will be the next task of Boy Hilvano and we wish him the best for success.

4 | E-mail: news.vitd@gmail.com NEWS 

Breakthrough telesurgery held in the country

UP Manila partners with VietDuc University in Hanoi

PHILIPPINE medicine recently scored a major breakthrough with the holding of the 1st University of the Philippines Manila and VietDuc University in Vietnam teleconference last March 23 which saw both universities performing live operations in their respective operating rooms while being connected to one another via high-speed

different operating rooms included the surgical staff of the UP-FGH Department of Surgery, other surgeons from different hospitals, and medical students.

Prof. Tran Van Giang of VietDuc University was the first to perform the operation. He conducted a single incision laparoscopic adrenalectomy for an hour. He was then followed by UP Manila surgeons Prof.



Unang Yakap at home
Intrapartum and newborn care possible even w/o hospital facilities—WHO

By ANGELICA A. DE LEON

AS long as a trained health professional is around, the Essential Intrapartum and Newborn Care (EINNC) Protocol may be practiced at home. This was disclosed by World Health Organization (WHO) Country Representative Dr. Soe Nyunt-U during an interview with Vital Signs regarding Unang Yakap, a partnership between WHO, the Department of Health, and humanitarian orga-

the achievement of goals by Unang Yakap. Dr. Soe shared that so far, they have a very positive experience in terms of the business' reception to the idea of the protocol, especially the midwives and nurses. He added that they constantly remind health workers basic things "like washing your hands—before seeing a patient, after seeing and examining a patient—and to wash your hands again before

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But this is not all, soon a social network (MD Pie) will be implemented for all ELSA Members, we hope to launch it in Riyadh. This will allow for fast sharing communication between ELSA Members, but also gives us the opportunity to create subgroups of specialties, share clinical cases, blog, open forum and more. You will receive more details soon.

4. Report from WCES Mexico 2012.

During the World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery hosted in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico from April 23-27, ELSA co-organized 2 Symposia on “New Technology in MIS” and “Challenge the MIS Experts”.

The World Congress was also a winning/tipping point for Asia, since ELSA supported the successful candidature of Shanghai to host the 2016 World Congress under the Presidency of our past-President Dr Zheng Min Hua and the election of Prof Seigo Kitano as President of IFSES!!!. A big congratulations to them for their endeavor and we will provide our full support



Looking forward to meet and see all of you in Riyadh

Sincerely

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