

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

At the SSO AGM on 12 April 2018, I took over the reins from Dr Ravindran Kanesvaran to lead SSO. It is a privilege and I thank you for your support in this. Dr Ravi has done a tremendous job of increasing the stature of SSO in the past 5 years and together with his committee, has laid the foundation for a stronger SSO. On behalf of all, I would like to extend a big thank you to Ravi, Tan Sing Huang, David Tai, Eileen Poon, Johann Tang and Joycelyn Lee for their hard work for SSO in the past years.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new SSO executive committee who were elected in. They are:

Dr Elaine Lim: Vice-President

Dr Eileen Poon: Treasurer

Dr Joline Lim: Secretary

Dr John Chia: Committee member

Dr Melvin Chua: Committee member

Dr Raghav Sundar: Committee member

Our biggest event so far this year was the Best of ASCO- 4th SSO Annual Scientific Meeting, which ran smoothly. I thank Dr Raghav who was the Scientific Chair and the various track leaders who helped to choose the appropriate abstracts. Our event would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors and we are grateful for them. Details and photos of this event can be seen below.

In the past few months I have represented Singapore as a guest at the meetings of the Japanese Society of Medical Oncology, the Malaysian Oncology Society and the Medical Oncology Group of Australia. It was good to meet old friends and to make new ones. We will continue to build bridges with the respective oncology societies in the region and I hope that this leads to further collaborations in the future.

Coming up for the next year, we are launching the [SSO-Cancer Immunotherapy Consortium](#). This is a nod to the importance of education and research on cancer immunotherapy in our Singapore community. We have the expertise, and I hope the consortium will bring together the various groups dealing with immunotherapy, whether as researchers or clinicians. Dr Toh Han Chong has kindly agreed to be the inaugural Chair of this consortium and there will be a half-day symposium on Saturday 22 September to celebrate the launch! [Dr Ramy Ibrahim](#), Vice President and Chief Medical Officer from the Parker Institute who has been deeply involved in immunotherapy development will be our guest speaker for this event together with local experts. Do come and join us for this!

Another new initiative that we will be starting early 2019 will be the Oncology Review Course, targeted for oncology residents in training. It will be a crash course of sorts on oncology and should be of interest to all medical oncology, radiation oncology as well as surgical oncology residents. We will run the course with our local faculty and we hope to eventually extend this course regionally. We appeal for your support in this!

ESMO Asia will be here soon, running from November 23-25.

So please support our local meetings and we are always open to new ideas and other inspirations.

Warm regards,

Choo Su Pin
President SSO 2018 - 2020

Best of ASCO – 4th Singapore Society of Oncology Annual Scientific Meeting on 6 - 7 July 2018

SSO organized the Best of ASCO- 4th SSO Annual Scientific Meeting held from 6-7 July 2018 at Grand Hyatt Hotel.

International experts from Medical Oncology Group of Australia, Japanese Society of Medical Oncology, and Malaysia Oncological Society also played active roles during the Symposium.

Key opinion leaders and experts from Singapore and other countries presented the latest practice-changing data from ASCO's Annual Meeting 2018.

Each abstract presented at BASCO is selected with the Asian patient and cancer care provider in mind.

Attendees were kept abreast with the latest developments in the field and well informed of the direction the field is headed as well.

An abstract competition was held to encourage everyone in cancer research to come forth and share his or her knowledge in the field.



Delegates were invited to submit abstracts pertaining to the 25 tracks.

The winner for the best poster presentation was Shieh Jeng-Jer, from National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan, with poster entitled “Glycolysis Inhibition Enhances Imiquimod-Induced Immunogenic Cell Death and Anti-tumor Immune Response”. Second prize went to Maarja-Liisa Nairismagi, from ACT Genomics Singapore, for her poster on “Application of A Cancer Hotspot Panel to Guide Lung Cancer Therapy

- Asian Experience’; while 3rd prize was awarded to CHOO Bok Ai, National University Cancer Institute, Singapore for the poster on “Primary Radiotherapy Alone Without Surgery as an Alternative Effective Treatment for Keloid Scars.”

Best of ASCO 2018 concluded successfully with an attendance of over 300 local and international delegates and faculty from 13 countries.

Best of ASCO 2018 Gallery



From left to right: Dr Rebecca Dent from Singapore and Dr Hope Rugo from United States.



More than 300 local and international delegates and faculty from 13 countries attended the BASCO 2018



Judges go around the posters presented during the event.



At the Handover Ceremony of the Singapore Society of Oncology - Dr Choo Su Pin, incoming President of SSO, presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Dr Ravindran Kanesvaran, for his great leadership and contribution, as President of SSO from 2013 to 2018. Dr Ravindran Kanesvaran will continue to play an advisory role as the Immediate Past President of the executive committee.



Faculty dinner at the National Kitchen by Violet Oon, at National Gallery Singapore.

*To view more photographs from Best of ASCO 2018, please visit the event website:
<https://www.bascoasia.com/basco-2018>*

Regional Collaboration

Japanese Society of Medical Oncology (JSMO)

Invitation by the Japanese Society of Medical Oncology (JSMO) to attend their annual meeting "Beyond Borders: Nation, Organ, Profession" held at Kobe, Japan from 19 - 21 July 2018. A joint meeting session on Asia Oceania Leaders Symposium held during the meeting between CSCO (Chinese), JSMO (Japanese), KSMO (Korean), MOGA (Australian), TOS (Taiwan) and SSO (Singapore) further enhanced the relationships between the regional oncologic societies. Dr Choo gave a lecture on Current Perspectives in Medical Oncology in Singapore.



Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA)

Invitation by the Medical Oncology Group of Australia to attend their Annual Scientific Meeting and Immuno-Oncology Forum from 1-4 August, 2018 in Adelaide, Australia.



Poster Walk: Dr Choo Su Pin, President of Singapore Society of Oncology with Dr Brian Stent from the Adelaide Cancer Centre and Prof Christos Karepetis, Chair of Medical Oncology Group of Australia.



Singapore Society of Oncology - Cancer Immunotherapy Consortium to launch on 22 September 2018

Singapore Society of Oncology- Cancer Immunotherapy Consortium (SSO-CIC) was recently set up to bring together like-minded folks who are interested in cancer immunotherapy and to both share knowledge as well as to educate each other.

The SSO-CIC is a workgroup within the SSO, chaired by Prof Toh Han Chong. This will be launched on 22 September 2018, with a half-day symposium helmed by Keynote speaker, Prof Ramy Ibrahim, from the Parker Institute. Some of the key topics will include:

- **Building Cancer Immunotherapy Ecosystems in Asia**
- **Immunology Basics for Clinicians in 2018**
- **Dealing with IO Toxicities – what needs to be done and a national IO toxicity database**
- **Immunotherapy trials in Singapore and challenges faced**

Registration is free to SSO members. But there are limited seats available. To register online, please go to <https://www.sso-cic.com/registration>.

To join as SSO member, please go to <https://www.singaporeoncology.org.sg/membership-application>. Membership fees are : Ordinary Member S\$20 p.a. | Associate Member S\$10 p.a

For more information on SSO-CIC, please visit the website: <https://www.sso-cic.com>

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE NOW

Avoid a lapse in your member benefits by renewing your SSO Membership now. Our simple online form also allows you to update your profile and contact information.

To renew your membership, please go to :<https://www.singaporeoncology.org.sg/membershiprenewal>

UPDATE YOUR MEMBER'S PARTICULARS ONLINE

Have you changed your mailing address or telephone number?

Update your personal particulars online, so we can keep in touch with you.

To update your particulars, please go to <https://www.singaporeoncology.org.sg/updateparticulars>

Upcoming Events - Singapore



ESMO Asia Singapore, 23 - 25 Nov 2018

ESMO Asia 2018 will keep oncology professionals in the Asia-Pacific region up to date with the fast pace of oncology science and education, and provide important networking opportunities with international peers.

The congress programme will offer state of the art oncology education covering all major tumour types. We invite you to save the date for ESMO Asia 2018!

- **Josep Taberner**, Barcelona, Spain, ESMO and Congress President
- **Tony S. K. Mok**, Hong Kong, China, Scientific Committee Chair
- **Susana Banerjee**, London, UK, Scientific Co-Chair
- **Andrés Cervantes**, Valencia, Spain, Educational Committee Chair
- **Kei Muro**, Nagoya, Japan, Educational Committee Co-Chair
- **Pilar Garrido**, Madrid, Spain, Press Officer
- **Su-Pin Choo**, Singapore, Local Officer

For more information on ESMO Asia 2018, please visit the event website:
<https://www.esmo.org/Conferences/ESMO-Asia-2018-Congress>