THE BIGGEST APAS EVENT EVER

The 18th Asia-Pacific Arthroplasty Society (APAS) conference included themes central to joint replacement of hip & knee right from basics to more complex cases and also recent advances and controversy as well as region specific topics as everybody appreciated that their practice is influenced by the geopolitics and cultures of each country in the Asia Pacific region. This course provided an excellent opportunity for the delegates to learn the nuances in surgical techniques and interact with masters in the field from across the globe. The course was approved and supported by ISAKOS besides national and regional academic bodies in India. In its 17th year, the Annual Scientific Meeting of Asia-Pacific Arthroplasty Society continued to maintain its charisma in order to give orthopaedic surgeons the tools technically, scientifically and academically to allow them to deliver better outcomes for their patients.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

"It was a pleasure & honor to be a part of the faculty for such a fantastic conference. I thoroughly enjoyed the scientific program which was really of a very high standard and 2nd to none in terms of clinical relevance for day to day arthroplasty practice. A lot of insight on new technologies coming up in the horizon were very interesting part of this meeting. I thank Parag and Rami for the time & effort that they have put together in making APAS 2017 another success."

Suleman Qurashi

"I must congratulate Dr. Parag on a spectacularly successful conference with huge numbers enrolled and the innovative use of the live feed on the website for those who could not make it. As always, I think all the faculty enjoyed the program and the social events which makes APAS a regular commitment for all of us. For me it was a particular pleasure to meet Dr. K.H. Sancheti and chair a session with him."

David Barrett

LOOKING BACK

The Asia-Pacific Arthroplasty Society (APAS) is a Society of Joint Replacement Surgeons from the Asia Pacific region. It was formed in the year 1997 at Queensland, Australia. Dr. Wui K Chung was the founding Chairman, Dr. Ray Randle was the 1st President of the society and Dr. Chitranjan Ranawat honoured the society by accepting to be the patron of the society. It has been regularly holding annual meetings since then in various cities like Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, New Delhi, Mumbai, Seoul, Kota Kinabalu, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Penang. Growing steadily from its inception, APAS has come a long way in spreading knowledge of Joint Replacement Surgery not only in India but also in the Asia Pacific region. The past Presidents of APAS include Ray Randle, Ashok Rajgopal, Jim Sullivan, Yoo Myung-chui, Wang Yan, Arun Mullaji and most recently Rami Sorial. APAS has become an internationally renowned society sharing the expertise and combining the knowledge of the dedicated fraternity to further enhance the art and science of hip and knee Arthroplasty.
The meeting commenced on Friday, August 18, 2017 with Industry Master-Class Workshop by Zimmer Biomet and concurrent Hip & Knee Scientific sessions (Free Papers), which were didactic in nature and allowed total interaction between the delegates and faculty. The two meeting halls were packed with delegates wherein the different papers were presented in the most comprehensive scientific event in hip & knee replacement.

The opening ceremony was done in evening and Presidential speech was given by Dr. Parag Sancheti and Dr. K. H. Sancheti was recognized for his dedication and lifetime achievements in the field of orthopaedics at APAS 2017. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Bharat Mody. The great Knee & Hip Debate happened at APAS 2017 on Cemented Cups in primary THA. Should we still be using them? And, the second was: Mechanical Alignment remain superior to kinematic alignment for primary TKA.

On Day 2, there was elaborate discussion on Unicondylar Knee Replacement – Review, Indications, techniques and outcomes, intricacies of performing a total Knee Replacement (or Total Hip Replacement), latest trends in hip and knee arthroplasty, the art of perfection – in cementing, alignment, cuts, balancing, rotations & arthroplasty by world renowned experts in the field.

“I enjoyed the conference very much. Great turn out. Faculty at APAS is always so friendly. Great job organizing the meeting as well. I think it was a great success. Thanks for having me.”

- Kirk Kindsfater
The Clinical Discussions by panel experts, keynote sessions and debates were the scientific highlights at APAS 2017.

On day 3, there was panel case discussion on complex primary and revision hip, very specialized approaches to complex problems and the worst surgical case of the surgeons in the last 12 months and how it was managed. The guest lectures by Dr. Bharat Mody & Dr. Thorsten Gehrke were well appreciated. So, the Clinical Discussions by panel experts, keynote sessions and debates were the scientific highlights at APAS 2017. Q & A session at the end of sessions allowed more interaction. New things learnt from this event added take home value which further enhance each one’s practice. This year, focus was on newer advances as well as joint preservation surgeries and minimally invasive techniques. The scientific program was prepared keeping in mind the nuances of surgical techniques, current developments and newer technologies & innovations of knee and hip replacement surgery. A Social program and Gala Dinner was organized by the organizing committee on Day 2, for the honorable guests as well as participants. It was a lovely event. Everybody was happy to meet faculty at this dinner. The valedictory was done on day 3 by Dr. Rami Sorial & Dr. Parag Sancheti.

The international faculty members:

- Aree Tanavalee - Thailand
- Bhushan Sabnis - UK
- Chris Dodd - UK
- David Barrett - UK
- Gary Hooper - New Zealand
- Kirk Kindsfater - USA
- Mahmoud Hafez - Egypt
- Michael Neil - Australia
- Mojeib Manzary - Saudi Arabia
- Rami Sorial - Australia
- Rhidian Morgan Jones - Saudi Arabia
- Riaz Khan - Australia
- Simon Lewithwaite - UK
- Thanainit Chotanaphuti - Thailand
- Thorsten Gehrke - Germany
- Vasan Sinnadurai - Malaysia
- Wui Chang - Australia
- Yasser Khatib - Australia

The meeting was highly appreciated & enjoyed by all for its scientific content, format, presentation and conduct by the delegates as well as faculty. The event brought together eminent faculty from across the globe which led to the close interaction between the fraternities and opens up new avenues of research, innovation and opens flood gates for ideas to flow across. The faculty delivered a highly educational and knowledge sharing program in the field of current advances in Joint Replacement Surgeries. It was a great learning experience for the participants and a very positive feedback was received on all the lectures. The meeting had world renowned speakers and an audience of extremely high caliper thus making the meet a remarkable event. The international faculty has contributed immensely in making APAS 2017, a great success. The delegates thoroughly enjoyed their session and some even had a privilege of interacting with faculty during the course of the event. Their presence added value to the event.
It was a first presidential APAS meeting for Dr. Parag Sancheti, who took over as President of APAS from Dr. Rami Sorial, last year in 2016 at Penang, Malaysia. This was a big honor for India as well as a big opportunity for showcasing to the world the expertise of Indian Surgeons in the Field of Joint Replacement Surgery. The field of Joint Replacement Surgery is rapidly growing by leaps and bounds not only in India but also across the world with a tripling of operations from 60,000 to 1,80,000 over the last 5 years in Knee Replacements alone and also from 30,000 to 90,000 Hip Replacements. Dr. Sancheti is taking all the efforts to ensure that joint replacement surgeons are benefitted maximally by APAS, through overseas fellowships, regular hands on workshops and CME’s. It has been a constant endeavour with APAS to educate and train fellow arthroplasty and budding surgeons in the field of arthroplasty at an International platform.

What an honour and an absolute pleasure to be invited to APAS. This was my first APAS and I must say, Parag and Rami have managed to put together a world class program from start to finish. I appreciate what a mammoth task it is to convene a meeting like this and I would like to congratulate them on a job well done. I must say, I have enjoyed the quality of talks and interacting with world class faculty. It was great to be involved. I look forward to catching up with everyone again in the near future.

Dr. Yasser Khatib

APAS 2017 was the first orthopaedic meeting in India to be telecasted live World Wide from Chennai. It happened first time in India when the complete conference was streamlined for online viewing. More than 3500 enthusiasts logged on to the website for the live webcast. This was the highlight feature of this meeting. Also, for the first time ever, APAS 2017 fellowship was announced, the interviews for which were conducted on 18th & 19th August at Hotel Leela, Chennai. There was an overwhelming response from Orthopaedic surgeons from Asia-Pacific region experienced in arthroplasty for the 6 week fellowship (3 weeks in Australia and 3 weeks in India).

The vision of APAS 2017 was to deliver meetings that introduce debate and reflect on current issues in joint replacement that orthopaedic surgeons meet every day in their current practice and also to share topics that one may need to broaden the scope of their practice into the future. Sincere thanks to Dr. Rami Sorial (Scientific Chairman), Dr. Arun Mullaji (Organising Chairman), Dr. Ashok Rajgopal (Past President), Dr. Bharat Modi (Co-Organising Chairman) and the entire team of APAS for giving up their time and earning capacity to share their learned skills with others and great appreciation to all the sponsors for their valuable support to the APAS meeting and helping in making this meeting a resounding success.