

The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology Newsletter



AOSR
The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology

The Golden Bridge sits atop 1400m above sea level at Danang, Vietnam, the upcoming host city for APSCVIR 2025



President's Desk



Prof. Noriyuki Tomiyama,
MD, PhD

AOSR President

The shortage of radiologists is a significant issue in many countries, including Japan and the United States. At Osaka University Hospital, I am responsible for assigning radiologists to affiliated hospitals, and I see the increased demand for imaging services and the urgent need for more radiologists. This shortage can impact patient care, diagnostic accuracy, and the overall efficiency of healthcare systems. Recognizing this critical issue, the International Society for Strategic Studies in Radiology (IS3R) initiated a survey to assess radiology workforce shortages.

Catch us on...

(Cont'd on next page...)



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President's Desk

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Tips & Tricks to Reduce Need for Sedation when Imaging Children

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints or official policies of the AOSR.

IS3R extended an invitation to the Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSR) for collaboration on this important survey. Other continental radiological societies, such as RSNA and ESR, will also be participating, making this a worldwide effort. The AOSR office has reached out to AOSR member societies for their collaboration, and we have received many positive responses. Thank you so much for your cooperation and collaboration in this vital endeavor.



AOSR
The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology

ESR
EUROPEAN SOCIETY
OF RADIOLOGY



RSNA[®]
Radiological Society
of North America

Another important topic is "Green Radiology," which refers to the application of sustainable practices within the field of radiology to minimize the environmental impact of diagnostic imaging and radiotherapy. This encompasses a wide range of initiatives aimed at reducing energy consumption, waste production, and the carbon footprint associated with radiological services. For instance, radiology equipment such as MRI and CT scanners consume a significant amount of energy. Upgrading to energy-efficient models and implementing regular maintenance can help reduce this consumption. Collaboration with imaging industry companies is crucial for developing sustainable practices.



The European Society of Radiology (ESR) has planned to publish a paper on sustainable radiology in collaboration with other radiological societies, including the AOSR. To support this initiative, we will establish an AOSR sustainability working group and actively participate in this important project. I anticipate your active involvement.

Editor's corner

*Dr. Kevin Fung, MBBS FRCR
Hong Kong College of Radiologists*



It brings me great pleasure to share with you our Summer issue of AOSR Newsletter!

We are happy to bring you to the “Land of the Blue Dragon” this issue, showcasing one of our Member Societies – the Vietnamese Society of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine (VSRNM). The article shares with us the history of VSRNM and how Radiology is developing into one of the most dynamic specialty in Vietnam.

The AOSR Archives Column in this issue showcases Prof. William S.C. Hare, the Founding President of AOSR and Organising Chair of the first AOCR in Melbourne in 1971. This article shares with us insights and visions of Prof. Hare in sharing and advancing knowledge in Radiology across the Asian Oceanian region.

For the “Getting to know” series, we are happy to invite our AOSR Councilor Dr. Li-jen Wang and AOSOR Youth Club Alumni Dr. Mir Mahin Ashraf from Bangladesh to share with us their journeys in Radiology and AOSR.

With regards to online education, both AOSOR YC and ASIASAFE have been keeping busy. AOSOR YC organised their inaugural webinar in June with young eminent radiologists sharing their expert experience in a potpourri of Radiology topics relevant to daily practice to many of us.

ASIASAFE has organised monthly webinars from January to May on the importance and practical aspects in developing diagnostic reference levels and dose index registry. The feedback from audience has been excellent! If you have missed them, you can rewatch them on the AOSR Youtube channel.

From the success story of the Samrakshan program for antenatal screening in India to tips and tricks in reducing sedation need in paediatric imaging, we have two very interesting articles for those who are involved in fetal and paediatric radiology.

On behalf of the AOSR Newsletter Team, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to this Newsletter issue and I hope you find it a rewarding read!



Summer blue sky in Toronto, atop the roof top of the Hospital for Sick Children, where I am undergoing a 1-year Pediatric IR Fellowship

Getting to know your Member Society

- Vietnamese Society of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine

*Dr. Trang Nguyen Ngoc
Executive Committee, VSRNM*

The Vietnamese radiology history has evolved significantly with Dr. Hoang Su, the first Vietnamese radiologist, who received a master's degree in Radiology in 1939. After the Geneva Accords in 1954, a large number of Vietnamese physicians were sent to socialist nations such as the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Cuba for training in radiology and radiation. In 1961, the "Radiology and Physiotherapy Association" was founded by Dr. Hoang Su, which attracted doctors, engineers, and technicians in radiology and radiation. In 1978, the society was renamed the "Radiology-Physiotherapy-Medical Radioactivity Association" and then changed to "Radiology and Nuclear Medicine Society" in 1995.

In 1999, the society's name was officially changed to the "Vietnamese Society of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine-VSRNM". Nowadays, the head office of the Society is located at Bach Mai Hospital, Hanoi, Vietnam, and Professor Pham Minh Thong currently is the President of VSRNM. With more than a thousand members and high demands in Radiology, the society has established sub-societies in Interventional Radiology (VSIR), Radiological Technologists (VART), Ultrasound (VSUM), Abdomen Imaging (VSAR), Cardiovascular Imaging (VSCI). The journal of VSRNM publishes three Vietnamese issues and one special English issue per year since 2019.



Executive Committee Members of VSRNM

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The society organizes an annual scientific congress with distinguished invited speakers from local and international radiological societies such as AAR, AOSR, APSCVIR KSR, SFR, ESR, and RSNA. VSRNM has hosted many international congresses such as the French-Vietnamese Diagnostic Imaging Conference (1999, 2003, 2019); AAR 2008, AFFITN 2012; and ASCI 2020 (online). In April 2025, the Society will host a conjoint meeting with APSCVIR, the 19th Scientific Meeting at Danang, Vietnam.

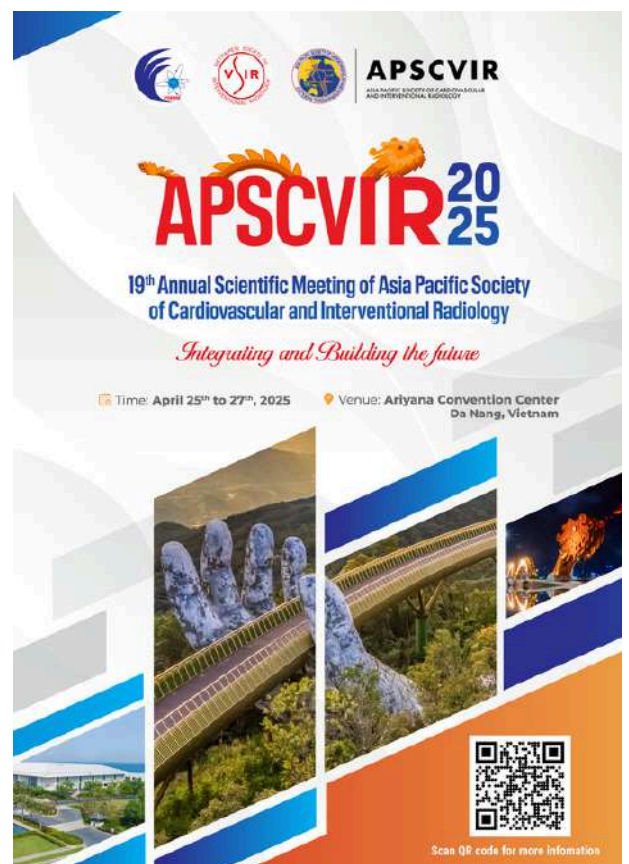


Distinguished speakers at the 10th Congress of VSIR Meeting

The VSRNM is now widening national and international activities in training, meetings, and education as effective opportunities for all the members to get closer together and integrate into the actively global radiological field.



Marble Mountain at Danang, Vietnam



The AOSR Archives Column

*Dr. Evelyn Ho
AOSR Immediate Past President
Chair of the AOSR Archives Committee*

The AOSR Archives Committee was set up to develop the archive policies including what to archive for the purpose of documenting the development, achievements, and history of the AOSR; where possible to keep records which has evidential, historic, and emotional values for the purpose of inspiring our members, and where appropriate for promoting the AOSR regionally and globally.

In the last issue of the AOSR Newsletter (April 2024), Dr Kenneth R. Thomson, AOSR Past President 2006–2008 shared his memories of the AOSR. Ken recalled how he attended the 1st Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR) in 1971. In 1981, he mentioned Professor William Hare as having convinced him to move from Adelaide to Melbourne and gave him the task of editor of the AOSR Bulletin.

Who was Professor Hare? Professor William (Bill) S.C. Hare was a very important figure in the AOSR. He was the AOSR Founding President and Organizing Chair of the 1st AOCR in 1971. Dr Evelyn Ho collated information from a variety of sources (internet news, articles, AOSR 50th Anniversary History publication and connected with his daughter Lindy Hare) and in particular, special thanks to the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) for assisting with information that helped make this article possible.

A copy of this write up in PDF format can be downloaded from <https://www.theaosr.org/about-us/history>.

The Founding President of the AOSR – Prof William (Bill) S.C. Hare (20 Oct 1923 – 31 May 2013) & the 1st AOCR, 1971, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

*Collated by Dr Evelyn Ho (Archives Chair 2023-2025)
and RANZCR, May 2024*

Professor William (Bill) S.C Hare is recognised as having provided many great contributions to the field of Radiology and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists of Radiologists (RANZCR). He is considered an early pioneer in the fields of neuroradiology, angiography, mammography and urography. He was the first Professor of Radiology in Australia and, in 1965, was the first Chair of Radiology at the University of Melbourne. This was the first academic chair for radiology in Australia.



*Prof. William Hare
(Sydney Morning Herald, 20 July 2013)*

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Professor Hare was appointed as President of the College between 1986 -1987 and was awarded the RANZCR Gold Medal in 1988. He is one of the distinguished few who has received both the Thomas Baker Scholarship (1957) and Rouse Travelling Scholarship (1963). In 2002, as a permanent acknowledgement of his great contributions, RANZCR established the Bill Hare Fellowship. Given annually, this Fellowship award supports a Fellow for a period of intensive and/or overseas study. The purpose of this award is to allow a qualified diagnostic radiologist to further their knowledge of an acknowledged subspecialty, which there is a recognised shortage, whether it be in Australia, New Zealand or somewhere overseas.

He was a world leader in Radiology and was awarded Radiological Society of North America Honorary Member (1984), Officer of the Order of Australia (1990), and International Society of Radiology Honorary Member (1994).

Ms. Lindy Hare (Professor Bill Hare's daughter) shared, *"...getting the AOSR up and running, was dad's proudest achievement. He was so passionate about making radiology knowledge something to be shared across nations."*

Professor Hare and the AOSR



The International Society of Radiology (ISR) was considered the global authority in Radiology and would hold, every four years, the International Congress of Radiology (ICR) in various cities around the world. In 1969, the ICR was held in Asia (Japan) for the first time. It was during the 1969 ICR that the first AOSR meeting was held.

The Australian delegates, Professor Hare and Dr. Martin, extended an invitation to hold the first Asian-Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR) in Melbourne in 1971. In *Australasian Radiology* (1969, Vol 13, p253) Professor Hare wrote 'Much of our future depends upon developments in neighbouring nations... as one of the more advanced countries technologically, we are being encouraged to give a lead and to offer help.'

The College (RANZCR) Council agreed to expand the college's 1971 AGM in Melbourne to include the first AOCR to assist the growth and success of the AOSR as well as strengthen ties between radiologists from Australia and New Zealand with radiologists from Asia and the wider Pacific region. Professor Hare and the College encouraged members to take part in the AOCR and ensure its success.

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Professor Hare was elected the founding President of the AOSR and Dr Martin the first Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. Professor Hare held the post of AOSR President from 1971–1975.

He attended the 14th AOCR, 2012. This was the second time, since the inception of the AOSR, that an AOCR was held in Australia; this time, at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, New South Wales from August 30th to September 2nd, 2012. Professor Hare addressed the delegates at the opening session (named in his honour) of the joint AOCR2012 and RANZCR meeting.



(Photos at the AOCR2012 are courtesy of Dr Evelyn Ho)



Precious group photo from AOCR 2012, Sydney

- (From left to right)*
Dr Mei-Tiu Chiu
Prof Bill Hare
Dr Winston Lim
Dr Evelyn Ho
Dr Lilian Leong
Prof Yi Hong Chou

A photo of the first page of Professor Hare's welcome speech for the AOCR 2012, Sydney (Courtesy of Ms Lindy Hare, Professor Hare's daughter).

Welcome all to the 14th AOCR. As founding president it gives me much pleasure to reflect on the 41 years since AOSR was formed, to become the third international radiological society following in the footsteps of RSNA, and ESR.

The success of AOSR to date has centered on the 13 Asian Oceanian congresses, which have provided opportunities for the radiologists in the region to meet and share technical knowledge, and experience the cultural activities of the host nation.

The opening ceremonies of the AOCR have always been graced by heads of state or their representatives. The first congress in Melbourne was opened by Sir Henry Bolte, the long serving premier of Victoria. Back in 1971 there were only two faculty members; Dr Benjamin Felton from Cincinnati for Radiodiagnosis, and Dr John Ho from Hong Kong for Radiotherapy, as it was then called.

The 1st AOCR, Nov 22-26, 1971, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

The 1st AOCR was held from November 22-26, 1971 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. The congress was opened by Sir Henry Bolte, then Premier of Victoria. The Australian government also issued a special souvenir first day stamp cover in conjunction with the 1st AOCR.

The following figures of the 1st AOCR final announcement and copy of the letter from the Organizing Chair (Professor Hare) to encourage colleagues to register for the 1st AOCR are courtesy of RANCZR.

THE FIRST ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CONGRESS OF RADIOLOGY



MELBOURNE — AUSTRALIA
22nd - 26th NOVEMBER, 1971

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT
REGISTRATION DETAILS



THE FIRST ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CONGRESS OF RADIOLOGY

Melbourne — 22nd-26th November, 1971

HOSTS: THE COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS OF AUSTRALASIA

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN — Prof. W. S. C. HARE, MD, F.R.A., F.R.F.A.
SECRETARY — Dr. J. J. MARTIN, F.R.C.R., F.R.A.
TREASURER — Dr. C. C. J. MINTY, F.R.C.R., F.R.A.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: THE SECRETARY BOX 805F, G.P.O., MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, 3001
CABLE ADDRESS: ASIPAC, MELBOURNE

27th September, 1971.

Dear Colleague,

If you have already registered for the Congress I am sure you will be quite excited by the quality of the programme which has been prepared by the Scientific Sub-Committee!

If you have not registered, you may miss what will be a unique experience in radiological education in Australasia. When you read the programme I am sure you will feel encouraged to come to the Meeting at all costs. If so you will help the Organizing Committee by registering now.

Amongst the outstanding features will be the guest lectures by Professors Felson and Ho, the early-morning film reading sessions with Professor Felson, the special lecture by Professor Ichikawa on the Radiology of the Upper Gastrointestinal Tract, and the contributions of Professors Steiner, Bjork, Palmer and Fischer to mention just a few. In addition you will see that there are many interesting contributions from Australia and within the region.

Once again may I suggest that you register now if you have not already done so.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

W.S.C. HARE,
Organizing Committee.



HOSTS:
THE COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS OF AUSTRALASIA

The Radiologists of Australia and New Zealand invite their Colleagues in the Asian and Oceanian area, interested in RADIOLOGY, RADIOTHERAPY and NUCLEAR MEDICINE, to attend the First Regional Congress.

THE FIRST ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CONGRESS OF RADIOLOGY

from

NOVEMBER 22nd - 26th 1971

in

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA
AUSTRALIA

Melbourne, capital city of the State of Victoria, has a population of 2,500,000. It has an international jetport (Tullamarine).

Opportunities will be available to visit hospitals and attend scientific meetings in other parts of Australia and New Zealand if required during transit.

Organizing Committee:

Chairman: Professor W. S. C. Hare
General Secretary: Dr. John J. Martin
Treasurer: Dr. C. C. J. Minty

Address for all correspondence:

Dr. John J. Martin,
General Secretary,
Organizing Committee,
The First Asian and Oceanian Congress of Radiology,
Box 805F, G.P.O.,
Melbourne, 3001, Australia.

Cable Address: "ASIPAC", MELBOURNE.

Get to know your AOSR Councillor: Dr Li-Jen Wang

Hello, I am Dr. Li-Jen Wang. I graduated from Kaohsiung Medical College, Taiwan. During my internship, I had the opportunity to receive training at the Radiological Department of Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, which was their first trial at that time. It was then that I realized how attractive medical reasoning and diagnostic thinking based on imaging were to me. Consequently, I decided to pursue radiology for my medical career.



Last year, I became the chair of the Department of Medical Imaging and Intervention at Linkou Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, the largest private hospital and medical center in Taiwan. My subspecialty is uro-radiology, which I have been practicing since my first day at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, a period of 30 years. Time flies. My current research focuses on prostate imaging using mpMRI, bpMRI, and PSMA PET, as well as CTU and renal imaging.



At the 2024 AOCR, I served as the chair of the Scientific Program. It was a wonderful experience to meet radiology friends from overseas and work as a team with Taiwanese radiologists and AOSR councilors. Despite working at different hospitals and in different countries, we share many things in common: a passion for radiology, challenges in workforce and workload, AI applications, and roles as clinical radiologists, educators, researchers, or administrators.

The rapid growth and development of AOSR over the past 50 years have greatly impacted the radiological community, helping to lead and shape our future.

My husband and I have worked together for more than 30 years, having met during our first year of radiology residency training. Recently, we started gymnastics training, which we have been doing for about six months. This training has made me feel stronger and, dramatically, has improved my chronic ankle sprain related to my gait. I love reading, singing, and watching movies, as these activities satisfy my curiosity and imagination.



Getting to Know your AOSOR Youth Club Alumni

– Dr. Mir Mahin Ashraf

The AOSOR Youth Club (YC) aims to provide an educational, social and academic program to foster future core leaders of the AOSR. Continuing this series, for this newsletter, we are delighted to present Dr Mir Mahin Ashraf. Mir Mahin is working as a radiologist at Popular Diagnostic Centre Ltd, Bangladesh and is passionate about teaching. He founded 'Imaging Study', a popular online platform dedicated to radiology learning with a vision to train juniors and encourage more doctors to be interested in a career in radiology. In collaboration with his local societies, he also participates in training the radiology residents and junior radiologists from different national institutes.



When and where did you attend the AOSOR Youth Club?

I attended the 7th AOSOR Youth Club in 2023 in Seoul, South Korea, where I spent the most memorable days of my life.



What was your biggest takeaway or the learning point or points from the YC?

It was a lifetime achievement to get close to the leaders of AOSR and other regional radiology societies. We heard about their experience, discussed our varied radiology scenarios and got ideas about our roles in serving the societies. As a beginner, it was not easy to know directly about the AOSR activities and vision in supporting member societies without participating in the program.

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Are you involved in any society or organization activity outside of your work as a radiologist?

I am currently serving as a life member of the Bangladesh Society of Radiology & Imaging, am a founding member of the Bangladesh Society of Vascular & Interventional Radiology and an executive body member of the Bangladesh Society of Ultrasonography. With the lessons learnt from the AOSOR YC, I am now playing an influential role in my national societies in planning, scientific activity management and maintaining inter-society relationships.

How has the YC helped prepare you for volunteering to serve in your home society or other related societies?

One thing I would like to see more is for AOSOR to establish a continuous platform for communications with the AOSOR YC alumni, and perhaps, if possible, provide ongoing support for alumni gatherings, including any YC events and at the AOCR. The AOSOR Alumni meetings at the AOCRs are underpublicized to all past YC participants.

In conclusion, I extend my gratitude to all those involved in making the YC happen. Even though it has been nearly a decade, the experiences remain vivid, and the friendships formed endure. Distance may separate us, but the support and camaraderie from these events are always there.

What is your message to anyone out there to inspire them to apply for or attend the AOSOR Youth Club?

Once I was happy keeping myself busy with my clinical and research work. The AOSOR YC has opened my eyes to look beyond my daily activities. We do not want to be the radiologists working in dark rooms anymore. We have the light to enlighten the world with our knowledge, skill and leadership. This inner development needs strong teamwork under proper guidance. AOSOR YC is the platform for young radiologists to be the leaders serving the Asia Oceanian radiology societies. Lastly, you will also get some international friends from different cultures and you feel you cannot spend a day without them anymore!



The Inaugural AOSOR Youth Club Webinar by YC Alumni for the AOSOR-wide audience, 8 June 2024

By Dr Mohammed Shakeebudin Kashif
AOSOR YC Alumni 2023

The Asian Oceanian Society Of Radiology Youth Club (AOSOR YC) of 2023 organized the AOSOR YC alumni webinar on 8th June 2024, led by the event secretary, Dr. M. S. Kashif, Senior Resident and Fellow at Department of Radiodiagnosis and Interventional Radiology, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru.

The program was structured to include two primer sessions, two focus sessions, and a uniquely themed segment known as the "Box of Chocolate". All the speakers were from the 2023 AOSOR YC alumni. The webinar commenced with welcome addresses from Prof. Yi Hong Chou, the AOSOR Director, and Prof. Noriyuki Tomiyama, Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSR) President. This is the first time in the history since the inception of the AOSOR in 2012, that such a webinar has been conducted by the YC alumni.

AOSOR Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology
AOSOR Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology

AOSOR YOUTH CLUB ALUMNI WEBINAR

08TH JUNE 2024
2 PM INDIAN STANDARD TIME
1.30 PM (UZBEKISTAN, KAZAKHSTAN)
3.30 PM (VIETNAM)
4:30 PM (SINGAPORE, GMT +8)
5.30 PM (JAPAN)

WHY ATTEND :
Wide array of topics ranging from Basic Cardiac Imaging and MRI Knee to focus session such as MRI -TRUS fusion biopsy in prostate cancer by eminent young speakers from Asia-oceania. The sessions focus on real life case scenarios faced in day to day practice.

REGISTER NOW AND MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
<https://aosr.vdocto.com/>

FACULTY & TOPICS

PRIMER SESSIONS

- Understanding Calcium Score CT: A Guide to Cardiovascular Health**
Dr. Almas Bimakhani
Radiologist at University Medical Center (UMC) Corporate Fund, Astana, Kazakhstan
- CT Coronary Angiography**
Dr. Trang Ngoc Nguyen
Radiologist, Bach Mai Hospital, Hanoi Medical University, Hanoi, Vietnam

FOCUS SESSIONS

- MRI Imaging in Prostate Cancer**
Dr. Susata Sakurada
Radiologist, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine, Japan
- MRI Guided Biopsy Techniques for Prostate Cancer**
Dr. Nicole Kessa Wee
Radiologist, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, National Healthcare Group, Singapore

BOX OF CHOCOLATE

- MRI Knee**
Dr. Elyor B. Akhmedov
Radiologist, National Medical Center Tashkent, Uzbekistan

WELCOME ADDRESS

- Prof. Noriyuki Tomiyama
AOSR PRESIDENT
- Prof. Yi Hong Chou
AOSOR DIRECTOR

EVENT SECRETARY

- Dr. M. S. Kashif
Senior Resident cum Oncology Fellow, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru, India

GUIDE

- Dr. Charles Goh
Consultant, Department of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Singapore General Hospital, Vice President, Singapore Radiological Society

QR CODE

The primer sessions were on 'Understanding Calcium Score CT: A Guide to Cardiovascular Health' presented by Dr. Almas Bimakhani from University Medical Center in Astana, Kazakhstan and 'CT Coronary Angiography' presented by Dr. Trang Ngoc Nyugen from Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi Medical University, Vietnam. The focus sessions were equally enriching, with Dr. Bunta Tokuda from Kyoto Prefectural University, Japan, delving into 'MRI Imaging in Prostate Cancer', and Dr. Nicole Kessa Wee from Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore, providing insights on 'MRI Guided Biopsy Techniques for Prostate Cancer'.

The unique "Box of Chocolate" segment, featured Dr. Elyor Akhmedov from the National Medical Center in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. He provided an excellent review of the MRI anatomy of the knee. Overall, the webinar was a rich and informative session from the feedback received. The session closed with a robust discussion, setting the tone of excellence for the next AOSOR YC session.

ASIASAFE Webinar Series

Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRLs) and Dose Index Registry (DIR): What, Where, When, Why and How?

Prof Dr Kwan Hoong Ng, PhD
Chair, AsiaSafe
Immediate Past President, AOSR

Dr Evelyn Ho, MBBS, MMED
AsiaSafe Committee
Immediate Past President, AOSR

Dr Nucharin Supakul, MD
AsiaSafe Committee

The ASIASAFE committee of the AOSR organized a monthly webinar series titled “Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRLs) and Dose Index Registry (DIR): What, Where, When, Why and How?”. The goal of the webinar was to raise awareness about radiation dose in the Asia Oceania region using DRLs as a common language, practical tool and general guideline for clinical practice. We aimed to provide basic background information on DRLs and DIR, explain how to establish national DRLs, discuss their clinical application and address the challenges faced by each country in establishing national DRLs.




06.30 AM India Standard Time
08.00 AM Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia
09.00 AM Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines
10.00 AM Japan, South Korea
11.30 AM Australian Central Daylight Time

Who should attend?

- Radiologists
- Radiographers / Radiological technologists
- Medical Physicists
- Health Physicists

Why attend?

- Understanding the concept of DRL and DIR.
- Implementing DRL in Clinical Practice.
- Optimizing the utilization of Ionizing Radiation.




Scan To Register

Moderators



Kwang Hoong Ng, PhD
AsiaSafe Chairman



Noriyuki Tomiyama, MD
President AOSR

Date	Topic (1.5 hours)	Speakers
Jan 27, 2024 (4th Saturday)	Introduction to dose metrics and Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRLs)	Prof. Kalpana Kanal
Feb 24, 2024 (4th Saturday)	How to establish the national DRLs using Dose Management Systems (DMS)	Asso. Prof. Samuel Brady
March, 2024	Off due to AOSR 2024	
April 27, 2024 (4th Saturday)	Applications of DRLs in Clinical Settings	Asso. Prof. Samuel Brady
May 25, 2024 (4th Saturday)	Current DRL situation in our region: India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia & Thailand	Asso. Prof. Saravana Kumar, Prof. Makoto Hosono, Prof. Hong Eo, Nummalana Md Ariffin, Asso. Prof. Panruethai Trinavarat

As we know, DRLs are typically used to identify situations where patient dose levels are unusually high. Establishing the national DRLs is challenging and requires adaptation to fit the specific circumstance of each country.

The webinar was coordinated by Dr. Nucharin Supakul from Thailand, a member of the ASIASAFE committee of the AOSR. The webinar sessions were held on the 4th Saturday of each month, from January to May 2024. Each session included a 45-minute lecture followed by a 15-minute Q&A discussion.

The first session began on January 27, 2024, with the topic “Introduction of Dose Metrics and Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRL)” presented by Professor Kalpana Kanal, PhD, former Chair of American College of Radiology (ACR) DIR.

The second session took place on February 24, 2024, covering “How to establish the national DRLs using Dose Management System (DMS)” by Associate Professor Samuel Brady, Vice Chair of The Image Gently Alliance.

The third session was held on April 27, 2024, and focused on “Applications of DRLs in Clinical Settings”, also presented by Associate Professor Samuel Brady.

The final session of the series occurred on May 25, 2024, and discussed “Current DRLs Situation in our Region: India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand”, featuring presentations by Associate Professor Saravana Kumar, PhD (India), Professor Makoto Hosono, MD (Japan), Professor Hong Eo, MD (Korea), Nurmazaina Md Ariffin, MMedPhys (Malaysia) and Associate Professor Panruethai Trinavarat, MD (Thailand).

Throughout the webinar series, there were many participants from 12 countries watching the live sessions and replays on the AOSR YouTube channel. We received excellent feedback from the audience, who expressed enthusiasm for establishing DRLs in their home countries, improving current DRLs and assisting other countries in this region.

The next series on DRL (focused on optimization process) will be launched in 2025.

[Missed the DRL series in 2024? Go to youtube.com/@aosr](https://youtube.com/@aosr)



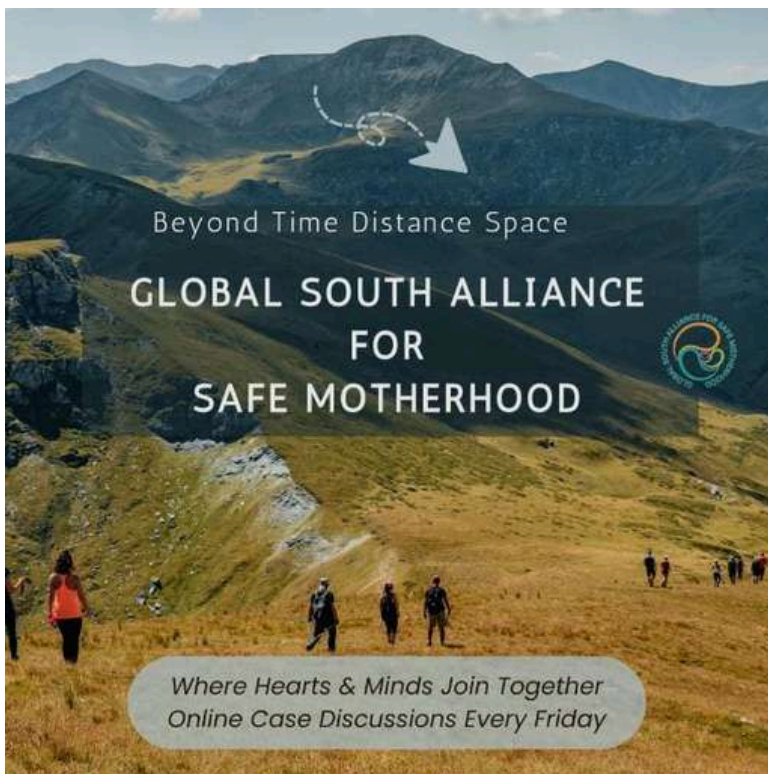
Screenshot of the May 25th, final webinar in the DRL series

Scaling up Samrakshan to the Global South Alliance for Safe Motherhood (GSASM):

All interested stakeholders are welcome to join the GSASM – Beyond Time Distance Space!

*Dr Rijo Mathew Choorakuttil
Founder of GSASM*

Samrakshan is a national program of the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA), founded and conceived by Dr Rijo Mathew Choorakuttil, a fetal radiologist. Samrakshan was launched in 2019 during the IRIA presidency of Dr Hemant Patel, and aimed to reduce the high perinatal mortality rates by integrating fetal Doppler imaging biomarkers with routine antenatal screening for pregnant women in India. The initial phase of Samrakshan focused on the use of a multiparametric Bayesian model for early identification and risk stratification of pregnant women at high risk for the development of preterm pre-eclampsia (PE) and fetal growth restriction (FGR) to reduce perinatal mortality including stillbirths, preterm birth rates, and low birthweight, perinatal hypoxia and neonatal complications.



Samrakshan provides evidence that significant benefits can accrue to perinatal healthcare in India by integrating fetal Doppler studies, individualized risk assessment and protocol-based management with routine antenatal care. The initial results of Samrakshan show that India can achieve the sustainable development goals target for 2030 through a concerted effort. Samrakshan has set a goal to reduce the incidence of PE and FGR to <3% and <10% respectively by 2030 in India.

Samrakshan has expanded, intending to have a dedicated synergistic team in every district of India (the Samrakshan 757 initiative) that works to reduce the perinatal mortality in each district of India. Dr Rijo Mathew and Dr Praveen Nirmalan have scaled up Samrakshan to promote Safe Motherhood and include other countries of the global South by initiating the Global South Alliance for Safe Motherhood (GSASM).

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The Samrakshan program has resulted in a significant change in perinatal indices including mortality.

Parameter	2019-2020 (Baseline)	2021	2023
Preeclampsia	9.85%	3.56%	1.76%
Preterm Births	29.54%	19.28%	8.81%
Stage 1 FGR	27.27%	11.06%	7.15%
Stage 2 FGR	0.38%	0.15%	0.23%
Stage 3 FGR	5.30%	0.43%	0.32%
Stage 4 FGR	0.76%	0.15%	0.10%
Small for Gestational age	4.92%	8.25%	9.31%
Adapted fetal growth (*AGA fetuses) with abnormal Doppler	21.18%	22.55%	14.91%
Birthweight <1500 gm	1.07%	0.99%	0.56%
Birthweight 1500-1999 gm	8.02%	3.96%	2.49%
Birthweight 2000-2499 gm	23.53%	13.29%	13.34%
Birthweight ≥2500 gm	67.38%	81.75%	83.60%
Mean Birthweight ± SD	2636.99 ± 568.95	2747.89 ± 515.39	2803.74 ± 461.79
Stage 1 FGR term delivery	56.94%	75.32%	75.84%
Neonatal Mortality Rate/1000 live births	15.32	9.86	5.95
Perinatal Mortality Rate/1000 childbirths	26.52	18.97	17.11
Maternal Mortality Ratio/100,000 live births	103**	58	36.05

*AGA – appropriate for gestational age

**based on the maternal mortality ratio of India for 2017-2019



*Dr Rijo Mathew (L) receives a memento from Dr Hemant Patel (R) after the Symposium on Fetal Doppler held on 16 June 2024 in Visnagar, Gujarat, India.

The broader idea of the GSASM is to focus on sharing knowledge and skills for cross-learning and optimizing outputs within existing resource constraints. A regular online weekly (Friday 9 to 10 pm IST) webinar series on fetal radiology has started with participants and faculty from India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Australia, UAE, Vietnam and other countries interactively presenting and discussing interesting cases. We welcome and invite all interested stakeholders to be part of this alliance to promote the best evidence-based and inclusive practices for safe motherhood

For further reading:

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Tips & Tricks to Reduce Need for Sedation when Imaging Children

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Imaging babies and young children can be challenging, particularly for lengthy MR exams. Various strategies can help children avoid sedation while reducing anxiety to ensure quality imaging.

1. Child friendly environment – Make the radiology experience fun

Work out an environment suited to children, decorations and child size furniture comfort children and help alleviate anxiety. For example, at Hong Kong Children's Hospital the general radiography room is decorated like a spaceship, the ultrasound room is a 'night safari' covered with glow-in-the-dark stars, the CT scan room has a circus theme and one of the MR scan rooms is decorated as an underwater world.



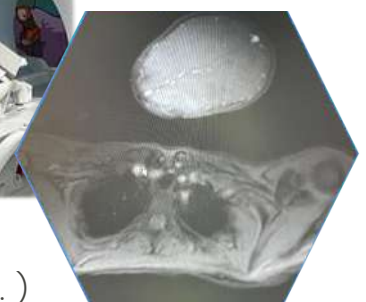
2. Effective communication – Building trust



Clear communication between radiographers, radiologists, parent/carer, and the child is essential. Age-appropriate language helps ensure each and everyone involved understand the procedure and the time required. Good understanding empowers children, at the same time builds trust. Educational videos and story books are also great ways to prepare and engage children at home before the exam.

3. Accompaniment and support – Familiar faces help

Allowing parents or soft toys to accompany the child during imaging provides comfort and reduce anxiety. Using parent-child combo in MR, when both the child and parent/carer are in the MR bore together, can be extremely reassuring.



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4. Sleep and feed – Keeping babies happy

The “Feed-and-Sleep” is a program for selected babies aged 0–6 months. Exams are booked at a time that coincide with babies’ sleep schedules. By making use of babies’ daily feed and natural sleep pattern, they fall asleep before scanning. Keeping them warm and snug during the exam keeps them asleep calmly.



5. Entertainment – A good movie helps



MRI compatible video goggle allows children to watch videos with a MR safe video player during the scan. Not only is this a useful distraction tool, a good movie enhances patient compliance and experience.

6. Child-life specialist – Get help from the experts

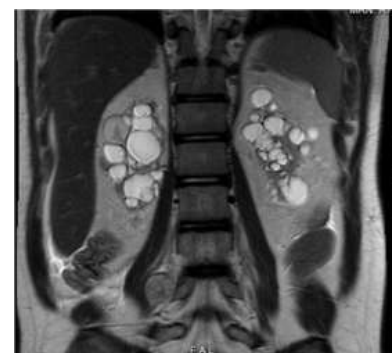
Child-life specialists are trained to provide education and support, in addition their clever distraction techniques help the child stay calm and cooperative during the scan. By using an MRI simulator, which imitates sounds of a real MR coil, children can experience what it’s like inside the bore.



7. Tailoring the scans

MRI is especially challenging for young children due to the longer scan time and motion sensitivity. Tailoring scan protocols prior to the scan streamlines the exam and reduces table time.

- Consider a plain scan, some clinical indications may not require a contrast exam
- Shorten the scan time: Limit the number of sequences and utilise fast and single-shot sequences such as HASTE, TRUEFISP for T2 weighted imaging, and FLASH for T1 weighted imaging



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With a combination of dedicated staff, creativity and multidisciplinary collaboration, radiology departments can confidently reduce sedation anaesthesia use in children undergoing imaging procedures.

Check out the Video for Tips and Tricks to Reduce Need for Sedation in Children and share it far and wide!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9HXYOUQR6Q_



The AOSR accords its deepest appreciation to Dr Elaine Kan and her team Dr. Carol Ng, Dr. Yoyo Chiu and Dr. Vicka Tang for their efforts.

Please use it freely and share it widely.

Fresh off the press!

Recommendation and Guideline

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Position Statements of the Emerging Trends Committee of the Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology on the Adoption and Implementation of Artificial Intelligence for Radiology

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Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly gaining recognition in the radiology domain as a greater number of radiologists are becoming AI-literate. However, the adoption and implementation of AI solutions in clinical settings have been slow, with points of contention. A group of AI users comprising mainly clinical radiologists across various Asian countries, including India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Uzbekistan, formed the working group. This study aimed to draft position statements regarding the application and clinical deployment of AI in radiology. The primary aim is to raise awareness among the general public, promote professional interest and discussion, clarify ethical considerations when implementing AI technology, and engage the radiology profession in the ever-changing clinical practice. These position statements highlight pertinent issues that need to be addressed between care providers and care recipients. More importantly, this will help legalize the use of non-human instruments in clinical deployment without compromising ethical considerations, decision-making precision, and clinical professional standards. We base our study on four main principles of medical care—respect for patient autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice.

Keywords: Position statement; Asian-Oceanian Society of Radiology; Artificial intelligence

The Emerging Trends Committee of AOSR has just published its position statements on the adoption and implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) for Radiology in the Korean Journal of Radiology. The committee is composed of a group of AI users comprising, mainly clinical radiologists across various Asian countries, including India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Uzbekistan.

If you are interested in adopting AI for your clinical practice, do check out the position statements at KJR:

<https://kjronline.org/pdf/10.3348/kjr.2024.0419>



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