



Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists College of Surgeons, Singapore Annual Report 2017

11TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 11th Annual General Meeting of the Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists was held on Friday, 21 April 2017 at Portico Prime Restaurant, 10 Dempsey Road, #01-20, Singapore 247700. It was attended by 36 fellows of the Chapter, and elections were held.

CHAPTER OF OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGISTS SPECIALTY BOARD

The following Chapter Specialty Board Members were duly elected to serve their term of office for 2017-2019 starting from the date of the 11th Annual General Meeting of the Chapter:

Chairman:	Dr Yeo Seng Beng
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Loh Chi Yuan Ian
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Ngo Yeow Seng Raymond
Members:	Dr Mok Kan Hwei Paul
	Dr Tan Yau Boon Barrie
	Dr Uppal Sandeep
	Dr Yuen Heng Wai

In the past 1 year, from the 11th AGM up till tonight's 12th AGM, the Chapter Board has conducted 4 board meetings.

The chairman also represented the Chapter at a further 6 CSS council meetings, 1 CSS AGM and 1 CSS annual retreat, relating to matters involving the wider surgical fraternity of Singapore.

CHAPTER ORL MEMBERSHIP

The total membership at present April 2018 now stands at 99 Fellows. This is up from 76 (2014) and 83 (2016). This means that 86% or 99 out of the total number of 115 ENT specialists listed on MOH's Specialist Accreditation Board are members of the Chapter of ORL.

FACIAL PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY SUB-COMMITTEE

The Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery sub-committee which was created at the Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists 11th AGM in April 2017, has conducted three meetings in the year 2017. The current sub-committee exco members are:

Chairman:	Dr Loh Chi Yuan Ian
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Loke Kok Teik David
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Tay Su-Lin Valerie
Member:	Dr Tan Kar Su
	Dr Sandeep Uppal

The sub-committee will be tabling a special resolution, for approval of the creation of the Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Section at the upcoming College of Surgeons, Singapore's Annual General Meeting in May 2018.

DISTINGUISHED OTOLARYNGOLOGIST AWARD

The previous Chapter Board nominated Prof Yeoh Kian Hian for the Distinguished Otolaryngologist Award, and which was to be presented at the 11th AGM and Dinner Lecture on 21 April 2017.

Unfortunately Prof Yeoh was unable to attend on that day, and therefore the Chapter is very pleased and delighted that Prof Yeoh is able to personally receive the award tonight. . The citation for Prof Yeoh will be given by A/Prof Thomas Loh.

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES RAISED TO THE CHAPTER ORL

ADVERTORIAL ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN STRAITS TIMES IN 2016 – MISINFORMATION ON SNORING AND OSA

Following complaints by Chapter ORL fellows regarding an advertorial piece written by a GP and published by ST in 2016, Dr Peter Lu and Dr Toh Song Tar formally brought up to the SMC regarding misrepresentation and factual errors perpetrated by the GP. This was done in their capacity as President SOHNSS and Chairman Chapter ORL.

Dr Lu and Dr Toh also sent a joint letter to ST Forum in 2016, which unfortunately did not get published.

After 4 months SMC asked for a copy of the advertorial piece, and after another 1 year SMC completed the investigation.

The final reply from SMC was just received in March 2018.

OPINION ON NASOPHARYNGOSCOPY TO BE PERFORMED IN GP CLINICS

The Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists was asked by MOH on 24 July 2017 to provide an opinion on the Requirements for Nasopharyngoscopy to be performed in General Practice Clinics.

The Chapter submitted its reply to MOH through the College of Surgeons, Singapore on 4 October 2017.

ASSISTANCE ON HEARING LEVEL OF UBER DRIVERS (UBER BEETHOVEN DEAF DRIVER-PARTNER REQUIREMENTS)

GPs certifying hearing impaired drivers requested the Chapter's assistance in interpreting SMA new fitness to drive guide guidelines of 2011.

APPOINTMENT OF MEDICAL ASSESSORS

In July 2017, at the 51st Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court of Singapore gave the 23rd Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration "Law and Medicine: Professions of honour, service and excellence"

Following that, in Sep the Supreme Court in 2017 requested the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) to work with the professional bodies to nominate doctors across the specialties as Medical Assessors. The role of the Medical Assessor is primarily to help judges understand complex medical issues.

Consequently, the Academy of Medicine has provided to the Supreme Court a list of 152 nominees for Medical Assessor across medical, surgical and dental specialties. The Chapter of ORL has nominated Dr Ian Loh, Dr Paul Mok and Dr Yeo Seng Beng from the Chapter Board to represent the specialty.

In March 2018, the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon from the Supreme Court personally gave a special oration on "Medicine and Law: Comparative Perspectives on Professional Conduct and Discipline" to Fellows of the Academy who agreed to be Medical Assessors.

Training will be provided by the Singapore Judicial College, and topics that will be covered during training include an introduction to trial procedure, the role of a Medical Assessor, preparing for court attendance as a Medical Assessor, and an overview of the law of evidence and the law of medical negligence.

REVIEW OF TOSP CODES

The Chapter is regularly request by MOH to review the Table of Surgical Procedures (TOSP), specifically codes and descriptions of surgical procedures. Because of the constant development, evolution and obsolescence of surgical procedures, the present codes and descriptions have to be constantly modified. A proportion of activity in recent years has centred on sleep surgery procedures, and facial plastic procedures.

PILOT ACADEMY OF MEDICINE SELF-LEARNING MODULES (SLM)

In September 2017, the Chapter ORL submitted MCQs with supporting literature towards Otolaryngology's SLM module to the College of Surgeons, Singapore. This is a part of general MCQs which are relevant across all surgical specialties. At present, these SLMs are

for the purpose of achieving CME points through the Academy of Medicine of Singapore's e-learning website, scheduled to begin Oct 2017. Further MCQs will be submitted every year.

If the pilot proves successful, it is possible that such SLMs would be used by the SMC CME coordinating committee for Maintenance of Certification (MOC) purposes in future, eg 2020.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) EVENTS

Monthly Otology Board Meeting

The monthly Otology Board Meeting is usually held on the last Friday of the month and jointly organized by the National University Hospital (NUH), Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), and Changi General Hospital (CGH). Notices of these meetings are circulated to Chapter Members via email blast.

CME Activities

The Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists organised CME activities as follows:

- Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists' **Dinner Lecture: Non Allergic Rhinitis - Treatment beyond Intranasal Steroids** by Dr Lim Keng Hua on 21 April 2017 at Portico Prime 10 Dempsey Road #01-20, Singapore 247700
- **3rd Thyroid & Parathyroid Ultrasound Course**, Main Speaker: Prof Anil Ahuja. Sunday 10 September 2017. Venue Annex 2, Tan Tock Seng Hospital (Level 1) (attendance: 60 pax)
- **Combined Symposium on "Sharing the Upper Airway"**, Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists, College of Anaesthesiologists and Singapore Society of Anaesthesiologists' on 14 October 2017 at Level 3, Seminar Room 1 & 2, Tan Tock Seng Hospital. (Attendance: 114 pax)
- **Dinner symposium on "Trans Oral Robotic Surgery for Obstructive Sleep Apnea"** by Prof Claudio Vicini, Chief, Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery Unit, GB Morgagni- L Pierantoni Hospital, Forli, Italy, followed by Peer Review Learning Session, by Dr Chong Khai Beng, Singapore. Topaz Room, Level 2, Sheraton Towers Singapore. 1st Nov 2017
- **3rd Combined SOHNSS & Chapter of ORL Annual Scientific Meeting**, Saturday, 24 March 2018, Venue: Novotel Singapore

ACTIVITIES IN THE PIPELINE

The Chapter continues to plan events in Continuing Medical Education, Peer Review Learning and co-organising future events with the Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery Singapore (SOHNSS) and other Colleges and Chapters of Academy of Medicine, Singapore.

On Mon 11 May 2018 dinner symposium on **Advances in NPC Screening: The Liquid Biopsy**. Dr Tan Min Han, MD, Lucence Diagnostics, Singapore

In June 2018, the Chapter ORL is working with CSS and NUS anatomy lab to conduct **head and neck anatomy dissection sessions** for residents of all clusters.

On Tuesday 21 August 2018, Chapter ORL and SOHNSS will host dinner talk with **visiting laryngology expert Dr Peak Woo**, Mt Sinai Hospital, New York

APPRECIATION

The Chapter wishes to record its appreciation to all our Fellows for their support rendered in the past year and look forward to their ongoing support for future projects and activities.

In Oct 2017, the Chapter bade farewell to Ms Pearly Gan, our previous executive Chapter ORL Secretariat and Ms Bened Thong, senior executive, secretariat CSS with a lunch at Spago by Wolfgang Puck at the top of the Marina Bay Sands.

Dr Ngo Yeow Seng Raymond
Honorary Secretary
On behalf of 2017-2019 Board
Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists