

NEWSLETTER

ESTABLISHED 1957 | 23 COUNTRIES



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It is a great honour to
be writing my first
contribution to the
newsletter as your.....



I am happy to inform
that the AOFOG
President 2024-26
was inducted.....



POGI Conference



Oncology Report



AOFOG 2024



Member Society Corner



JOGR

AOFOG Committee Chairs 2024/2026

Maternal & Fetal Medicine
Prof. Mahesh Choolani
(Singapore)

**Minimally Invasive
Gynaecologic Surgery**
Prof. Jae-Kwan Lee
(Korea)

Oncology
Dr. Ka Yu Tse
(Hong Kong)

**Reproductive
Endocrinology & Infertility**
Prof. Budi Wiweko
(Indonesia)

**Sexual & Reproductive
Health**
Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn
(Thailand)

Ultrasound
Dr. Voon Hian Yan
(Malaysia)

Urogynaecology
A/Prof. Lisa T. Prodigididad
Jabson
(Philippines)

Fellowship selection
Prof. Pak-Chung Ho
(Hong Kong)

YGAA
Dr. Jaydeep Tank
(India)

President's Message



Dear AOFOG colleagues,

It is a great honour to be writing my first contribution to the newsletter as your President. As the first President from New Zealand and the second from Oceania I feel a great responsibility to ensure that we have a successful two years.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous work done by our previous President Prof Pisake Lumbiganon. His contribution has been outstanding.

Under the leadership of Prof. Joong Shin Park a very successful AOFOG conference was held in Busan. The scientific programme was stimulating and thought provoking. There was a feeling of friendship and collegiality throughout the conference. Two important AOFOG statements and recommendations on PPH and Violence against Women were presented.

Thanks again to KSOG for their assistance in making the conference so successful.

In early August we had our first annual planning meeting in Singapore. Thank you to the team from OGSS for looking after us so well. I am very lucky to have such a talented executive board and hard-working Chairs of the Committees. It augurs well for the future. We agreed to continue the four work streams; eliminating cervical cancer; optimizing caesarean section rates; preventing violence against women and climate change. We also decided to add a fifth one, establishing a working group on gender inequality looking at barriers to and opportunities for leadership roles in AOFOG and the region. This will be led by Kiyoko Kato the elected council representative. Kiyoko with the support of JSOG and AOFOG will be sending out a survey and I hope you will all participate.

Dr. John Tait
President, AOFOG.

Secretary General's Message



I am happy to inform that the AOFOG President 2024–26 was inducted during AOFOG 2024 in Busan, Korea. We witnessed Dr. John Tait being inducted as the 30th AOFOG President by the outgoing President Prof Pisake Lumbiganon during the Gala dinner.

CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. John Tait. Dr. Tait from New Zealand has the honor of being an AOFOG President from RANZCOG after 31 years. Prof Geoffrey Bishop was the last AOFOG president from RANZCOG in 1991–93.

I thank the outgoing President Prof Pisake Lumbiganon who did a yeoman service to the AOFOG during his presidency concentrating on 4 main burning issues which faced our member countries and women namely, rising caesarean section rates, cervical cancer, environmental pollution and toxins and violence against women. These were addressed through the formation of four working groups. During his term we saw AOFOG releasing statements regarding prevention and management of PPH and also violence against women.



AOFOG 2024

AOFOG 2024 was held very successfully from 16th–20th May 2024, in Busan Korea

The main congress was preceded by the Community Fellowship Programme which was held from 13th–16th May 2024 in Seoul Korea. 20 Young Gynaecology Awardees (YGAs) from 18 member countries of



AOFOG and two Young Gynaecologists nominated by the RCOG participated. The participants had a busy schedule, with lectures, visiting universities, hospitals, community centers and also visiting places of interest such as Gyeongbokgung Palace and the National Museum of Korea. They were also able to visit the Samsung Maternal Fetal Intensive treatment center and the Asian Fetal Therapy center. The programme has been very educative, exciting and enjoyed and appreciated by all the participants. They were not only able to gain much knowledge but were able to have much interaction with each other and develop new friendships.

1413 delegates from 49 countries had registered for the main congress. The 10 countries with the highest participation were Korea, Indonesia, Philippines, Mongolia, India, Bangladesh, Japan, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Taiwan.

There were 12 pre congress workshops conducted by the various AOFOG committees and the local organizing committee along with a workshop organized by the JOGR team and another by the ICOE team from the O & G Society of Malaysia. All the workshops were well attended and had been well received by the participants.

The main Congress was held from the 18th – 20th of May with the participation of FIGO, ACOG, RCOG, EBCOG, IFFS and WHO which enhanced the value of the conference. The well planned scientific programme included 8 Plenary lectures namely the President's lecture delivered by Prof Pisake Lumbiganon, C. T. Hsu Lecture by Prof Kazunori Ochiai, Malaysia Lecture by Prof Bo Jacobson, & the S S Ratnam Lecture by Prof Mahesh Choolani. Prof Anne Kihara, Dr Ranee Takar, Dr. Stella Dantas, Prof Frank Louwen delivering the FIGO, RCOG, ACOG, & EBCOG President's Lectures respectively. In addition, there were 8 Sessions namely the JOGR 50th volume session, FIGO, RCOG, ACOG, EBCOG, IFFS, WHO sessions and the session on PPH – Global Challenge. There were 55 symposia and 11 free communication sessions. Further there were 8 luncheon symposia sponsored by the pharma companies



During the conference AOFOG recommendation on, *“Postpartum Hemorrhage Care Bundle approach to improve the adherence to the WHO guidelines”* & *“The use of Heat Stable Carbetocin (HSC) in the prevention of PPH”* were released and the AOFOG's Declaration on *“Violence Against Women”* was adopted at the inauguration ceremony.

This time 41 YGAs representing 18 countries participated including 2 from the RCOG. This was the first time we had young Gynaecologists from the RCOG which gave an opportunity for our YGAs to interact with those from outside our region. YGAs presented their papers in the YGA session and the best three were awarded prizes at the Gala dinner. The first Prize being the Prof Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran prize.

The Young Scientists award, Yu Ji Murata Award and the Y.S. Chang Award were presented at the inauguration ceremony.

We are happy to note that the organizing committee was able to get the support of 53 Pharmaceutical companies.

I thank all the members of the Local Organising Committee headed by the Congress President Prof Joong Shin Park and his team comprising Congress Vice President Prof. Young Tae Kim, Local Advisory Committee Chair Prof. Emeritus Joo-Hyun Nam, Secretary General & Steering Committee Chair Prof Chulmin Lee, Steering Committee Vice Chair Prof Hoon Kim, Scientific programme Committee Chair Prof Jung Ho Shin, International Affairs Committee Chair Prof Young Tak Kim, YGA committee Chair Prof Jee Yoon Park & the Sponsor & Exhibition Committee Chair Prof. Sooyoung Hur for all their hard work over past several months sacrificing their valuable time under difficult circumstances faced due to the actions of the junior doctors. Our sincere thanks to the

event organizing company headed by Ms. Juhyun Julia Yi, CEO of the Plan Co. who did an excellent job resulting in organizing and completion of the congress so smoothly and successfully.

Meetings.

During the congress Exec board meeting, Council meeting and the General assembly were held. Later the meeting of the New council was held under the Chairmanship of the newly inducted President Dr. John Tait. Further the Executive Board members and Committee chairs for the term 2024 – 26 were elected and approved by the General assembly. My congratulations to all the elected officers.

Further Taiwan Association of O & G was elected to host the AOFOG 2028 uncontested after O & G Society of Malaysia so considerably withdrew their nomination making way to Taiwan. Congratulations to TAOG and I appreciate the admirable gesture of OGSM upholding team spirit.

Action Plan Meeting.

Exec Board meeting and the Action plan meeting of the committee chairs with the Exec board members were held on the 3rd Aug 2024 at the Park Royal Hotel Singapore. I thank Prof Mahesh Choolani, Chair MFM committee for coordinating the organizing of the meetings in Singapore with the support of O & G Society of Singapore. I thank the President OGSS, Asst: Professor Dr Jason Lim for his assistance in organising the meetings and for participating in the Exec board meeting to welcome everyone. I thank the President and the officers of OGSS for hosting the AOFOG officers for dinner. A special thanks to Ms. Jannet of OGSS whose assistance was invaluable in the organising of the event. [Read more...](#)

FOGSI, South Zone VP conference

This International FOGSI South zone Vice President's Conference was held from 18th – 21st July 2024 at Hotel Kaldan Samudh Mahabalipuram, India. Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa and Dr. U. D. P. Ratnasiri represented the AOFOG. Dr. Jaydeep Tank, Chair AOFOG YGAA committee, and President FOGSI was the Chief Guest. I thank Dr. Charmila Ayyavoo, Vice President FOGSI for accommodating an AOFOG session at the Congress and for the warm hospitality offered to the AOFOG participants

POGI Conference

27th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Indonesian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ISOG /POGI) was held in Kupang, Nusa Tenggara Timur from 18–24 July 2024 under the Theme "Culture, Tradition and Digital Challenge in Maternal Care". It was encouraging to see many organisations in addition to AOFOG, including, RCOG, RANZCOG) and World Health Organization (WHO) joining the conference. Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa represented AOFOG and delivered a lecture. The conference was well attended with more than 2800 participants. It was a very informative conference filled with many exciting and enjoyable social programmes. The closing ceremony was very impressive and was good for other societies to follow. The conference helped to enhance the relationship between POGI and AOFOG

I Congratulate and thank Budi Wiweko who is the President Elect of POGI and the Chair AOFOG REI committee for the excellent organization of the conference and for involving AOFOG and for the very warm hospitality extended.

Committee Activities

Committee activities are described in detail in the reports of the Committee chairs.

- I. [Maternal and Fetal Medicine Committee](#)
- II. [Oncology Committee](#)
- III. [Reproductive health and Infertility Committee](#)
- IV. [Ultrasound Committee](#)
- V. [Sexual & Reproductive health Committee](#)

I conclude looking forward to more collaborative activities between AOFOG and the member Societies.

Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa,
Secretary General, AOFOG.

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The 27th Annual Scientific Meeting of Indonesian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ISOG) 2024

The 27th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Indonesian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ISOG / POGI) was held in Kupang, Nusa Tenggara Timur from 18–24 July 2024. The event consists of symposiums, workshops, and scientific competitions. It is a notorious event which was attended by more than 2800 people consisting of students, general practitioners, and obstetrics and gynecology specialists from all over Indonesia, through offline and online attendance.

The theme of this year's event is "Culture, Tradition and Digital Challenge in Maternal Care". This theme invites ISOG (POGI) members to be prepared to face the cultural and social differences in Indonesian society which are increasingly visible in this digital era. This event was also attended by various international organizations such as Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG), Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RCOG), Royal Australian and New Zealand of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RANZCOG), and World Health Organization (WHO). RCOG and RANZCOG presented a lecture via pre-record video. Professor Hassan Shehata from RCOG presented a lecture titled "Update on Recurrent Miscarriages". Meanwhile RANZCOG were giving 2 lectures titled "Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy" and "Global Women's Health" which were delivered by Professor Amanda Henry PhD MPH FRANZCOG B.Med Sci DDU (O&G) and Dr. Gillian Gibson respectively. Dr. Pro-Lin Chan as a WHO representative presented a lecture titled "Triple Elimination / EMTCT" online via zoom. Professor Nao Suzuki who is the current president of International Society of Fertility Preservation (ISFP) from Japan was also attending this event. He presented a lecture titled "Recent Topics on Ovarian Tissue Vitrification and Ovarian Tissue Transplantation for CAYA Cancer Patients".

On the second day of the symposium, Tuesday, July 23 2024, Professor Rohana Nalin Haththotuwa MBBS, MS (O&G), FICOG (Hon), FSLCOG, FRCOG as the General Secretary of AOFOG presented a lecture titled "Heavy Menstrual Bleeding – Strategies to Best Cure", which attracted the interests of many symposium participants. This lecture highlighted the important steps in the management of heavy menstrual bleeding, especially as applicable by developing countries. This issue is important as until now heavy menstrual bleeding is still commonly experienced by women from all over the world and



across all ages, and may significantly affect the quality of life. His lecture was attended by more than 100 general practitioners and obstetricians and gynecologists.

On Wednesday, July 24 2024, Professor Rohana actively participated in the ILUNI Night event. ILUNI Night is an event organized by the Alumni Association of Universitas Indonesia (Ikatan Alumni Universitas Indonesia). The event aims to bring together alumni for a night of fun, networking, and celebration filled with music, dancing, and other forms of entertainment to ensure a lively and enjoyable experience for all attendees.



On the last day, there was a closing ceremony of the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Indonesian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. It was a memorable and celebratory event. The sequence of activities included announcement of awards, best oral and poster presentations, door prizes, closing speech by the chairman of the annual event, dr. Laurens David Paulus, Sp. OG, Subsp. Onk, FISQua and also Prof. Dr. dr. Budi Wiweko, SpOG. FER, MPH, Int. Aff. RANZCOG, FICRM as president elect of ISOG, officially closed the event with his final remarks, highlighting the key takeaways and encouraging continued collaboration and advancement in the field. At last, there was a traditional dance performance. The ceremony concluded with everyone, dancing together in a traditional Kupang dance. Professor Rohana also joined in the dance, thoroughly enjoying the moment and sharing in the celebration.



During Professor Rohana's visit, there has been a lot of exchange of knowledge and culture. Most importantly, Professor Rohana's support through his participation in this annual event further strengthens the relationship between ISOG (POGI) and AOFOG.

Prof Budi Wiweko,
President Elect, POGI.

MFM Committee Report

The Action Plan Meeting between the Executive Board and the Committee Chairs was held on August 3, 2024, in Singapore.

The new AOFOG MFM Committee for 2024–26 was appointed on June 10, 2024. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri for his exemplary leadership as the past Chair. We are also honoured to invite him to serve as Advisor to our new committee.

The newly formed AOFOG MFM Committee for 2024–2026 includes the following members: A/Prof Mahesh Choolani from Singapore has been elected as the Chair of the AOFOG MFM Committee. The committee members are Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri (Sri Lanka; Advisor), Prof Salma Rouf (Bangladesh), Dr Cheung Ka Wang (Hong Kong), Dr Madhuri Patel (India), Dr M. Alamsyah Aziz (Indonesia), Dr Shintaro Makino (Japan), Dr Vicky Ho Miaw Ping (Malaysia), Dr Shreyashi Aryal (Nepal), Prof Shama Munim (Pakistan), Dr Raul M. Quillamor (Philippines), A/Prof Chanane Wanapirak (Thailand), Prof Firoza Begum (Bangladesh).



Recent past activities for AOFOG MFM Sessions

There were important MFM Sessions at the recent 28th AOFOG Congress in Busan.

Two recommendations prepared by the MFM committee were launched at the AOFOG Summit in Busan South Korea on Management of Postpartum Haemorrhage (PPH).

1. AOFOG recommendation on the use of heat stable carbetocin (HSC) in the prevention of postpartum haemorrhage.
2. AOFOG recommendation on Postpartum Haemorrhage Care Bundle approach to improve adherence to the WHO guidelines.



Few Members of the MFM committee made presentations in the AOFOG congress in Busan South Korea namely:

- Dr UDP Ratnasiri (Sri Lanka) – Placenta accreta spectrum, What is new?
- Dr Firoza Begum (Bangladesh) – Chromosomal aberrations in recurrent pregnancy loss.
- Dr Priti Kumar (India) – Implementation of PPH EMC bundle care approach in South Asian region
- Dr Sherri Anne Suplido (Philippines) – Best practices in management of preterm labour concepts and application in the local settings.
- Dr Mohammad Almsyah Aziz (Indonesia) – Current updates on efforts to elimination of mother to child transmission in Indonesia.

Upcoming planned activities for AOFOG MFM Sessions

1. Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SLCOG) Annual Congress, scheduled to be held in Colombo from August 30th to September 1st, 2024. The details of the AOFOG MFM Session are as follows:

Topic	Speakers
Introduction to the AOFOG	Dr Rohana Haththotuwa Secretary-General AOFOG, Sri Lanka
Artificial Intelligence in Obstetrics and Gynaecology	A/Prof Mahesh Choolani Chair MFM Committee, Singapore
Reducing the Prenatal exposure to toxic environmental agents: The Obstetrician's role	Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri Immediate Past Chair MFM Committee Sri Lanka
Antenatal Screening for Pre-Eclampsia	Dr Vicky Ho Miaw Ping Member MFM Committee, Malaysia

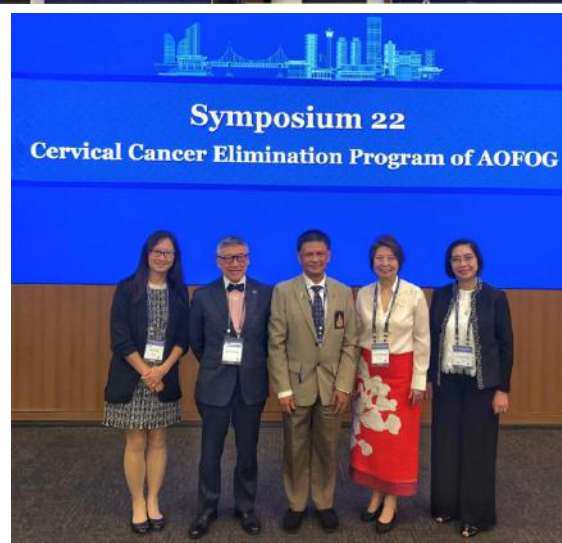
2. The Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (JSOG) Annual Congress, scheduled to be held in Okayama (Japan) from May 23rd to May 25th, 2025. The details of the AOFOG MFM Session are as follows:

Topic	Speakers
Welcome Address	Dr John Tait President, New Zealand
WHO recommendations on antenatal care for a positive pregnancy experience	Prof Pisake Lumbiganon Immediate Past President, Thailand
Placenta accreta spectrum of disorders: What is new?	Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri Immediate Past Chair MFM Committee, Sri Lanka
Postpartum Haemorrhage and Maternal Mortality: from Motive to EMOTIVE	A/Prof Mahesh Choolani Chair MFM Committee, Singapore
Q&A, and to give Concluding Remarks	Dr Rohana Haththotuwa Chairman, Secretary-General, Sri Lanka

A/ Prof. Mahesh Choolani,
MFM Committee Chair, AOFOG

Gynaecological Oncology Committee Report

The 2022–24 Oncology Committee came to the last term. In the AOFOG 2024 conference in Busan, the Oncology Committee held two pre-congress workshops on 17 May 24. The first workshop, *'State-of-the-art of Management of Ovarian Cancer'*, consisted of five lectures and a panel discussion, covering some novel treatment strategies and interesting cases for ovarian cancer (Fig.1). The second workshop, *'Lymph Nodes Dissection'*, had seven lectures, where various aspects related to lymph node dissection in gynecologic cancers and advances in the surgical approach of retroperitoneal lymphadenectomy were discussed (Fig.2). Together with the Cervical Cancer Elimination Working Group, the AOFOG held a special session on the role of AOFOG in cervical cancer elimination on 18 May 24. There were five lectures, including *'Revisiting AOFOG's Call to Action and Commitment on Cervical Cancer Elimination'* by Prof. Christia S. Padolina, *'Regional Guidelines on Cervical Cancer Screening'* by Dr. Jean Toral, *'Regional Guidelines on Cervical Cancer Vaccination'* by Dr. Ka Yu Tse, *'Treatment Facility Setup and Networking'* by Prof. Kazunori Ochiai. *'Summary Facility Setup Recommendations'* by Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa. After the AOFOG conference, Dr. Tse worked with other AOFOG members and drafted a set of AOFOG recommendation statements on HPV vaccination. These will be published in the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research.



Upcoming activities

From Jun 24, the new oncology committee started to take action. Dr. KY Tse, together with Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Dr. Jean Toral, Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, and Dr. Baigalimaa Genden will participate in a cervical cancer prevention workshop held by the Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on 25–27 Sep 24.

The Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong will organize an Annual Scientific Meeting in Hong Kong on 5–6 Oct 24. Dr. John Tait, Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, and Dr. Ka Yu Tse will give three lectures in the AOFOG session. Prof. Wichai Termrungruanglert will also give a separate lecture on *'Triage of HPV positive screening test'* during the meeting.

Vulval and vaginal cancers are relatively rare compared to other gynaecological cancers like

endometrial and cervical cancers. There is a lack of experience in many centers. Hence, the oncology committee will organize a webinar on 'Update of Management of Lower Genital Tract Malignancies' in Nov 24. Dr. Ai Ling Tan, Dr. Mandy Chu, Dr. Ka Yu Tse and others will review the current management of some controversial topics in these rare cancers.

Lastly, as the treatment of gynaecological cancers is getting more complex and yet there is a discrepancy in the knowledge, skills, resources and practices in different regions, there is a need of collaborative work on different aspects in our region, such as training, research, establishment of guidelines and so on. Dr. Ka Yu Tse is invited to give a talk for the session 'ASGO & Collaborators: Can We Make Synergy?' during the Asian Society of Gynecologic Oncology 2024 9th International Workshop. The work of AOFOG oncology committee will be introduced, and potential collaboration opportunities will be discussed.

AOFOG 2024 Busan Pre-congress Workshop 4 - State-of-the-art of Management of Ovarian Cancer

Chair(s)

Ka Yu TSE (Hong Kong)
Sarikapan WILAILAK (Thailand)

09:00-09:25	W3-1 Assessment Tools for Predicting Platinum Sensitivity in Advanced Ovarian Cancer Ka Yu TSE (Hong Kong)
09:25-09:50	W3-2 Benefits and Other Functions of PARPi in Epithelial Ovarian Cancer Tsukasa BABA (Japan)
09:50-10:10	W3-3 Tumor Molecular Landscape of Ovarian Clear Cell Carcinoma Nozomu YANAIHARA (Japan)
10:10-10:30	W3-4 Strategies to Overcome Resistance to PARP Inhibitors Satoru KYO (Japan)
10:30-10:45	Q&A
10:45-11:45	W3-5 Opportunity of Immunotherapy in Advanced Ovarian Cancer Se Ik KIM (Korea, Republic of)
11:45-12:00	Panel Discussion



Figure 1

AOFOG 2024 Busan Pre-congress Workshop 11 - Lymph Node Dissection

Chair(s)

Ka Yu TSE (Hong Kong)
Kirtipal SUBEDI (Nepal)

14:00-14:25	W9-1 Algorithm and Techniques of Sentinel Lymph Node Mapping in Endometrial Ca Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN (Hong Kong)
14:25-14:50	W9-2 Management of Isolated Tumor Cells in Sentinel Lymph Node Ting Chang CHANG (Taiwan)
14:50-15:10	W9-3 Management of Enlarged Groin Node in Vulva Cancer Mandy Man Yee CHU (Hong Kong)
15:10-15:30	W9-4 The Need for Para-aortic Lymphadenectomy in Cervical Cancer Tricia Dewi ANGGRAENI (Indonesia)
15:30-16:00	Q&A and Break
16:00-16:30	W9-5 Robotic Para-aortic Lymphadenectomy Jiheum PAEK (Korea, Republic of)
16:30-17:00	W9-6 Single-Port Approach for Lymphadenectomy Chi Heum CHO (Korea, Republic of)
17:00-17:30	W9-7 Lymphadenectomy Using vNOTES Approach Hee Seung KIM (Korea, Republic of)



Figure 2

Dr. Ka Yu Tse

Gynaecological Oncology Committee Chair, AOFOG.

REI Committee Report

On 15 August 2024 the AOFOG REI committee members conducted an online meeting through Zoom meeting. This virtual gathering was an important step in advancing the committee's strategic initiatives and involved a detailed discussion on the future plans for the various REI committee programs. A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to deliberating the development and implementation of two key programs: the REI Fellowship Program and the AOFOG Campus Program.

During the session, the committee members engaged in an in-depth dialogue about the program timelines, objectives, and other considerations regarding the program. The discussion focused on optimizing the structure and content of the fellowship program to ensure it meets the educational needs of emerging specialists in reproductive endocrinology and infertility. The meeting was marked by active participation from all members, who contributed valuable insights and perspectives on how to effectively execute and monitor the progress of these programs.



Updates regarding future activities

The REI committee have a total of four programs: AOFOG consensus of REI management, REI fellowship program, AOFOG campus on REI, and AOFOG study on REI.

The next agenda on the REI Committee timeline is the AOFOG campus on REI program, in which the first of the series is scheduled on Thursday, 12 September 2024 01.00–03.00 pm (GMT +7) through the Zoom webinar platform. The topic for the webinar is “Ovarian Aging”, with Budi Wiweko who will discuss about the “Concept of ovarian aging”, Ben Mol who will discuss about the “Evidence on Ovarian aging management”, and discussion focusing on the “Treatment of ovarian aging” by Miyuki Harada. After the topic of ovarian aging, the next AOFOG campus on REI program will highlight other topics such as amenorrhea management and disorder of sexual development, infertility management, fertility preservation, and polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS). The REI committee plans to do in-person AOFOG campus on REI in

Timeline of Program



No	Program	Year		
		2024	2025	2026
1	AOFOG campus Ovarian Aging (online) Population crisis in Asia Oceania (online)	September 12 th (online)	March / April	
2	AOFOG campus (in person) PCOS		January 24 th -25 th In person meeting Bali / Yogyakarta	
3	AOFOG consensus on REI Infertility management		Launch	
4	AOFOG fellowship on REI Taiwan India			
5	AOFOG study on REI Menopause			Launch Publish
6	O and G National society meeting			

January 2025, in Bali/Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Future events that will be held calls for potential collaboration with other international organization or society in the field of REI, along with the support from pharmacy companies

Article of message from the committee regarding new interesting developments which would be of help to our members, to be included in the newsletter.

The AOFOG Reproductive Endocrinology Infertility (REI) Committee is dedicated to addressing and mitigating the challenges associated with reproductive endocrinology and infertility, particularly in the context of the ongoing population crisis and aging issues prevalent in the Asia Oceania region. The committee's objective is to effectively bridge the existing gaps in knowledge and practice within this field to support better reproductive health outcomes. To achieve these ambitious goals, the REI Committee has developed and is actively implementing four key programs. These include the AOFOG Consensus of REI Management, which aims to standardize and disseminate best practices in reproductive endocrinology and infertility management across the region; the REI Fellowship Program, designed to provide advanced training and education to emerging specialists in the field; the AOFOG Campus on REI, an initiative focused on creating a collaborative educational platform for sharing knowledge and fostering professional development; and the AOFOG Study on REI, which seeks to conduct critical research and gather data to inform evidence-based practices and policies. In addition to these core programs, the REI Committee is committed to expanding its reach and impact by exploring and establishing potential collaborations with other organizations, institutions, and pharmaceutical companies. This collaborative approach is intended to enhance resource sharing, innovation, and collective efforts to tackle the complex issues surrounding reproductive health in the region.

Prof. Budi Wiweko,
REI Committee Chair, AOFOG.

Ultrasound Committee Report

Nominations and formation of the Ultrasound Committee

Nominations were received from the majority of the National Societies to AOFOG. After much deliberation and, taking into consideration the various skills of the nominees and ensuring a diverse representation, the following members were appointed to the committee:

Chairperson	Dr Voon Hian Yan (Malaysia)
Advisor	Dr Nelinda Pangilinan (Philippines)
Zone 1 (East Asia) Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China, HK, Mongolia	Prof Ja-Young Kwon Prof Kiyotake Ichizuka Dr Yarinpil Khisigsuren
Zone 2 (Oceania) RANZCOG, Papua New Guinea, Fiji	-
Zone 3 (ASEAN) Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia	Dr M. Adrianes Bachnas A/Prof Thitima Suntharasaj Dr Lyra Ruth Clemente-Chua
Zone 4 (West Asia) India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka	Dr Rosina Manandhar Prof Nishat Zohra Dr Asha Baxi

The first Committee meeting was held on 28th June 2024 to discuss the direction of the committee in next two years and activities which would benefit the respective national societies.

Planned activities

The Ultrasound Committee is in the process of finalizing an outreach with the team led by Prof Khin May Thin, President of the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society Myanmar Medical Association (OGSMMA) in November 2024.

The committee is also laying preliminary ground work to organize on-site training in Nepal and Mongolia in the first and second quarter of 2025 as well.

National Societies who feel that their members may benefit from such academic exchanges or training may reach out and engage AOFOG.

Dr. Hian Yan Voon

Ultra Sound Committee Chair, AOFOG

SRH Committee Report

A. 66th All India Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AICOG 2024)

The Obstetrics and Gynaecological Society of Hyderabad has organized the AICOG 2024 on January 6–10, 2024, at Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Hyderabad, India. Over 10,000 participants have joined this event.

Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, president AOFOG, Prof. Joong Shin Park, Treasurer AOFOG and Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn, Chair of the SRH Committee were invited to take part in the FOGSI–AOFOG session “Compilation of top issues for women’s health”, which was organized by SRH Committee on January 8, 2024.

The Chairpersons for this session were and Dr. Jaydeep Tank, Dr. Madhuri Patel, Dr. Alpesh Gandhi and Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General AOFOG.

Topics and speakers in this session were as follows:

- Effect of climate change on SRH: What should ObGyn do? By Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon (Thailand)
- Early and accurate prediction of gestational diabetes by Prof. Joong Shin Park (Korea)
- Tips for dealing with bone loss during menopause transition by Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand)

Topics related to clinical practice have drawn an attention from more than 150 attendees. There was a fruitful discussion between the speakers and the audience.



Dealing with bone loss during menopause transition by Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn MD, MHS

Osteoporosis, characterized by low bone mass and increased fracture risk is a common disease in postmenopausal women. This asymptomatic skeletal disease is often under diagnosed and undertreated. A prevalence of 30% of osteopenia and 17% of osteoporosis have been reported in Thai women.

Most women reach their peak bone mass at age 30–35, after which bone loss occurs gradually. Bone resorption begins increasing 2 years before the final menstrual period, peaks approximately 1.5 years after that, and then plateaus. This period of menopause transition is critical for bone health, with rapid losses in bone mass and strength occurring in a 3-year window bracketing the date of the final menstrual period. Declines in bone mass are accompanied by deleterious changes in bone macrostructure and microarchitecture, which may be captured by changes in composite strength indices and indices of trabecular thickness and connectivity. The onset of the rapid bone loss phase is preceded by changes in sex steroid hormones and increases in markers of bone resorption, measurements of which may be clinically useful in predicting the onset of the rapid loss phase.

Fractures during the menopause transition are not uncommon, although women are still in midlife and very few meet criteria for osteoporosis. These findings point to the importance of early screening and intervention to ward off osteoporosis and fractures in later years. FRAX has been widely used for osteoporosis screening in midlife while BMD measurement should be considered in some women at earlier age than recommended in most guidelines.

The importance of life style modification and a healthy diet cannot be ignored, especially the need to maintain an adequate calcium and vitamin D intake. Currently approved pharmacologic prevention and/or treatment options for osteoporosis in midlife women include estrogen and selective estrogen–receptor modulators (SERMs), Choice of treatment should be based on a balance of benefit, risk and cost.

B. 76th Annual Congress of Japan Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology (JSOG 2024)

The Japan Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology has organized an annual congress on April 19–21, 2024 in Yokohama, Japan. Almost 3,600 participants including 80 international participants have joined this event.

The SRH Committee and VAW Working Group have been invited to organize an AOFOG session “SRHR in Asia & Oceania” in this congress on 19 April 2024.

The Chairpersons for this session were Prof. Kazunori Ochiai, Immediate Past President AOFOG and Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General AOFOG

Welcome address was delivered by Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, President AOFOG and Prof. Kiyoko Kato, Chairperson of the Executive Board, Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Topics and speakers in this session were as follows:

- Violence Against Women: Roles of ObGyn in the hidden epidemic by Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand)
- The importance of Preconception & Interconception care by Prof. Kirsten Black (Australia)
- Revisiting additional benefits of hormonal contraception by Prof. Osamu Hiraike (Japan)
- Adolescent HPV Vaccination: Need of the hour by Prof. Krishnendu Gupta (India)

The session successfully addressed important issues of SRHR in Asia & Oceania. Local and international delegates have joined this session.

C. 28th Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology Congress (AOFOG 2024)

During the AOFOG 2024 which was held in Busan, Korea on 16–20 May, 2024, the SRH Committee and VAW Working Group have participated in many scientific sessions.

Workshop – Violence Against Women: Roles of Ob/Gyn in the Hidden Epidemic

On May 17, 2024, the AOFOG SRH Committee, in collaboration with VAW Working Group, organized an interactive workshop “Violence Against Women: Roles of Ob/Gyn in the Hidden Epidemic” at the BEXCO, Busan, Korea. The workshop was an integral part of the ongoing effort to address and mitigate violence against women in the region. Key topics covered during the workshop included:

- Understanding Violence Against Women: Presented by Dr. Jiayu Li (Thailand), this session provided an in-depth overview of the issue.
- Role of Ob/Gyn in Violence Against Women: Step by step: Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand) discussed the specific responsibilities and interventions by Ob/Gyn professionals.
- Fighting against Violence Against Women in AOFOG Region: Supporting and strengthening strategies: Dr. Jaydeep Tank (India) shared strategies being implemented in the AOFOG region.

The workshop concluded with a case discussion and Q&A session, offering participants a platform to engage and share their experiences and insights.

Symposium – AOFOG’s Initiative on Violence Against Women

On May 18, 2024, the AOFOG SRH Committee and VAW Working Group hosted a symposium “AOFOG’s Initiative on Violence Against Women” at the BEXCO, Busan, Korea. This symposium was a significant milestone in promoting the AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women, which was officially announced on the same day during the 28th Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Congress. The symposium featured the following key topics:

- No to Violence Against Women DHEERA: Presented by Prof. Shanta Kumari (India), this session highlighted ongoing initiatives to combat violence against women.
- Sexual Violence Against Women: Follow-Up Care in Indonesia: Dr. Soerjo Hadijono (Indonesia) discussed the follow-up care strategies implemented in Indonesia.
- Situation of Violence Against Women in AOFOG Region: Dr. Jiayu Li (Thailand) provided a



comprehensive overview of the current situation in the region.

- AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women: Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand) elaborated on the contents and significance of the declaration.

Symposium – Contraception

On 19 May, 2024, the SRH committee has joined a symposium “Contraception” in this congress. The Chairpersons for this session were Dr. Vijay Roach, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) and Dr. John Teo, SRH Committee Member AOFOG.

Topics and speakers included:

- LARCs, The Way Forward 2024 by Dr. John Teo, (Malaysia)
- Recent Discoveries in Hormonal Contraception by Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn, (Thailand)
- Postpartum Contraception: Current Situation and Action by Prof. Kirsten Black, (Australia)
- Family Planning and Contraception Clinical Guideline in Indonesia by Dr. Riyan Hari Kurniawan, (Indonesia)

D. AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women

On May 18, 2024, during the 28th Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Congress in Busan, Korea, Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn, the AOFOG SRH Committee Chair, proudly represented AOFOG to speak on AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women during the opening ceremony. This pivotal declaration is a significant step towards addressing violence against women across the Asia–Oceania region. The declaration emphasizes the importance of international cooperation, the establishment of strong legal frameworks, and the need for comprehensive public education and healthcare support. The announcement marks a milestone in AOFOG’s commitment to ensuring a safer future for women in the region.



E. Invited manuscript – AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women

This invited manuscript, commissioned by the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research, outlines AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women. It presents a detailed framework for addressing violence against women across Asia and Oceania. The manuscript emphasizes the importance of regional cooperation, the adoption of international guidelines, and the engagement

of national societies and healthcare professionals in creating strong legal frameworks, enhancing public education, and providing comprehensive services. The declaration seeks to foster a safer and more equitable environment for women in the region and serves as a vital tool for advocacy and action.

F. Regional survey – Violence Against Women (VAW) in Asia and Oceania region

The VAW Working Group continues its work on a multi-country survey on violence against women, focusing on reproductive-aged women and medical staff. Data collection has been completed for reproductive-aged women in Thailand, and efforts are now focused on collecting data from medical staff. Preparations for data collection in other countries are also underway. This survey will provide valuable insights into the prevalence and impact of violence against women, helping to inform strategies and interventions across the region.

Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn.

Sexual & Reproductive Health Committee Chair, AOFOG

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Member Society News Corner

1. Mongolian Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (MFOG)

The Mongolian Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (MFOG), in collaboration with the Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG) and Gynecologists and the trainers from the Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM) have successfully organized an Intensive Course of Obstetric Emergency (ICOE). The training was held at the Intermed Hospital, located in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from August 10 to August 13, 2024.



- I. Day 1 Training of Trainee (TOT) course in "Emergency Obstetrics".
- II. Day 2 training course for training obstetricians and gynecologists as trainers of referral health institutions.

Ten doctors from hospitals participated in the Training of Trainee (TOT) on the first day of the event. ICOE trainers transferred their teaching skills for local ICOE trainers and thanks to ICOE trainers, Mongolian trainers enhanced their teaching skills in line with updated obstetric emergency training program.



The training was conducted by the following teachers from the Malaysia:

- Dr. Hii Ling Yien, Obstetrician and Gynecologist
- Dr. Sim Wee Wee, Obstetrician and Gynecologist
- Dr. Angela Chin, Obstetrician and Gynecologist
- Dr. Prema Latha Supramaniam, Obstetrician and Gynecologist
- Dr. Nantharuban Rajoo, Obstetrician and Gynecologist

Second part of the mission was conducting the full ICOE course in Ulaanbaatar to acquire updated knowledge and hands on skills in obstetric emergency situations. The course facilitated the utilization of training tools, mannikins and information technology and also it has been highlighted that participant-centered training was focused on how to improve their knowledge, and skills.

In the future, local trainers, in cooperation with the MFOG and UNFPA, will conduct the Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (B-EMONC) training for medical professionals from selected provincial health institutions.

Dr. Ts. Urjindelger, President of MFOG, and Dr. Christia Padolina, Treasurer of AOFOG, spoke at the opening of the training.

Total 23 O&G doctors from the Mongolian National University of Medical Science, School of Medicine and School of Nursing, National Center for Maternal and Child Health, MCH –2 center, Urguu maternity hospital; Provincial General Hospitals at Darkhan-Uul, Dundgobi, Zavkhan, Tov, Khentii provinces; Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Centers at Orkhon and Umnogobi provinces, private hospitals such as Gurvan-qal, Intermed and others participated in the ICOE.



Before and end of the training, the teachers assessed how the participants performed on the practice test at various stations.

Station name	Name of doctors
Skill Station 1: Complicated Caesarean	Dr Prema Latha Supramaniam
Skill Station 2: PPH Non-Surgical Techniques	Dr Sim Wee Wee
Skill Station 3: Shoulder Dystocia	Dr Sarantsatsral
Skill Station 4: Estimation of Blood Loss	Dr Lkhagva-Ochir
Skill Station 5: Maternal Resuscitation	Dr Angela Chin Yeung Sing
Skill Station 6: B-Lynch Sutures	Dr Hii Ling Yien
Skill Station 7: Vaginal Breech Delivery	Dr Nantharuban Rajoo
Skill Station 8: Communication & Transfer	Dr Bolorchimeg

As a result of the training, the participants practiced through the stations such as management of maternal unconscious cases, seizure management, eclampsia, and pre-eclampsia protocols, measures to be taken during obstetric bleeding, uterine hemostasis, fetal monitoring, fetal shoulder dystocia, breech presentation, uterine prolapse, as well as assisted birth management. This helped Mongolian trainees to strengthen their knowledge and hands-on skills and also acquire teamwork skills.

Dr. Ts. Urjindelger,
President, MFOG.

2. News from the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Singapore (OGSS)

Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Singapore (OGSS) has been a member society of Asia Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG) for many years, and several of our members have previously taken up executive positions in AOFOG. We are again extremely proud to have Professor Mahesh Choolani, a distinguished academician and outstanding clinician, to represent Singapore in the current AOFOG Council as the Chair of Maternal Fetal Medicine Division. This close working partnership between AOFOG and OGSS remains the cornerstone of advancing the practice of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Singapore and around the Region with our counterpart societies.

It was an immense pleasure and honour for the OGSS to host the AOFOG Executive Board and Committee for the Action Plan Meeting on 2 to 3 August 2024 at Parkroyal Hotel Singapore. We are deeply grateful that AOFOG chose Singapore as your preferred venue for this cardinal gathering.

During this 2-day visit, the President of OGSS (Asst Professor Dr Jason Lim) and his council members had the great opportunity to meet up with the key appointment holders on the executive board including the President of AOFOG (Professor John David Tait) and the Committee Chairs. Old friendships were renewed and new ones were forged over meetings and dinners as meaningful updates of each other's activities and initiatives were exchanged. Productive ideas for potential future collaborations were also raised during these exchanges.



OGSS sincerely appreciates AOFOG's collegial friendship and the professional recognition of OGSS within the Asia and Oceania Region. AOFOG's trust in our society is highly valued, and we are truly committed to continuing to strengthen our ties and bonds with AOFOG.

We look forward to exploring future partnership opportunities and collaborating closely with you to advance our shared goals.

Thank you once again for your support and for making this meeting a success.



Welcome Dinner Hosted by OGSS – 2nd August



*Thank You Dinner Hosted by AOFOG
3rd August*

Asst Professor Dr Jason Lim,
President, OGSS

3. News from RANZCOG

RANZCOG collaborates with Pacific partners to build O&G workforce capacity in Pacific Island countries through support for training, education and research. One such partner is the Pacific Society for Reproductive Health (PSRH), an Auckland-based non-government organisation that is engaged in the education of the Pacific reproductive health workforce as well as advocacy for women's health in the Pacific. RANZCOG Fellows, including the late Dr Brian Spurrett, helped establish PSRH in 1993. Since then, RANZCOG and PSRH have a shared history in the Pacific, working closely together for many years to contribute to the professional development of Pacific doctors, midwives and nurses delivering health care to women.



Dr Gillian Gibson and Dr Kara Okesene-Gafa

Every two years, PSRH holds a conference in a Pacific Island country, the only event of its kind dedicated to Pacific women's health, and thus key to professional development, connection and collaboration in the Pacific. The PSRH 15th Biennial Conference was held in Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand from 18–22 March 2024. With the theme of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights in the Pacific: A Changing Climate, A Resilient Pacific People, the conference brought together approximately 270 delegates from across the Pacific to share current evidence and develop skills to address the unique challenges that climate change poses to Pacific clinicians in the delivery of sexual and reproductive health care to women.

RANZCOG's support for this conference included event management expertise and assistance, as well as participation of key RANZCOG representatives. President Dr Gillian Gibson, Vice-President Dr Susan Fleming, CEO Ms Vase Jovanoska, RANZCOG representative on the PSRH Board Dr Rebecca Mitchell, and RANZCOG staff attended the conference. Emeritus Professor Peter Stone delivered the Brian Spurrett Oration during the opening ceremony. The RANZCOG Brian Spurrett Fellowship supported a midwife from Papua New Guinea to attend the conference.

The PSRH 16th Biennial Conference will be held in September 2026 in Tonga.

4. Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society Myanmar Medical Association (OGSMMA)

OBSTETRICAL AND GYNAECOLOGICAL SOCIETY MYANMAR MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (OGSMMA)



Group of delegates from OGS MMA, led by society president Prof Khin May Thin attended 28th congress of AOFOG in Busan, Korea from 18th to 22nd May 2024

Obstetric Emergencies Training Program for House officers and Junior doctors took place on August 13th and 14th, 2024 at Medical skills, Simulation and Research Center, University of Medicine 1 Yangon.

Participants in the training program gained valuable knowledge and skills.



OGS MMA Executive Member Meeting was held in Central Women's Hospital on August 16th, 2024 for further professional development and international training of junior members.



5. Activities of Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (NESOG)

Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Population, Department of Health Services and Family Welfare Division, commemorated “World Breastfeeding Week 2024” with the theme “Closing the Gap” through the organization of an interactive session. The event was held for NESOG members at Hotel Marriott, Nepal and to the private sector at Nepal Medical College, Jorpati, Kathmandu in August 2024.



The objectives of the interaction program were,

- To inform national policies and strategies for Nepal's promotion, Protection, and support of breastfeeding status.
- To overview the Breast Milk Substitute Act (Sales and Distribution Control), 2049
- To overview Lactation Management in Nepal.

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From the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecological Research (The AOFOG Journal)

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 6 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated; and below Editor's choice articles from this issue is free **until the end of July 2024**.

- Current understanding of the pathogenesis of placenta accreta spectrum disorder with focus on mitochondrial function. (*Hiroshi Kobayashi, Sho Matsubara, Chiharu Yoshimoto, Hiroshi Shigetomi, Shogo Imanaka*) <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15936>
- The effect of levothyroxine and prednisolone treatment on pregnancy in in vitro fertilization patients with positive thyroid autoantibodies. (*Zahid Agaoglu, Munire Funda Cevher Akdulum, Merve Ozturk Agaoglu, Konul Mursel, Recep Onur Karabacak*) <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jog.15926>

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 7 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated; and below Editor's choice articles from this issue is free **until the end of August 2024**.

- Effect of anti-thyroid antibodies on recurrent miscarriage: A meta-analysis. (*Hongyan Song, Tianwei Cui, Shaoqi Shi, Huidongzi Xiao, Aiwu Wei*) <https://doi.org/10.1111/jog.15944>

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 8 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated; and below Editor's choice articles from this issue are **Open Access**.

- Impact of human papillomavirus types on uterine cervical neoplasia. (*Ayumi Taguchi, Daisuke Yoshimoto, Misako Kusakabe, Satoshi Baba, Akira Kawata, Yuichiro Miyamoto, Mayuyo Mori, Kenbun Sone, Yasushi Hirota, Yutaka Osuga*) <https://doi.org/10.1111/jog.15995>
- Impact of the difference in diagnostic criteria for adolescent polycystic ovary syndrome excluding polycystic ovarian morphology. (*Yuko Hasegawa, Yoshikazu Kitahara, Mio Kobayashi, Miki Miida, Hitomi Neno, Yumiko Tsukui, Madoka Iizuka, Hikaru Hiraishi, Satoko Nakazato, Akira Iwase*) <https://doi.org/10.1111/jog.15975>

JOGR Volume 50, Issue 6, 7 & 8 has been published and Editor's choice has been updated here; <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14470756/current>
[https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1447-0756.editors-choice](https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1111/(ISSN)1447-0756.editors-choice)

Prof. Hiroaki Kajiyama.

Editor in Chief, JOGR, AOFOG

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