

NEWSLETTER

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8TH ANNUAL CONGRESS ON OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY OF MONGOLIA SUCCESSFULLY HELD IN ULAANBAATAR.....

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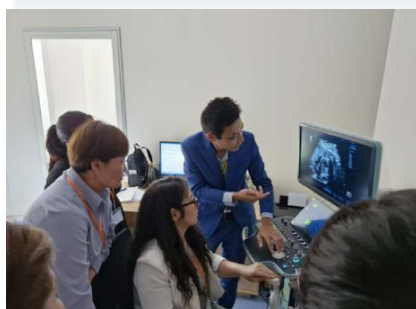


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I hope you and your families are doing well.....



The past three months have been an exceptionally busy and fulfilling.....



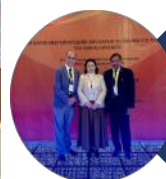
Ultra Sound Committee



REI Committee



MFM Committee



Member
Society Corner



JOGR

AOFOG Committee Chairs 2024/2026

Maternal & Fetal Medicine

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Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn
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Ultrasound

Dr. Voon Hian Yan
(Malaysia)

Urogynaecology

A/Prof. Lisa T. Prodigalidad
Jabson
(Philippines)

Fellowship selection

Prof. Yu-Shih Yang
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YGAA

Dr. Jaydeep Tank
(India)

President's Message



Dear AOFOG friends and colleagues,

I hope you and your families are doing well in these unsettled times. Since the last newsletter my activities have included being part of the AOFOG session at the EBCOG congress in Frankfurt with Professor Pisake Lumbiganon. I also presented a report on AOFOG activities to The FIGO council meeting held immediately after the congress. A Welcome Address to the AOFOG–POGS meeting on the elimination of Cervical Cancer organised by Dr Christia Padolina, a Welcome Address to the AOFOG–ASGO Gyn Onc research workshop, and a Welcome Address in the AOFOG session at the 33rd International Scientific conference of the OGSB.

During these past three months the importance of collaboration and partnership in achieving the goal of AOFOG in improving the health, the health outcomes and wellness of the women in our region has never been more critical.

Collaboration with our national societies through education and advocacy and partnership with JPHIEGO, WHO, FIGO ACOG RCOG to mention a few. We continue to work together to achieve the elimination of Cervical cancer, The Optimisation of Caesarean section rates, Climate change, the AOFOG declaration on Violence against Women, and Gender equity.

“The AOFOG declaration on Violence against women. A regional call to action for Asia and Oceania” manuscript has been accepted for publication in the JOGR. Congratulations to the authors and Prof Unnop Jaisamrarn Chair of the SRH committee.

A very important part of AOFOG are the Mizuno–Ratnam Young Gynaecologists Awards. I would strongly recommend that the national societies put their nominations in as soon as possible. I would like to thank Dr Rohana Haththotuwa the Secretary–General, Flora and Nimali the secretariat, The executive board and the Committee chairs for their dedication and hard work. Finally, I would like to thank you for the work you do to improve the health outcomes for women, babies and mothers in the region.

Kindest regards,

Dr John Tait
President AOFOG

Secretary General's Message



The past three months have been an exceptionally busy and fulfilling period for AOFOG, with several important national society conferences and collaborative activities taking place across the region. These events have once again demonstrated the strength of our partnerships, the quality of academic exchange, and the warmth of collegiality that characterizes our Federation.

Mongolia O&G Society Conference

The **8th Annual Congress of the Mongolian Federation of O&G** was held on 14th June 2025 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, in collaboration with AOFOG under the theme *"Advancing Maternal Fetal Medicine."*

AOFOG was well represented, with Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa speaking on *Redefining Intrapartum Care*, Prof. Mahesh Choolani (Chair, MFM Committee) on *Improving Outcomes of Sepsis*, and Dr. Voon Hian Yan (Chair, Ultrasound Committee) on *Reducing Mortality from Late Preterm and Term Preeclampsia*. In the research session, Dr. Aditya Kusuma (Ultrasound Committee Member) delivered a valuable lecture on *Ultrasound and Genetics in CNS*.

A **Pre-Congress Workshop on Fetal Cardiology** was successfully conducted on 13th June at the National Center for Maternal and Child Health, led by Dr. Voon Hian Yan with colleagues from the Mongolian O&G Society. The hands-on demonstrations were very well received.

I warmly congratulate MFOG President Prof. Urjindelger Tserensambuu and Dr. Narmandakh Suld for organizing an excellent congress with remarkable participation. The enthusiasm of delegates, who stayed engaged until the very end of the program, was truly inspiring. My sincere thanks also for the gracious hospitality extended to AOFOG.

OGSM 2025 – Malaysia

The **32nd International Congress of the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM 2025)** took place from 10–13 July in Penang under the theme *"Optimising OBGYN."*

AOFOG was invited to organize a session titled *"From Preconception to Early Life: Challenges and Opportunities,"* coordinated by Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Chair, SRH Committee). Contributions included:

- Dr. Angeline Wong Tze Yin – *Clinical Approach to Reproductive life Planning*
- Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn – *Optimizing Nutrition from Preconception to the First 1,000 Days*
- Assoc. Prof. Mahesh Choolani – *Navigating the Complexities of Early Pregnancy*
- Prof. Krishnendu Gupta (Deputy Secretary General) – *Violence Against Women: Roles of ObGyn*

The session was highly informative and well attended.

At the Gala Dinner, we witnessed the installation of **Dr. R.M. Udayar Pandian Ramachandhiran** as the new President of OGSM, succeeding **Dr. Muniswaran Ganeshan**. We congratulate Dr. Ramachandhiran and extend our appreciation to Dr. Muniswaran for his highly successful term and his collaborative work with AOFOG. Our thanks also go to Dr. Ravichandran (Past President, AOFOG) for his support throughout the congress.

POGI 2025 – Indonesia

The **19th Congress of the Indonesian Society of Obstetric and Gynecology (KOGI)** was held from 17–23 July 2025 in Bali with over 3,000 delegates in attendance. The theme was *“Advancements in Maternal and Reproductive Health Through Technology, Digital Innovations, and Education.”*

AOFOG organized a special session on *“Elimination of Cervical Cancer in the AOFOG Region,”* with presentations on:

- *Current Status of the 90–70–90 in Indonesia* – Dr. Tofan Widya Utami
- *AOFOG Recommendations on HPV Vaccination* – Dr. Christia Padolina
- *AOFOG Perspective on the 90–70–90* – Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa

The congress was a resounding success with outstanding academic content and memorable social events.

We extend our congratulations to **Prof. Budi Wiveko** on his induction as President of POGI. Prof. Wiveko, who also chairs the AOFOG REI Committee, is a great source of pride for our Federation.

Our gratitude also goes to Prof. Ari Kusuma, Prof. Andon Hestiantoro, and the POGI leadership for their warm hospitality.

OGSB 2025 – Bangladesh

The **33rd International Conference of the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB)** was held on 1–2 August 2025 in Dhaka, drawing over 1,300 participants. AOFOG was honored to conduct a dedicated session organized by Prof. Krishnendu Gupta (Deputy Secretary General).

The session featured:

- Welcome Address – Dr. John Tai (President, AOFOG – recorded)
- *Climate Change and Us: An Overview* – Prof. Krishnendu Gupta
- *Role of Environmental Toxins on Reproductive Health* – Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri
- *Role of OBGYNs, National Societies, and International Federations* – Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa

A **Pre-Congress Workshop on Placenta Accreta Spectrum (PAS)** was conducted led by Dr. Ratnasiri and Prof. Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran included live surgical demonstrations, by Dr. Ratnasiri attracting over 200 participants.

We warmly congratulate **Prof. Firoza Begum** on her induction as OGSB President and commend **Prof. Farhana** for her exemplary leadership. Our appreciation also goes to **Prof. Salma, Secretary General of OGSB**, whose tireless work has been central to the Society's success. We look forward to closer collaboration in the years ahead.

SICOG 2025 – Singapore

The **13th Singapore International Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology** was held on 23–24 August 2025 in Singapore under the theme *“Leading the Change – Empowering Women's Health Through Innovation and Sustainability.”*

AOFOG conducted an **MFM session on PPH**, featuring presentations from Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, Prof. Mahesh Choolani, Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri, Dr. Devendra Kanagalingam, and Dr. Sarah Li, followed by a panel discussion with Prof. Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran and other experts, moderated by Prof Choolani.

Our sincere thanks to **Dr. Serene Thain**, President OGSS, for inviting AOFOG, and to Prof. Choolani for organizing this valuable session and extending his kind hospitality during our visit.

Other Collaborations

TWINS 2025

AOFOG was also pleased to support **TWINS 2025 – the Joint 20th Congress of the International Society of Twin Studies (ISTS) and the 8th World Congress on Twin Pregnancy**, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Also supported by the Sri Lanka College of O&G. The meeting brought together delegates from 33 countries

AOFOG's session, coordinated by Prof. Mahesh Choolani, included contributions from Dr. Vicky Ho Miaw (Malaysia), Prof. Firoza Begum (Bangladesh), and Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri (Sri Lanka). We congratulate Prof. Athula Sumathipala (Newly Inducted Presidentt, ISTS) and Prof. Gian Carlo de Rianzo (Scientific Chair) for this outstanding congress.

Looking Ahead –

AOFOG 2026, Sydney

Preparations are progressing well for **AOFOG 2026**, hosted by RANZCOG in Sydney from **12–16 October 2026**. The congress website is live, and the Call for Speaker Expressions of Interest is open until 1 August 2025. Please register early to enjoy discounted rates. We look forward to welcoming you to Sydney for what promises to be an exciting, inclusive, and impactful event.

In closing as we move into the second half of the year, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our national societies, committee members, partners, and volunteers. Your dedication and collaboration continue to drive our shared mission of advancing women's health and improving outcomes for families across Asia and Oceania.

Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa,
Secretary General AOFOG

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REI Committee Report

Foreword

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my pleasure to share the August 2025 edition of our AOFOG REI Committee Newsletter. Over the past months, we have continued to strengthen collaboration, foster knowledge exchange, and advance best practices in reproductive endocrinology and infertility across the Asia–Oceania region.

This issue highlights three significant recent activities — the Hong Kong Fertility Preservation Seminar 2025, AOFOG Campus 4, and KOGI XIX in Bali — each reflecting our commitment to addressing the most pressing challenges in reproductive health. We also provide details of our upcoming AOFOG Campus 5 in November, focusing on cutting-edge strategies for managing poor ovarian reserve.

Through continued collaboration and innovation, we aim to close the gaps in care and ensure equitable access to high-quality reproductive health services for all.

Warm regards,
Prof. Budi Wiweko
Chairman, AOFOG REI Committee



Recent Activities

Hong Kong Fertility Preservation Seminar 2025

Date: April 12–13, 2025 | Venue: Hong Kong

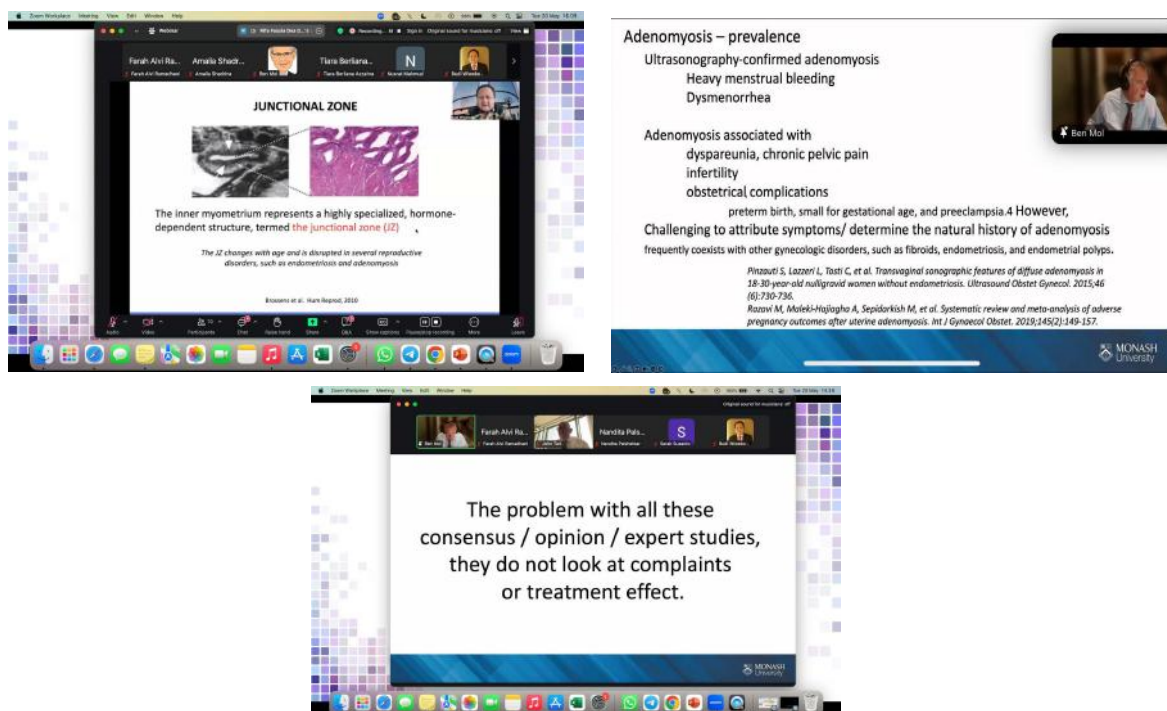
Co-organized with the AOFOG Gynaecological Oncology Committee, this two-day seminar brought together experts to address fertility preservation in Hong Kong, the challenges and opportunities for establishing fertility preservation programs in Asia, quality control measures, and fertility-sparing surgery in gynaecologic oncology. The sessions provided a robust exchange of clinical strategies and policy frameworks to advance fertility preservation services across the region.

AOFOG Campus 4 – Adenomyosis: Latest Insight, Treatment Advances, and Quality of Care

Date: May 20, 2025 | Format: Online Webinar

With around 100 participants from multiple countries, AOFOG Campus 4 delivered a focused update on adenomyosis, covering pathophysiology, innovative treatment modalities, and quality-of-care considerations. The interactive discussions allowed attendees to engage directly with speakers, enriching clinical knowledge and fostering best regional practice alignment.





KOGI XIX – Advancements in Maternal and Reproductive Health

Date: July 17–23, 2025 | Venue: Bali, Indonesia



At the 19th National Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology, AFOG played a key role in sessions on maternal and reproductive health through technology, digital innovations, and education. Highlights included discussions on global reproductive health policy, cervical cancer elimination strategies, and HPV vaccination advocacy, reaffirming AFOG's leadership in advancing women's health initiatives in the Asia–Oceania region.

Upcoming Activity

AFOG Campus 5 – Cutting-Edge Approaches for Poor Responders in Fertility Treatments

Date: November 2025 | Format: In-person Workshop

This workshop will focus on innovations for poor ovarian reserve management, featuring sessions on ovarian reserve assessment, genomics, novel stimulation protocols, AI applications, oocyte competence, mind–body approaches, and personalized medicine. The event will bring together leading experts to provide practical strategies and future directions for optimizing outcomes in this challenging patient population.

Committee Updates

The REI Committee continues to work on three major AOFOG Consensus Statements on:

- PCOS Management and Diagnosis
- Infertility in Aging Populations
- Endometriosis and Adenomyosis

Additionally, our multi-national menopause study is ongoing, and the REI Fellowship Program is preparing to welcome its first cohort for observership in advanced REI centers.

Together, we are building a stronger, more connected network of reproductive health professionals, united in advancing equitable, evidence-based care for women across Asia and Oceania.

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Ultrasound Committee Report

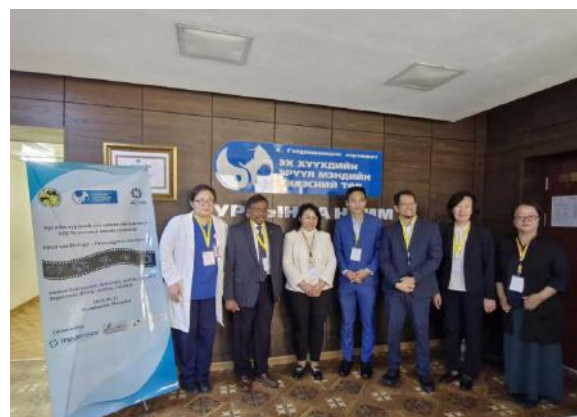
Fetal Cardiac Precongress 13 June 2025, Ulaanbaatar

For the third consecutive year, the AOFOG Ultrasound Committee has been invited to assist the MFOG in curating the scientific program for their national congress. This year, the collaboration has been extended to include the AOFOG MFM Committee as well.

Based on the request of the local doctors, it was decided that an intermediate-level Fetal Cardiology Precongress Workshop be organized. The target group was obstetricians who were already performing regular obstetric ultrasound, including first trimester screening, seeking to improve their knowledge and diagnostic accuracy in congenital fetal cardiac anomalies. The topic appears to have struck a chord with the participants as the precongress workshop was fully booked within days of a formal announcement.

AOFOG Secretary General Dr Rohana Haththotuwa and Dr J. Otgonbaatar, the General Director of National Centre for Maternity and Child Health (NCMCH) officiated the event with Dr TsolmonKhadaa as emcee. Dr Urjindelger, Khishigsuren and Idermunkh completed the local ensemble.

A total of 50 participants were guided through the fundamentals of fetal echocardiography by short lectures, translated by the local committee. Ultrasound, being an image-rich and visual topic was easily understood despite the language barrier. The foreign speakers were given a disproportionately longer time as compared to local speakers to accommodate translation.



Two live demonstrations were performed, the first by Dr Voon to demonstrate how to optimize the images captured, including the frequency, frame rate, gain, pulsed repetitive frequency/scale, balance, shadow reduction, dynamic contrast and speckle-reduction imaging. Dr Aditya subsequently gave pointers on acquiring the basic planes required in fetal cardiac screening.

The second half of the session was carried out in the newly-minted Perinatology Centre, a short walk away. Participants were divided into four different stations, rotating through each one to maximize their learning opportunity, guided by the speakers. There was a good mix of fetuses in the first and second trimester and women of different body habitus, allowing participants to experience varying levels of difficulty during a scan.



VIII Annual Congress of the Mongolian Federation of O&G: In collaboration with AOFOG

Held in Holiday Inn Ulaanbaatar, the congress was attended by 135 participants from across Mongolia. Dr Purevsuren D (Honorary President of MFOG) and Prof Erkhembataar T (Academician and Honored Doctor of Mongolia) chaired the keynote sessions. Dr S. Khisgee (Board member MFOG) gave an enlightening historical overview and a glimpse into the future through her talk entitled “Development of Maternal and Fetal Medicine in Mongolia and Future Development”. AOFOG Secretary-General Dr Rohana then elaborated on a range of key areas in maternity care in “Redefining Intrapartum Care Based on Recent Evidences”.

AOFOG MFM Chair Prof Mahesh Choolani and AOFOG Ultrasound Chair Dr Voon Hian Yan then touched on two other major causes of mortality in Mongolia through their talks “Strategies in improving outcomes in Sepsis” and “Reducing mortality from late preterm and term Preeclampsia” respectively.

VIII Annual Congress
Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology in collaboration with Asia & Oceania Federation of O&G

Speakers:

- Dr Rohana Haththotuwa
- Prof. Mahesh A. Choolani
- Dr Voon Hian Yan
- Dr Khishgee Seded
- Dr Urjindelger Tserensambuu
- Dr Munkhbayer Chojiljav
- Dr Tuangsit Wataganara
- Dr Aditya Kusuma
- Dr Sansar Gombordorj
- Dr Iantsetseg Buriad

2025 **14 JUNE** **Saturday** **08:30 AM**

HOTEL
 Ulaanbaatar,
 Mongolia

Further Formation
<http://www.mfog.mn>
Mongolia.mfog@gmail.com
<http://www.aofog.net>

The afternoon session was divided into two symposia, with topics ranging from non-invasive prenatal testing, ultrasound and genetics, endometriosis and placenta accreta spectrum. Research presentations by the participants took place concurrently. Dr Aditya Kusuma from Indonesia and Professor Tuangsit Wataganara from Thailand gave live ultrasound demonstrations and Tuangsit shared his experiences with fetal shunting, fetoscopic laser and requirements in setting up a fetal therapy unit. Dr G.Sansar ended the day with her talk on Preterm birth: Practice Essentials.

Despite finishing later than expected, the crowd stayed back and remained enthusiastic, which was a motivation for the speakers. The event was also well-supported by industry and the feedback received throughout the congress from the participants made all the hardwork worthwhile. For some of the international speakers, it was a memorable new experience to share their knowledge, interspersed by a translator.

We would like to congratulate Dr Narmnadakh Suld, Dr Urjindelger Tserensambuu and the rest of the committee for a well-organized congress and on behalf of AOFOG, thank them for the hospitality extended to all international speakers.



Penang

With the theme **“Embracing Diversity & Inspiring Change”**, the congress led by Scientific Chair and President-elect Dr Kannappan Palaniappan was attended by over 1100 delegates. The symposium was well-attended and judging by the number of questions directed at the speakers, the topics selected appeared to have hit home with the diverse crowd. In fact, the discussions had to continue on the floor after the session!

Dr Voon Hian Yan
Chair
AOFOG Ultrasound Committee



S15 AOFOG-OGSM Ultrasound Symposium

§15.1

Role of Doppler Ultrasound in Evaluation of Recurrent Miscarriage

Dr Adrianes Bachnas (Indonesia)

\$15.2

Simplifying Detection of Spina Bifida in the First Trimester

Dr Voon Hian Yan (Malaysia)

\$15.3

Laparoscopic In-Utero Repair of Spina Bifida

Prof Steven Shaw Sheng Wen (Taiwan)

\$15.4

Selective Fetal Growth Restriction: When to Pull the Brakes

Assoc Prof Nisarath Phithakwatchara
(Thailand)

MFM Committee Report

The AOFOG Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) Committee convened on 6th May 2025, 1st July 2025 and 12th August 2025, all conducted via Zoom. During these sessions, the Committee Chair and members engaged in comprehensive discussions and finalized the study protocol for the collection of postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) data from AOFOG member countries. Key documents endorsed included the PPH Data Collection Form and the corresponding dummy table. This initiative is part of a broader effort to facilitate collaborative research, with the aim of potential publication in the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research (JOGR), while also addressing other programmatic objectives.



The Chair and members of the AOFOG MFM Committee convened during the MFM Committee meetings via Zoom

In addition, the Committee held in-depth discussions on the planning and implementation of upcoming educational activities, including webinars focused on postpartum haemorrhage, maternal anemia, and obstetric emergencies across the region. Preparations also commenced for the Pre-Congress Workshop Programme to be held in conjunction with the AOFOG Congress 2026 in Sydney, Australia. The proposed workshop, titled “Compassionate Maternal Journey”, will feature key sessions such as Respectful Maternity Care, Optimizing Caesarean Section Rates in Our Region, and Compassionate Labor Management and Pain Relief.

Recent past activities for AOFOG MFM Sessions

1. The Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (JSOG) Annual Congress was held in Okayama, Japan on 23 – 25 May 2025.



A few members of the MFM Committee, including Prof Mahesh (Chair of the MFM Committee), Prof Pisake Lumbiganon and Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri, delivered presentations at JSOG Annual Congress in Okayama, Japan.

2.The Mongolian Federation of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Societies (MFOG) Annual Congress was held in Mongolia on 13–4 June 2025. The MFM session at the congress was organised by the Ultrasound Committee, and the Chair of the MFM Committee, Prof Mahesh, was invited to deliver the presentations.



Chair of the MFM Committee Prof Mahesh delivered presentations at MFOG Annual Congress in Mongolia.

3.The International Society of Twin Studies (ISTS) and the 8th World Congress on Twin Pregnancy, scheduled to be held at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Sri Lanka on 10 –12 August 2025.



A few members of the MFM committee, including Dr U D P Ratnasiri, Prof Firoza Begum and Dr Vicky Ho Miaw Ping delivered presentations.


Upcoming planned activities for AOFG MFM Sessions

1. The Singapore International Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (SICOG), scheduled to be held in Singapore (Parkroyal on Beach Road) from August 22nd to August 24th, 2025. The details of the AOFG MFM Session are as follows:

AOFG Plenary lecture on MFM				
Topic				Speakers
WHO	Roadmap	on	Postpartum Haemorrhage	Professor Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran

AFOG MFM Session	
Topic	Speakers
Welcome Address	Dr Rohana Haththotuwa Secretary-General AFOG Sri Lanka
Saving Lives With The EMOTIVE- Bundle	Prof Mahesh Choolani Chair AFOG MFM Committee Singapore
Prevention of Postpartum Haemorrhage	Prof Pisake Lumbiganon Immediate Past President AFOG Thailand
Placenta Accreta Spectrum	Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri Advisor AFOG MFM Committee Sri Lanka
Labour Ward Drills and Obstetric Emergencies Leading to PPH	Dr Devendra kanagalingam Singapore
The implementation of a ROTEM and Fibrinogen PPH Protocol	Dr Sarah Li Singapore
Panel Discussion and Q&A Professor Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, Prof Pisake Lumbiganon, Dr Rohana Haththotuwa, Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri, Dr Devendra Kanagalingam Dr Sarah Li	Prof Mahesh Choolani Chair AFOG MFM Committee Singapore


2.The AFOG MFM webinar on Postpartum Haemorrhage (PPH) is scheduled to be held virtually on Saturday, 30 August 2025, from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM SGT (GMT+8) via the Zoom platform.





 Saturday, 30th August 2025
 3:00 pm (Singapore time)

Webinar organized by,
AFOG -MFM Committee

Care Bundle approach and beyond- Saving lives in PPH

Time SGT (GMT+8)	Topic	Speakers	
3:00 PM to 3:10 PM	Opening & Welcome Address	Professor Joong Shin Park Vice-President AFOG Korea	 Prof. Joong Shin Park
3:10 PM to 3:25 PM	Epidemiology and Prevention of PPH	Dr Raul M Quillamor MFM Committee Member Philippines	 Dr Raul Quillamor
3:25 PM to 3:40 PM	E-MOTIVE Bundle	Dr Vicky Ho Mlaw Ping MFM Committee Member Malaysia	 Dr Vicky Ho Mlaw Ping
3:40 PM to 4:00 PM	Escalation After E-MOTIVE	Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri Advisor MFM Committee Sri Lanka	 Dr U D P Ratnasiri
4:00 PM to 4:25 PM	Panel Discussion and Q&A Dr U.D.P. Ratnasiri, Dr Raul M Quillamor and Dr Vicky Ho Mlaw Ping	Moderator Dr Mahesh Choolani Chair AFOG MFM Committee Singapore	 Prof. Mahesh Choolani
4:25 PM to 4:30 PM	Closing remarks	Professor Joong Shin Park Vice-President AFOG Korea	 Prof. Joong Shin Park

[Registration: **Free of Charge**]
 Certificate of attendance will be given only to those participants who return the completed Feedback form at the end of the webinar

This session will be live stream on  **Click here for registration** 

3.The International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) Annual Congress, scheduled to be held in Cape Town (South Africa) from October 5th to October 9th, 2025. The details of the AOFOG MFM Session are as follows:

Topic	Speakers
Welcome Address	Dr John Tait President, New Zealand
WHO Recommendations: Intrapartum Care for A Positive Childbirth Experience	Prof Pisake Lumbiganon Immediate Past President, Thailand
Strategies To Reduce Caesarean Sections During Labour	Dr Rohana Haththotuwa Chairman, Secretary-General, Sri Lanka
The Controversy of Caesarean Rates - Looking Forward into The Past	Dr Jaydeep Tank Chair YGAA Committee, India
Second Stage Caesarean Section: How High Is High?	Prof Tak Yeung LEUNG Head of the Fetal Medicine Team, Hong Kong
Q&A	Dr John Tait Chairman, President, New Zealand

Prof Mahesh Choolani,
MFM Committee Chair, AOFOG

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Gynaecological Oncology Committee Report

Jun – Aug 2025

The Oncology Committee and the Cervical Cancer Elimination Working Group of the AFOG had participated in the AFOG–Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS) 2025 Cervical Cancer Elimination Summit on 27 Jun 2025 (Fig. 1). The theme was ‘One Community Against HPV: Innovations enabling Cervical Cancer Elimination in the Philippines’. The conference was held in Manila, and Prof. Christia Padolina was the chairperson. Prof. Yin Ling Woo shared the experience of the ROSE (removing obstacles to cervical screening) programme in providing cervical cancer prevention care in suburb areas in Malaysia. Dr. Ka Yu Tse then gave a talk on AFOG recommendations on HPV vaccination that catered for both high–resourced and low–resourced countries. Finally, Prof. Jean Anne B Toral presented the strategies of cervical cancer screening in Asia–Pacific region and the AFOG’s initiatives.

The AFOG–ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Research Workshop is organized by the Oncology committee of the AFOG and the Education committee of the Asian Society of Gynecologic Oncology (ASGO), and is supported by the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong (OGSHK). There are 28 participants across different countries in Asia (Fig. 2a). There are five series of webinars, in addition to the pre–workshop mentoring and a face–to–face workshop with lectures and round–table discussions on 10 – 13 Dec 2025. The first two sessions of the webinars had already been held (Fig. 2b). The first session was held on 26 Jul 2025, where Prof. Masaki Mandai and Prof. Yoo–young Lee discussed the importance of performing research in gynecologic oncology and the unmet needs of training, respectively. The second session was held on 16 Aug 2025. Prof. Dong Hoon Suh showed us some impactful examples of gynecologic cancer research in Asia–Pacific region. Prof. Keiichi Fujiwara gave an insightful talk on how to start conducting research with the PICO (patients, intervention, comparison, outcomes) framework and FINER (feasible, interesting, novel, ethical, relevant) criteria. Dr. Ka Yu Tse, having opportunities in working in both high–resourced and low–resourced areas, shared her experience how to adjust the research designs according to the resources available. Apart from the webinars, the pre–workshop mentoring has also been started. The participants are divided into five groups. They would have chances to discuss their research questions within their group and the assigned faculty members, in preparation to develop a full synopsis during the face–to–face workshop in Hong Kong on 10–13 Dec 2025.

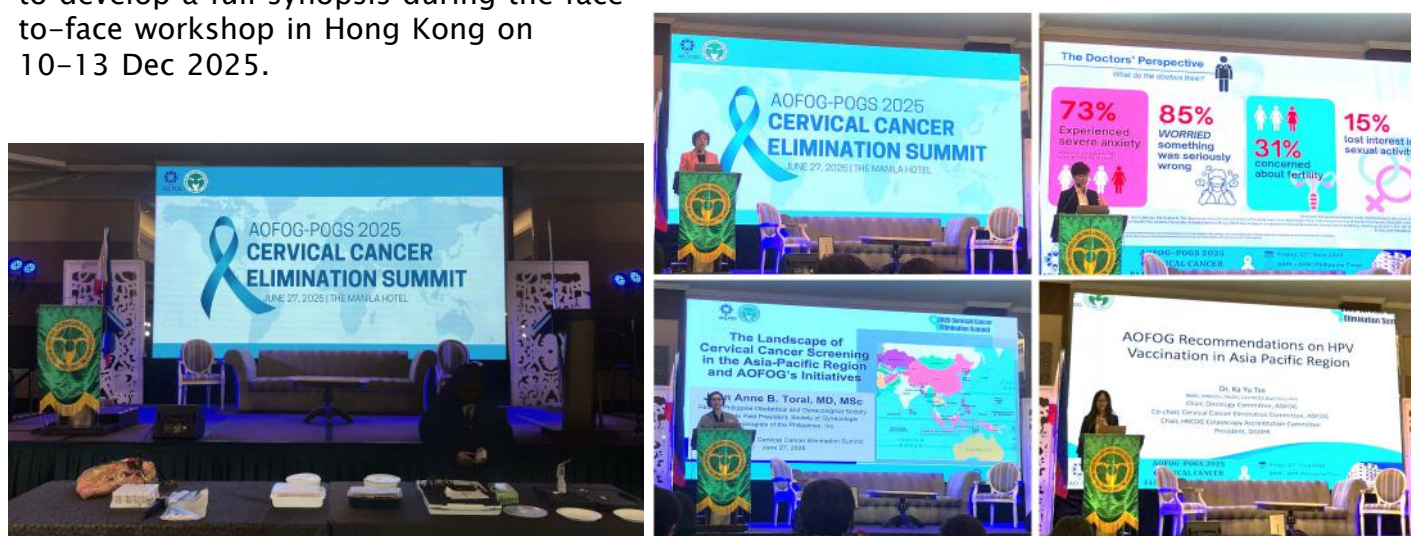


Fig. 1 The AFOG– POGS 2025 Cervical Cancer Elimination Summit

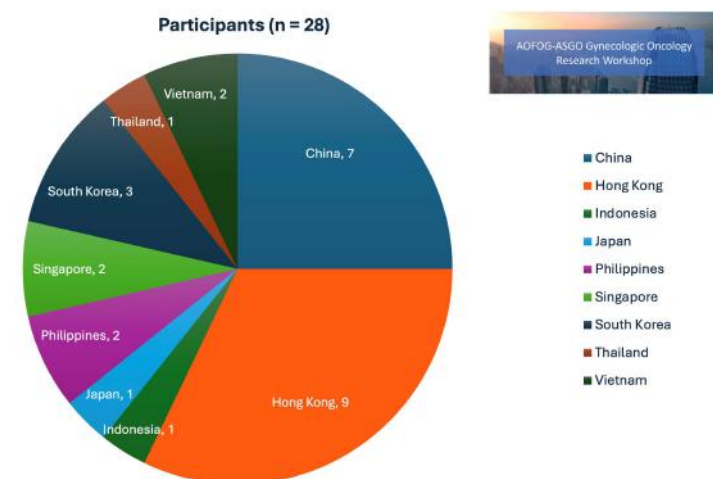


Fig. 2 AFOG-ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Research Workshop 2025

Bridging the Gap: Addressing Inadequate Research Training in Gynecologic Oncology in Asia

Yoo-Young Lee, MD, PhD
Professor
Gynecologic Cancer Center
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Samsung Medical Center
Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine

AFOG-ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Research Workshop

AGORE Workshop
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Impactful Research in Asia

Dong Hoon Suh
Seoul National University College of Medicine
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Gynecologic Oncology
10:00-10:40, 16 Aug. 2025 (Online)

2025-07-26
AFOG-ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Workshop

How Research Shapes the Practice of Gynecologic Oncology - from Evidence to Excellence

Masaki Mandai
Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics
Graduate School of Medicine
Kyoto University, Japan

AFOG-ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Research Workshop

Keiichi Fujiwara, MD, PhD
How To Start Doing Clinical Research

AFOG-ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Research Workshop

Supported by the OGSHK

In-person workshop: 10 – 13 Dec 2025
With pre-workshop lectures and mentoring

Venue: SkyCity Marriott, Hong Kong

Workshop Chairs
Dr. Ka Yu Tse (Chair, Oncology committee, AFOG)
Prof. Yoo Young Lee (Chair, Education committee, ASGO)

Official website:
agoreworkshop2025.com

Secretariat: agoreworkshop2025@gmail.com

Introduction

AFOG-ASGO Gynecologic Oncology Research Workshop

Supported by the OGSHK

How to conduct research in resource-limited environment

Dr. Ka Yu Tse
Chair, Oncology committee, AFOG
President, OGSHK

Ongoing/Upcoming activities

Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SLCOG) 58th Annual Academic Congress

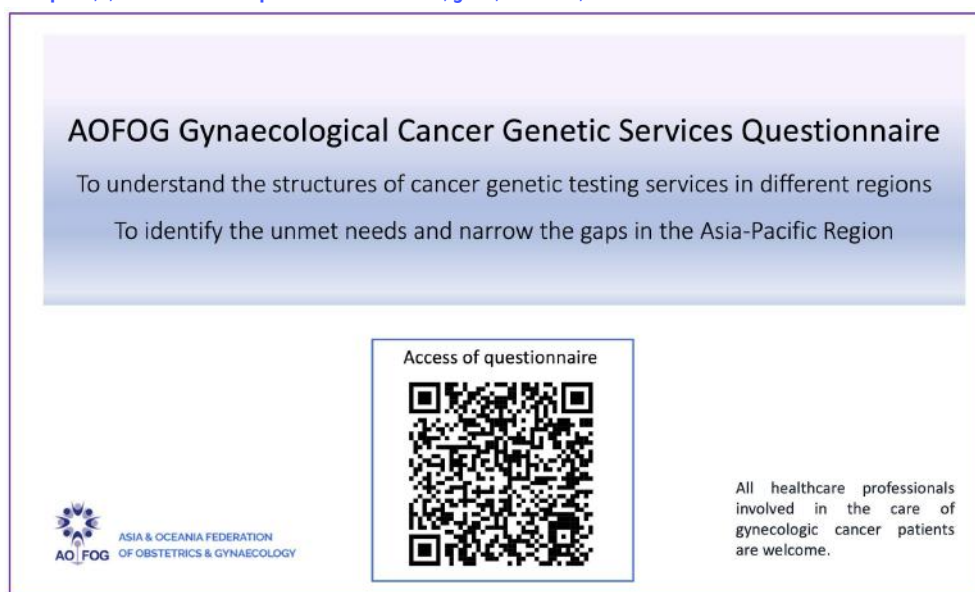
The SLCOG had invited the Oncology Committee to hold an AOFOG Session during the SLCOG 58th Annual Academic Congress on 6 Sep 2025. The theme is 'Update on the management of endometrial cancer' and there will be three lectures. Prof. Christia Padolina (Treasurer, AOFOG) will discuss the role of ultrasound in endometrial cancer. Prof. Budi Wiweko (Chair, REI committee) will talk about the fertility issues after conservative treatment in endometrial cancer. Dr. Ka Yu Tse will update the clinical utility of molecular profiling in endometrial cancer.

Gynecologic Cancer Genetic Services Questionnaire (Fig. 3)

Certain gynecologic cancers are linked to underlying somatic or germline genetic alterations. Genetic testing has become a vital component in daily practice. This testing not only informs treatment decisions but also plays a crucial role in identifying individuals at risk and guiding preventive strategies for carriers of pathogenic variants. The Asia–Oceania region, characterized by its vast cultural diversity and disparities in resource allocation, faces unique challenges in the accessibility and organization of genetic testing services. The availability, infrastructure, and framework of genetic testing can significantly influence both the clinical management of cancer patients and the preventive care of individuals carrying high-risk genetic variants.

To better understand how genetic testing services are structured and delivered across the Asia–Pacific region and to identify potential disparities, the oncology committee has launched a survey, aiming to evaluate the current landscape of genetic testing for gynecologic cancers within this diverse region. We invite healthcare professionals and stakeholders to participate in this important survey. The questionnaire can be conveniently accessed via the provided QR code (Fig. 3) or through the following link, which will remain active until at least December 2025:

https://hku.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5tCm6uXGnaT8G8K



Your valuable input will help shape the future of genetic testing services and improve cancer care outcomes throughout Asia–Pacific.

Dr. Ka Yu Tse

Chair, AOFOG Gynaecological Oncology Committee

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Sexual & Reproductive Health (SRH) Committee and Violence Against Women (VAW) Working Group Report

1. AOFOG Session at the 17th International Conference of the Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NESOG)

The Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NESOG) hosted its 17th International Conference on 28 – 29 March 2025 at the Soaltee Hotel, Kathmandu, Nepal.

The SRH Committee organized an AOFOG Plenary Session on 28 March 2025.

Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn, Chair of the AOFOG SRH Committee delivered a lecture on “Tips for Dealing with Bone Loss during the Menopausal Transition and Beyond”.

The session was chaired by:

- Dr.Rohana Haththotuwa –Secretary General, AOFOG
- Dr.Hrishikesh Pai –FIGO
- Dr.Saroja Karki Pande – President NESOG
- Dr.UD P Ratnasiri –Former Chair of MFM Committee, AOFOG

Held in the main conference hall, the session was a great success, attracting over 600 participants.



Dealing with Bone Loss during Menopausal Transition

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. 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 an 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.

2. AOFOG Session at the 32nd International Congress of the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM)

This international congress was held on 10 – 13 July 2025 at the Setia SPICE Convention Center, Penang, Malaysia.

On 11 July, the SRH Committee and MFM Committee jointly organized a session titled “From Preconception to Early Life: Challenges and Opportunities”.

Following a welcome address by Dr.Rohana Haththotuwa, the session featured the following presentations:

- Clinical approach to reproductive life planning
Dr.Angeline Wong Tze Yin (Malaysia)
SRH Committee Member, AOFOG
- Optimizing nutrition from preconception to the first 1,000 days of life
Prof.Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand)
Chair of SRH Committee, AOFOG
- Navigating the complexities of early pregnancy
Assoc. Prof.Mahesh Choolani (Singapore)
Chair of MFM Committee, AOFOG
- Violence against women : Roles of ObGyn
Prof.Krishnendu Gupta (India)
Deputy Secretary General, AOFOG



This AOFOG session was held on the first day of the main congress after the Opening Ceremony. Over 1,000 participants joined this event, making the session highly successful.

3. AOFOG SRH Committee & VAW Working Group Meeting

On May 9, 2025, the AOFOG SRH Committee and VAW Working Group convened Online to review ongoing initiatives. Key updates included the development of AOFOG practice guidelines on post-abortion and postpartum contraception, upcoming CME and workshop planning in Mongolia and India, and preparations for the AOFOG 2026 pre-congress workshop. The VAW multi-country survey is progressing, with data collection completed in Thailand and ongoing in India and Nepal. The first draft of the AOFOG Declaration on VAW has been completed, with further publications on national findings and regional support systems underway.

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

Our ongoing activity involves a multi-country survey on violence against women, focusing on two key groups: reproductive-aged women and medical staff. This extensive survey aims to gather comprehensive data to better understand the prevalence, impact, and dynamics of violence against women in various settings. We have successfully completed data collection for reproductive-aged women in Thailand and are currently working on collecting data from medical staff. Additionally, we have completed the data collection from medical staff in Nepal and India. Now, we are in the preparation phase for data collection in other countries, ensuring that the survey's scope and impact will be broad and inclusive. This initiative is crucial for developing informed strategies and interventions to combat violence against women, ultimately contributing to improved health and safety outcomes for women across the region.



5. Publication of AOFOG's Declaration on Violence Against Women

This paper, commissioned by the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research, outlines AOFOG's Declaration on VAW, providing a framework to address this issue across Asia and Oceania. It highlights the importance of regional cooperation, international guidelines, and the role of national societies and healthcare professionals in strengthening legal frameworks, promoting public education, and offering comprehensive services. The goal is to create a safer and fairer environment for women in the region.

Our invited paper has been published in the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research in July 2025. This document outlines priority areas for policy, research, and clinical response to VAW.

Prof. Unnop Jaisamrarn (Thailand)

Chair of AOFOG SRH Committee,
& Violence Against Women (VAW) Working Group

The AOFOG Declaration on Violence Against Women: A Regional Call to Action for Asia and Oceania

Violence against women remains a severe human rights violation and public health challenge across Asia and Oceania, with significant variations in prevalence and response capacity among countries. Despite global frameworks such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and regional initiatives like the ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children, implementation gaps hinder effective protection. The Asia–Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology(AOFOG) Declaration on Violence Against Women: A Commitment to Action and Change reinforces key commitments across ten action areas, including recognizing violence against women as a critical issue, advancing international agreements, strengthening regional cooperation, mobilizing stakeholders, empowering healthcare professionals, enhancing comprehensive services, promoting public education, improving healthcare training, supporting research and data collection, and preparing for crisis responses such as pandemics. Emphasizing evidence–based policymaking and regional collaboration, the Declaration establishes a roadmap for accountability through robust monitoring and evaluation. By uniting stakeholders across sectors, AOFOG aims to eliminate VAW and foster environments where women’s rights, safety, and dignity are universally upheld. This Declaration was officially presented at the 28th AOFOG Congress held in Busan, Korea, on 18 May 2024.

Full text: <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jog.70004>

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Member Society News Corner

1. News from Indonesian O & G Society –KOGI 2025

The 19th National Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology (KOGI XIX) 2025

Bali, Indonesia – July 17–23, 2025 The 19th National Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology (KOGI XIX) will be held in Bali from July 17 to 23, 2025, bringing together leading minds in maternal and reproductive health. This year's congress is themed **“Advancements in Maternal and Reproductive Health Through Technology, Digital Innovations, and Education,”** emphasizing the urgent need for sustainable and inclusive solutions in women's healthcare.



One of the highly anticipated sessions will spotlight the role of international organizations in shaping global reproductive health policy, with a special focus on the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG).

AOFOG's Commitment to Cervical Cancer Elimination

As cervical cancer continues to claim lives across the Asia–Oceania region, AOFOG reaffirms its dedication to the World Health Organization's global strategy for **cervical cancer elimination**. AOFOG's involvement extends across advocacy, capacity-building, and collaboration with national societies to expand access to screening and vaccination.

In this session, AOFOG representatives will discuss regional efforts, success stories, and challenges in implementing effective cervical cancer prevention programs.



AOFOG Recommendations on HPV Vaccination Speaker: Dr. Christia Padolina

Dr. Christia Padolina will present AOFOG's official recommendations on HPV vaccination, emphasizing the critical role of immunization in preventing cervical cancer. Her talk will cover the latest scientific evidence, best practices for implementing national HPV vaccination programs, and strategies to increase vaccine uptake in underserved populations.

Key highlights include:

- Supporting school-based vaccination programs
- Promoting gender-neutral HPV vaccination
- Advocating for affordable vaccine access across member countries



AOFOG's Perspective on the 90–70–90 Strategy Speaker: Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa

Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa will delve into the 90–70–90 goals set by the WHO:

- 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by age 15
- 70% of women screened by age 35 and again by 45
- 90% of women with cervical disease receiving treatment

From AOFOG's standpoint, Dr. Haththotuwa will assess the progress and barriers faced by countries in the Asia–Oceania region in achieving these targets. She will also highlight AOFOG's role in supporting capacity development, clinical guidelines, and intergovernmental cooperation to meet these ambitious goals.



2. News from the Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

8TH ANNUAL CONGRESS ON OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY OF MONGOLIA SUCCESSFULLY HELD IN ULAANBAATAR

On 14 June 2025, the 8th Annual Congress on Obstetrics and Gynecology of Mongolia was held in Ulaanbaatar, uniting leading experts, clinicians, and healthcare professionals from across Mongolia and the Asia–Oceania region.

The congress served as a dynamic platform for sharing the latest advancements in Maternal and Fetal Medicine, strengthening partnerships between the Mongolian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (MFOG) and the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG). The event emphasized the importance of regional collaboration in improving women's health outcomes.

With 141 participants representing all provinces and cities in Mongolia, the congress demonstrated strong nationwide engagement and professional commitment. The presence of high-level AOFOG representatives and distinguished international speakers further enriched the program and highlighted the growing global connections of Mongolia's OB/GYN community.

The congress was opened with speeches by Dr. Urjindelger Tserensambuu, President of the MFOG, Dr. S. Jargalsaikhan, Head of the Medical Care Policy Department at the Ministry of Health Mongolia, and Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General of AOFOG, who all wished success to the congress proceedings. The program was honored by the distinguished presence of Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General of AOFOG; Prof. Mahesh A. Choolani, Chair of the AOFOG Maternal–Fetal Medicine (MFM) Committee; and Dr. Voon Hian Yan, Chair of the AOFOG Ultrasound Committee.



Distinguished invited speakers Prof. Tuangsit Wataganara and Dr. Aditya Kusuma also joined the congress, contributing their expertise to the scientific sessions.

AOFOG conducted special sessions through its US Committee and MFM Committee, co-chaired by Dr Rohana Rohana Haththotuwa and Dr Urjindelger Tserensambuu. The congress featured an impressive lineup of speakers and sessions, including:

Dr Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General of AOFOG

- *Redefining Intrapartum Care based on recent evidences*

Prof. Mahesh A. Choolani, Chair of the AOFOG Maternal–Fetal Medicine (MFM) Committee

- *Strategies in improving outcomes in Sepsis;*
- *Common conundrums in non-invasive prenatal testing*

Dr. Voon Hian Yan, Chair of the AOFOG Ultrasound Committee

- *Reducing mortality from late preterm and term Preeclampsia;*
- *CMV in pregnancy: All you need to know*

Dr Aditya Kusuma, ISOUG Ambassador

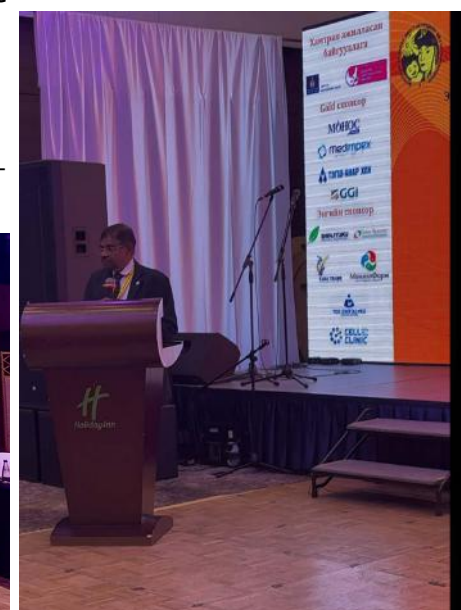
- *Non-axial planes in fetal CNS assessment;*
- *Ultrasound and genetics: CNS;*
- *DEMO: Tips in fetal cardiac screening*

Prof. Tuangsit Wataganara, Thailand

- *Fetal shunting: Tips and tricks from the expert;*
- *Fetoscopic laser for TTTS: Controversies in an established treatment modality;*
- *Practical approaches to establish a Fetal therapy centre;*
- *DEMO: Fetal venous and arterial Dopplers*

A key highlight of the congress was the high level of engagement from participants. Attendees actively interacted with guest speakers throughout the sessions, with discussions continuing beyond the scheduled program—even extending the congress by over an hour. This enthusiastic participation underscored the dedication of Mongolia's OB/GYN community to continuous learning and collaboration.

Participants provided tremendously positive feedback, praising the congress for its well-curated scientific program, expert-led sessions, and practical relevance to real-world clinical practice. Many attendees highlighted the rare opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions with internationally renowned specialists, noting that the interactive format—particularly during the AOFOG-led sessions—greatly enhanced their learning experience.



Several participants also appreciated the diversity of topics covered, ranging from advanced fetal imaging to evidence-based intrapartum care, which they described as both inspiring and directly applicable to their work in diverse clinical settings across Mongolia.

PRECONGRESS WORKSHOP: FETAL CARDIOLOGY

As a precursor to the 8th Annual Congress on Obstetrics and Gynecology of Mongolia, the Pre-Congress Workshop: Fetal Cardiology was successfully held on June 13, 2025, at the National Center of Maternal and Child Health (NCMCH) in Ulaanbaatar. The workshop provided a focused and interactive learning opportunity for clinicians, centered around advanced techniques in fetal cardiac screening and diagnostics.

The workshop was opened by Dr J.Otgonbaatar, General Director of NCMCH and Dr Rohana Haththotuwa, Secretary General of AOFOG. The workshop was facilitated by Dr Voon Hian Yan, Chair of the AOFOG Ultrasound Committee, and Dr. Aditya Kusuma, ISOUG Ambassador. Through a series of lectures, live demonstrations, and case-based discussions, participants gained valuable insights into::

- Determining the situs and axis
- 4 chamber view: Step by step evaluation
- Outflow tract assessment
- Techniques for improving the accuracy of fetal cardiac screening
- Slings and arch abnormalities
- Simplified approach to fetal arrhythmia
- Looking around and beyond the fetal heart



50 participants had the opportunity to work through hands on session by 4-stations and receive direct feedback from the expert faculties which comes from AOFOG US Committee and MFOG. The practical session was conducted at the Perinatology Center of the NCMCH, where participants were divided into groups and rotated through four stations. At each station, they performed fetal cardiac ultrasound examinations on pregnant women, reinforcing the theoretical lessons with hands-on practice. Every participant had the opportunity to perform scans, making the workshop highly practical and effective.

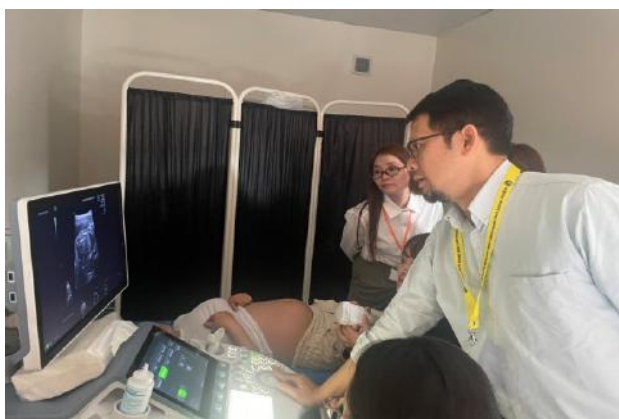
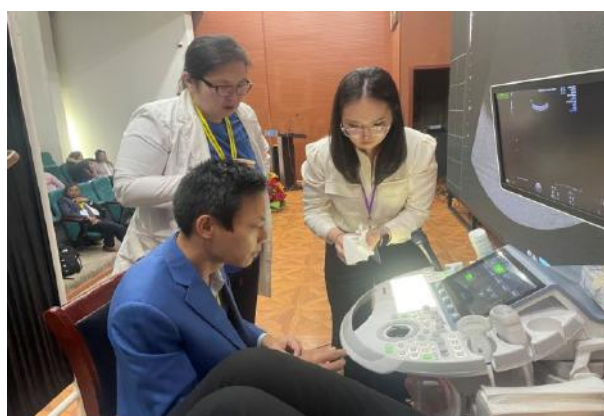


As a result of the training, trainees learned to conduct fetal heart examinations, assess fetal heart position and function, distinguish between normal and abnormal findings, and evaluate outflow tracts. This training significantly enhanced their knowledge, technical skills, and diagnostic capacity in fetal cardiac ultrasound, making it a highly beneficial and impactful workshop.

The workshop received enthusiastic feedback from attendees, who praised its clarity, clinical relevance, and interactive structure.

Many noted that the training was directly applicable to their daily practice and expressed strong interest in more hands-on sessions in the future. The intimate format allowed for personalized instruction and encouraged open discussion, greatly enhancing the learning experience.

This high-impact pre-congress session set the tone for the main congress by reinforcing the importance of early fetal cardiac assessment and building confidence in applying these techniques across different care settings in Mongolia.



3. News from Obstetrics and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh

33rd International Scientific Conference & 51st AGM of OGSB (Obstetrics and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh)

Date: 1–2 August, 2025

The 33rd International Scientific Conference & 51st AGM of OGSB was held on 1 to 2 August 2025 at Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh. About 1300 participants from home & abroad attended the conference. The theme of this year is "Ensuring Quality & Safety of Care in Women's Health". In this conference there was 32 session & 4 hands on workshop.

The Inaugural Session was held on 1st August 2025 at 05:00 pm. Professor Dr. Md. Sayedur Rahman, Honorable Special Assistant, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the opening session as chief guest. Dr. Md. Sarwar Bari, Secretary, Medical Education and Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has attended as the Special Guest.

Dr. Ashrafi Ahmad, ndc, Director General, Directorate General of Family Planning and Prof. Dr. Nazmul Hosain, Director General, Directorate General of Medical Education has attended as the Guest of Honour. Prof. Farhana Dewan, President–OGSB chaired the inauguration. Prof. Firoza Begum, President Elect–OGSB welcomed everybody. Prof. Salma Rouf, Secretary General–OGSB highlighted the activities of OGSB. In this inaugural session Prof. Firoza Begum officially assumed the charge as President of the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB).

AGM was held on 1st August 2025 at 9:30am at the The AOFOG presence of good number of members.



AOFOG Session

The AOFOG session was very interesting session which was held in Ball Room-I & continued for 1 hours. The theme of the session was "Effects of Climate Change on Reproductive Health".



The presentations were: Climate Change and Us: An Overview by Prof. Krishnendu Gupta; Role of Environmental Toxins on Reproductive Health talked by Prof. UDP Ratnasiri; Role of OBGYNs, National Societies and International Federations presented by Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa. The Session was chaired by Prof. John Tait & Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa.

Pre Congress workshop

On 31st August 2025 Pre Congress workshop on **Conservative surgery in PAS Disorder** was held at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka. The resource person were Prof. S. Arulkumaran & Prof. UDP Ratnasiri. There was live demonstrations on 3 Placenta accreta cases. The participants expressed their satisfaction as the session enriched their knowledge and skills immensely. The closing ceremony of the Conference was held on 2nd August 2025 at 6:00 pm.

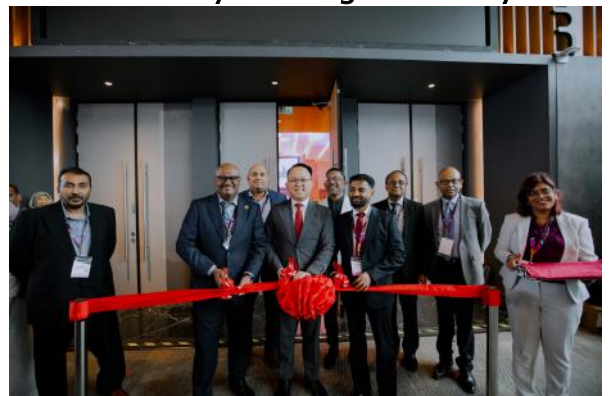
Prof. Firoza Begum
President-OGSB



4. News from Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia

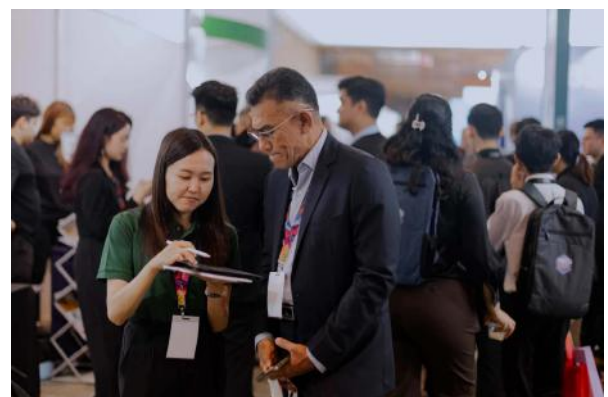
Highlights of the 32nd International Congress of the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM 2025)

The 32nd International Congress of the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM 2025) brought together over 1,000 delegates, comprising specialists and allied health professionals from across the world. Held at the Setia SPICE Convention Centre, Penang, Malaysia the congress was a landmark event that united science, innovation, and collaboration under the theme “Embracing Diversity & Inspiring Change”.



Scientific Highlights

- 7 Pre-Congress Workshops – hands-on sessions ranging from communication skills and obstetric Doppler to MIGS, IUI, perineal repair, and the RCOG IRC-OGSM Trainee Conference.
- 6 Plenary & Named Lectures – including the President’s Lecture by Dr Muniswaran Ganeshan and the I.S. Puvan Memorial Lecture by Dr Huang Zhongwei (Singapore), alongside the prestigious College O&G, Malaysia and Singapore lectures.





- AOFOG Symposium – From Preconception to Early Life: Challenges and Opportunities, spotlighting maternal nutrition, disparities in perinatal care, and early childhood health outcomes.
- 19 Symposia – covering fertility, endometriosis, gynaecology, MIGS, maternal medicine, menopause, adolescent gynaecology, reproductive health, ultrasound, and more.
- 4 Meet-the-Experts Sessions – engaging small-group discussions on urogynaecology, menopause, maternal medicine, and gynaecology.
- 8 Industry-Sponsored Symposia – showcasing cutting-edge innovations and technologies shaping the future of women's health.

Networking & Celebrations

- Gala Dinner – an unforgettable night of culture, celebration, and connections.
- Faculty Dinner – a heartfelt tribute to international and local experts whose contributions enriched the programme.

A Shared Success

The success of OGSM 2025 was driven by the unwavering dedication of the Organising Committee, under the leadership of Dr. R. M. Udayar Pandian Ramachandhiran, and the Scientific Committee, complemented by the strong support of sponsors and exhibitors, as well as the active participation of over 1,000 delegates. Collectively, these efforts transformed the congress into a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, innovation, and professional fellowship

Looking Ahead

As OGSM 2025 closes on a high note, the Society looks forward to OGSM 2026 with renewed commitment to advancing women's health in Malaysia and beyond. The legacy of this year's congress will be remembered for its robust scientific exchange, strong regional partnerships, and the inspiration it ignited within the global women's health community.

With best regards,

Dr. R. M. Udayar Pandian Ramachandhiran
President & Organising Chairman
32nd International Congress of the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Malaysia



ICOE Reflections: Manila 2025

A Decade of Saving Mothers' Lives

The Intensive Course in Obstetrical Emergencies (ICOE) was launched in 2014 after the AOFOG Conference in Sarawak, Malaysia, with one clear mission: **to reduce maternal mortality in the Asia-Pacific region**. Since then, OGSM (Obstetrical & Gynecological Society of Malaysia) facilitators have brought this simulation-based training to AOFOG member countries, with financial support from the AOFOG Executive Board—particularly benefiting low- and middleincome countries.

I first experienced ICOE in Mongolia, where fewer than 30 participants engaged in hands-on OSCE-style drills using mannequins and life-saving consumables. The electronic manual provided weeks in advance ensured readiness. It was then that I thought: Filipino obstetricians must experience this course, especially as our maternal mortality ratio remains high at 120 per 100,000 live births. This year, through AOFOG's support, ICOE came to Manila. The Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS) seized the opportunity, hosting the training for residency training officers of the National Capital Region. In a rare and inspiring move, POGS President Dr. Rowena Auxillos, together with three past presidents, participated in the run held at UNILAB. With the support of OGSM and under AOFOG-POGS partnership, we are now **developing a localized version—PRIME (Prompt Response and Intervention for Maternal Emergencies)**—to cascade this initiative nationwide.

Participant Reflections Bridging the Gap

"The challenge of being a training officer today is bridging theory and clinical competency. ICOE does exactly that—through drills, demonstrations, and OSCEs. It empowers residents to act decisively in emergencies. I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to POGS developing a similar module for our residents."

— **Dr. Anne Tabaquero**,
Training Officer, St. Luke's Medical Center
– Global City



Obstetrics in Action

"ICOE–Manila bridged knowledge and practice. From the first day of simulations to the second day's emphasis on soft skills, we experienced the art and science of obstetrics. It brought to life the slogan: 'Safe Childbirth, Everytime, Everywhere.' The challenge now is ours—to help reduce maternal morbidity and mortality in the Philippines."

— **Dr. Jennifer Rose C. Francisco**, Consultant, Metropolitan Medical Center

From the ICOE OGSM Team

"We were privileged to share ICOE with the distinguished obstetricians of POGS. What stood out was the humility and openness of senior consultants who participated wholeheartedly. Our differences in methods led not to friction but to dialogue—underscoring a shared commitment to maternal safety."

— **Dr. Tang Boon Nee**, Facilitator, OGSM

Closing Reflection

ICOE–Manila was more than a training—it was a convergence of knowledge, skills, and a shared passion for maternal safety. It highlighted not only technical competence but also humility, openness, and collaboration across generations of obstetricians.

As we move toward **PRIME**, the Philippine adaptation of ICOE, we carry forward AOFOG and OGSM's vision:

Safe childbirth must not be a privilege but a right—every time, everywhere.

What is PRIME?

Prompt Response and Intervention for Maternal Emergencies (PRIME) is the Philippine adaptation of ICOE. Developed by POGS with AOFOG and OGSM support, it aims to:

- Localize modules to Philippine settings
- Integrate into residency training curricula
- Standardize emergency response drills nationwide

Contribute to reducing the country's maternal mortality ratio

By **Christia S. Padolina, MD, FPOGS, FPSUOG**
Treasurer, AOFOG

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

These Editor's choice articles are free to read **until the end of October 2024**
Highlighted are the AOFOG declaration and Recommendation

August Issue: [Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research: Vol 51, No 8](#)

1. [The AOFOG declaration on violence against women: A regional call to action for Asia and Oceania](#)
2. [Balancing ethics and clinical need: The Japanese experience with preimplantation genetic testing for monogenic disease regulation and implementation](#)
3. [Updates and advances for gynecologic imaging](#)

July Issue: [Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research: Vol 51, No 7](#)

1. [Asia Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Recommendation on the use of Heat Stable Carbetocin \(HSC\) in the prevention of Postpartum Haemorrhage](#)
2. [Research progress on the impact of intravenous remifentanyl used for labor analgesia on parturient women and infants](#)
3. [Densitometric-related infertility focusing on mitochondrial DNA damage and its repair mechanism: Considering treatment strategies](#)

Prof. Hiroaki Kajiyama,
Editor in Chief

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