



ASIA PACIFIC ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on Sunday, 11th June 2023 via the Zoom online platform

Present

Dr Onder Aydingoz (Turkey) Chair
Dr Saeed Al Thani (UAE)
Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama (Indonesia)
Dr Mahmut Doral (Turkey)
Dr Amber Haseeb (Malaysia)
Dr Hong-Geun Jung (Korea)
Dr Bedri Karaismailoglu (Turkey)
Dr Arif Khan (Pakistan)
Dr Eng Hin Lee (Singapore)
Dr JP Leung (Philippines)
Dr Ted Mah (Australia)
Dr Rujuta Mehta (India)
Dr Ellewellyn Pasion (Philippines)
Dr Marinis Pirpiris (Australia)
Dr Tanay Prabhoo (India)
Dr Mohammed Iqbal Qavi (Bangladesh)
Dr Buland Thapa (Nepal)

Chairs of APOA Sections

Dr Arvind Puri (India) Chair, Asia Pacific Foot & Ankle Council
Dr Joyce Koh (Singapore) Chair, Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Research Society (APORS)
Dr Joon Kiong Lee (Malaysia) Chair, Asia Pacific Osteoporosis & Fragility Fracture Society
Dr Tae-Joon Cho (Korea) Chair, Asia Pacific Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (APPOS)
Dr Kwan Mun Keong (Malaysia) Chair, Asia Pacific Spine Society (APSS)
Dr Anup Agrawal (India) Asia Pacific Trauma Society (APTS)
Dr Sachin Tapasvi (India) Chair, Sports Injury Section of APOA

By Invitation

Dr David Choon Siew Kit (Malaysia)
Dr Jamal Ashraf (India)

Absent with Apologies

Dr Tanya Burgess (Australia)
Dr Inho Jeon (Korea)
Dr So Kato (Japan)
Dr Frankie Leung (Hong Kong)
Dr Denny Lie (Singapore)
Dr Gowreeson Thevendran (Singapore)
Dr Shahid Noor (Pakistan) Chair, Asia Pacific Hip Society (APHS)
Dr Parag Sancheti (India) Chair, Asia Pacific Knee Society (APKS)
Dr Nusret Kose (Turkey) Chair, Infection Section of APOA

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours (GMT+8) with Dr Onder Aydingoz in the chair.

1	Chair's Welcome
	Dr Onder Aydingoz, Chair of the Education Committee, welcomed the Education Committee members to the meeting via the Zoom online platform.
2	Confirmation of the Education Committee Meeting Minutes held on 16th April 2023
	The minutes were passed unanimously by the Education Committee members.
3	Education Committee Projects for 2023 – 2024
3.1	APOA e-Library
	<p>Dr David Choon introduced Matthew Faulkner as the new website programmer. Dr David Choon said the new website will be an interactive website. Dr David Choon gave a brief explanation of the software the new website uses. Dr David Choon said that currently, it is in the process of migrating from the old website to the new website. He explained the difference between the old website and the new website is the new website will be permanently monitored by a team. Matthew Faulkner gave a presentation on the new APOA website. Dr Onder Aydingoz enquired if a section prefers for some of their sectional content to be made available to all the members and some content to be made available to the members of the respective section, can this be adjusted from the general e-library page or the content will be available for the public to view when it is uploaded on the general e-library page. Dr David Choon said if there is a discussion topic relating to a certain section, this can be advertised on the main page for all members to view. However, to participate in the discussion the individual has to be a member of the respective section.</p> <p>Dr Arif Khan enquired Matthew Faulkner about the amount of content which can be uploaded on the website and whether there is a limit. Matthew explained that the videos will be uploaded to a third party such as YouTube and the content will be integrated into the website. Dr Ted Mah enquired on the plan to control the amount of increasing content uploaded which will require a large amount of data storage and who will have access to the website to regulate the amount of content uploaded on the website to remove the content. Matthew said that the size of the content uploaded can be limited. Matthew said the idea is to create a system where past content is stored in the long-term storage which is slower and the active content can be stored in the faster storage space. Dr Joyce Koh enquired about the security and who will screen for PDPA and the copyright of contents that are uploaded. Matthew explained that this will need to be discussed further with the sections.</p> <p>Dr Jamal said certain sections have their own websites and have the right to continue if the sections do not want to shift to the new website. On the new website, there will be a link created to link to their own section website. Dr Jamal emphasized that for the section to shift to the new website is on a voluntary basis as APOA does not want to enforce or trample on the individuality of the sections. Dr Onder Aydingoz said this will be the same for the e-library. Dr Jamal stated that the journals uploaded belong to associations who have agreed to join the e-library. Dr Jamal said the basic emphasis is to get journals primarily from the member countries such as the national orthopaedic association journals, and speciality journals of member countries.</p> <p>Dr David Choon said the interactivity is only available on the new website. Dr Jamal added if the sections want to be part of the e-library for the discussion part and at the same time have their own website this will be possible as well as the link will be there when a person wants to open a speciality society or sections website this can be redirected to their own website. These sections will have the right to decide which they prefer.</p>

3.2	APOA Primary Trauma Care Courses
	<p>Dr Onder Aydingoz presented the proposal for Asia Pacific Primary Trauma Care Courses (APPTC Courses) from the working group. Dr Onder Aydingoz pointed out if this proposal is accepted by all, this proposal will be used as the Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association Primary Trauma Care Courses for the structure and rules. Dr Anup Agrawal thanked Dr Onder Aydingoz, Dr Jamal Ashraf, Dr Arif Khan, Dr David Choon, Dr Marinis Pirpiris, Dr Saeed Al Thani who are part of the working group and gave many suggestions. Dr Anup said a document was prepared on how this course can be planned. Dr Anup explained the following regarding the APPTC Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary objective • Target audience • Minimum criteria for the participants • Minimum criteria to become a faculty member • Duration of the course • Modules • Pattern of exam • Certification • Validity • Modes and ways to conduct • Cost of the course • Basic infra requirements <p>Dr Anup Agrawal proposed that all APOA or APTS members should be encouraged to take this course.</p> <p>Dr Onder Aydingoz suggested organizing the courses during the national society congresses when they applied for this. Dr David Choon agreed to this. Dr David Choon said there is an Open Learning website which provides an official certificate for learning courses. Dr Anup Agrawal said the video should be more interactive and there should be questions for every part of the video where the participant has to answer the questions before proceeding and being allowed to pass the course. Dr Jamal said there are questions given to ensure the participant is actively participating in the course. Dr Ted Mah enquired to change the name to APOA Primary Trauma Care Course. Dr Onder Aydingoz agreed and said this will be amended. Dr Onder Aydingoz thanked Dr Anup Agrawal for discussing this with the APTS Exco and allowed APOA to use this as a general trauma course instead of a fully based trauma course for the APOA members to participate in this course. Dr Onder Aydingoz also expressed his thanks to Dr Arif Khan for his idea regarding this course.</p> <p>Dr Rujuta Mehta suggested the validity should be a maximum of five years and the renewal should be criteria based. Dr Ted Mah said there should be a time interval for the validity of five years and if this is maintained it will be valid for another five years and if not maintained there should be refresher training. Dr Ted Mah said this course should be free of charge for APOA members as this will encourage the individual to become an APOA member. Dr Arif Khan said it will be difficult for the course to be free of charge as this involved some cost, especially for the face-to-face content. Dr Arif Khan suggested allowing the organisers to decide whether they charge, or this will be a complimentary course for APOA members. Dr Arif Khan emphasized the basic principle of this course is not to earn a profit however there should be certain charges for the organisers to pay for the cost incurred as there will be some funds needed to organise a face-to-face course. Dr Arif Khan suggested this can vary among different countries as the charges varies. Dr Arif Khan suggested surgical residents, medical students and nursing students should be able to participate in this course instead of limiting this course to orthopaedic residents only.</p> <p>Dr Arif Khan enquired how the development of the course content will be carried out. Dr Arif also enquired whether the APOA will develop its own lectures or use the PTC lectures. Dr Onder Aydingoz said the working group should discuss this. Dr David Choon said this course should not be free of charge and the members can be charged a cheaper cost. Dr David Choon opined the biggest value of this course is for individuals thinking of applying</p>

	<p>to do orthopaedics anywhere in the world. Dr Jamal disagreed that the cost should be varied depending on the location. Dr Jamal proposed to have a standardized cost. He added as suggested by Dr Onder Aydingoz that this course can be conducted in conjunction with national orthopaedic associations conferences, in the long term APOA can fund the faculty to travel to the country of the national orthopaedic association conferences and this would require extra funds.</p> <p>Dr Anup Agrawal enquired whether the validity should be for five years or a lifetime. The Education Committee unanimously agreed to the validity of five years. Dr Onder Aydingoz advised Dr Anup Agrawal to revise the content after a discussion with the working group and to present it in the next Education Committee Meeting.</p> <p>Dr Marinis Pirpiris suggested for the respective working group to discuss the costing, and modelling and present their suggestions in the next meeting for the other members to have a better understanding of how the course will be conducted.</p> <p>Dr David Choon enquired whether the course can be based on purchasing parity and not based on actual exchange cost. Dr Onder Aydingoz proposed to announce to start this in one of the national orthopaedic association congresses in autumn.</p> <p>Dr Onder Aydingoz advised Dr Arif Khan and Dr Anup Agrawal to draft a list of trainers who have participated in other courses and have certificates from the courses participated. Dr Anup Agrawal said this will be worked on and the content will be based on a primary trauma care course and a revised draft will be presented as soon as this has been approved. The respective working group will proceed to work on this. Dr Jamal pointed out that if any members of the Education Committee are interested to be part of this can get in touch with any members of this working group.</p>
3.3	APOA Curriculum of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
	<p>Dr Ellewellyn Pasion said permission from the ASEAN association President, Dr Denny Lie has been received to allow APOA to use the ASEAN curriculum platform or template in forming the APOA curriculum committee. Dr Ellewellyn Pasion shared the timeline for how this can be conducted. The timeline is as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partitions and to-do lists will be sent to the subspecialty sections by the end of next week. • Subspecialty sections will be asked to make changes to the draft of the APOA Curriculum of Orthopaedics and Traumatology related to their subspecialties. Six weeks will be given to the section for their feedback. (The deadline is the end of July). • A group from the APOA Education Committee will be asked to make changes to the draft for general O and T parts. Six weeks will be given to that group for their feedback. (The deadline is the end of July). • Then our working group will work on the received feedback from the sections, add the general orthopaedics parts and prepare the draft for the APOA Education Committee. (The deadline is the end of August). • APOA Education Committee will have one month to discuss the draft and upon agreement, the final draft of the curriculum will be sent to the councillors and national societies for their comments. (The deadline is the end of September). • The councillors and national societies will have six weeks for their comments, and they will send their feedback to the Education Committee. (The deadline is the middle of November). • The feedback from the member countries will be incorporated into the final draft by our Curriculum Working Group and be sent to all members of the Education Group and Chairs of the sections. (The deadline is the end of November). • The latest checks will be done by the Education Committee members and Chairs of the sections. (The deadline is the middle of December). • The final version of the curriculum will be made ready by the end of 2023. (The deadline is the end of 2023).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Curriculum will be sent to the APOA Executive Committee at the beginning of January 2024 and if Exco approves, it will be sent to the councillors in February. The curriculum will be presented (and voted on) in the Council Meeting in Dubai. <p>Dr David Choon opined that ASEAN is strongly founded to carry this through the Asia Pacific region. Dr David Choon said that Dr Ellewellyn Pasion should be given the due credit for having the initiative to conduct this curriculum and hopes this can be carried out and presented in the APOA Congress 2024. Dr Ellewellyn Pasion said the APOA has to draft a different format from the ASEAN using the same template with different content. He emphasized that support is needed from the national orthopaedic associations.</p> <p>Dr Ted Mah proposed to consult the national orthopaedic association as this relates to their own training. Dr Onder Aydingoz said this will be sent to the national orthopaedic associations as well. Dr Marinis Pirpiris suggested being flexible and have various modules for different countries. Dr David Choon emphasized this is the minimum requirement expected.</p>
3.4	Diploma Programme from the APOA Platform
	<p>Dr Ted Mah said three meetings have been conducted. The first meeting was to develop the proposed minimum requirements that will apply to all sections.</p> <p>Dr Ted Mah presented the proposed minimum requirements for APOA subspecialty fellowship training as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age Education Qualifications Experience Subspecialty Experience References and Recommendations Research APOA Membership Conferences and Courses Minimum period of Fellowship Recruitment Criteria Curriculum Monitoring an Evaluation Funding for Fellowship APOA Diploma for the Fellowship Feedback at Completion of Fellowship <p>Dr Ted Mah said a meeting will be held at the end of June to endorse the paper and define the center of excellence for each specialty. Dr David Choon opined that the model of funding is not ideal. Dr Ted Mah explained there is no model of funding present as the funding is from individual groups such as the hospital providing specialized training arranging sponsorship to sponsor this training.</p> <p>Dr Anup Agrawal agreed with Dr David Choon and pointed out until the APOA has a funding model in place, this would be difficult to proceed. Dr Anup Agrawal shared that India has centers which provides funds for long-term fellowship around six months to one year and suggested that APOA should look at the countries and centers as the model can vary for different countries.</p> <p>Dr Abhay Elhence said the funding have to be left to the local center as the training programme has to incorporate the fellow without compromising the training of existing trainees and fellows. He said this will depend on the decision of the center of excellence to provide the funding through a third-party source or private organisation or a self-funded meeting. Dr Abhay Elhence pointed out that to give a degree to a foreign fellow is</p>

	<p>controversial as an individual's surgical skills cannot be certified at the completion of a six months or a one-year fellowship programme in the individual's respective country. Dr Abhay Elhence suggested to give a certification of completion of training in which the trainee has completed specific given guidelines.</p> <p>Dr Arif Khan enquired Dr Ted Mah on the number of countries that have the standard accredited subspecialty fellowship programme. Dr Arif Khan suggested planning a diploma programme that is widely acknowledged and respected. Dr Anup Agrawal proposed to divide the fellowship to three categories, self-funded, private funded and center funded as this will be easier for the fellows to choose. Dr Anup Agrawal said the validity of the diploma or certification in a particular country will depend on whether the country recognizes that training. He opined that APOA can liaise through the national orthopaedic association to get the recognition of the particular diploma in the respective countries however, this cannot be assured as APOA has no control over this.</p> <p>Dr David Choon opined a sustainable model is more ideal with a minimal cost. Dr Abhay Elhence suggested to create a travelling fellowship and identify centers of excellence in which the fellow can visit for four to six weeks at a time. He opined that the fellow could do three to five centers for a period of six months, but the fellow would not be able to come up with a publication. He added that this will help the trainee or an evolving specialist as they will be able to see decision making process, techniques, procedures across the platform which can be applied to practice in their respective countries and no licensing is required.</p> <p>Dr Onder Aydingoz said the short-term fellowships and travelling fellowships will be continued and it should be made clear in the final document.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Update on the preparations and scientific programme of the APOA 2024 Dubai Congress</p>
	<p>Dr Jamal said this will be a centrally controlled congress. Dr Jamal explained the structure of the APOA Congress 2024 in Dubai as follows:</p> <p><u>28th February 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-congress workshop or specialty day • Inaugural function in the evening <p><u>29th February 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st day of the congress • Presidential dinner <p><u>1st March 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd day of the congress • Congress banquet <p><u>2nd March 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd half day of the congress <p>Dr Jamal said two proposals have been received. He said the first proposal was by Dr Lee Joon Kiong regarding conducting a workshop on the pre-congress day. The other proposal was made by Dr Tae Joon Cho the chair of the Paediatrics Section to have a specialty day. He added that the pre-congress workshops and specialty day conducted by the sections will be for the sections to generate funds for themselves. Dr Jamal said it has been proposed that there should be separate registration for pre Congress workshops and specialty day. He pointed out that only the expenditures on the venue shall be paid to the local organisers. Dr Jamal emphasized there cannot be more than two sections conducting a specialty day in any congress due to the logistics of the venue.</p> <p>Dr Jamal said that the number of hours allocated for each section is based on the experience taken from the previous congresses based on the anticipated participants in that section. Dr</p>

Jamal informed that APOA will provide complimentary registrations to all invited speakers. The APOA will inform the sections about the maximum number of speakers based on the time duration that has been allocated. Dr Jamal said the secretary general of the APOA will send letters to all the sections informing them about the number of hours allocated and the local liaison person in the Dubai congress with a specific request that the APOA shall not interfere in the programme set up, but each section shall incorporate about 10% - 15% time to speakers from the local region which will be recommended by the local organisers. Dr Jamal said the APOA aims to try and encourage people across the globe. The local organising committee will nominate one person from the local committee who will liaise to select the 10%-15% local speakers.

Dr Jamal asserted that the APOA will not interfere with the selection of keynote speakers. Dr Jamal said there will be four plenary talks and will be selected by the APOA President in conjunction with the Education Committee, however, all sections are invited to send their proposals to the Education Committee lead by the President who will then select the four plenary speakers. Dr Jamal stated that the plenary speakers will be provided with complimentary registration, accommodation and invitation to all social functions. Air fares will not be provided to anyone. Dr Jamal said the leadership of the APOA is requested to encourage the speakers from the respective APOA region.

Dr Ted Mah said Dr In-Ho Jeon has requested a pre-congress symposium for the shoulder programme as minuted in the previous Education Committee minutes. Dr Jamal said Dr Joon Kiong Lee and Dr Tae Joon Cho's proposal has been received and accepted by the Executive Committee. He added that since there is one more slot for the pre-congress, Dr In-Ho Jeon request can be accepted.

Dr Jamal said that while discussing the concept for APOA to conduct its congresses, it was decided that APOA will control the finances. Dr Jamal said the Executive Committee were hopeful that the new company would be set up in Hong Kong by the time the APOA Congress in Dubai commence. However, due to the certain delays, the APOA is not in the position to have the account in place in Hong Kong before the APOA Congress 2024. Dr Jamal said the Executive Committee had come up with two options. Option one is to use the accounts in Kuala Lumpur for running the congress, and for making payment for registrations and sponsorships. He added that the remaining funds will be transferred to Hong Kong when the account in Hong Kong has been set up. Dr Jamal pointed out that Dr Syed Alsagoff said the funds will be received in the Malaysia account and this will be taxable in Malaysia. Dr Jamal explained the other option is that the money is parked in Dubai with the APOA congress account opened in Dubai. He added that the UAE is lenient with opening accounts and keeping the money in Dubai is tax-free. He said when the Hong Kong account is set up, the money in the Dubai APOA account can be directly transferred to the Hong Kong account. Dr Jamal said the Executive Committee had decided that the money will remain in Dubai in the APOA congress account and will be shifted to the Hong Kong account when the company is established.

Dr David Choon shared the timeline before the APOA Congress 2024:

1. 1st Announcement: 2023 / 06 / **
2. Main Speaker list: 2023 / 07 / 01
3. 2nd Announcement: 2023 / 07 / 31
4. Call for free papers: 2023 / 07 / 01
5. Early Bird registration ends: 2023 / 12 / 25
6. Standard registration: 2023 / 12 / 25
7. Pre-conference registration after main registration
8. Meeting
 - Pre-conference: 2024 / 02 / 28
 - Conference: 2024 / 02 / 29 to 2024 / 03 / 02
 - Specialty days

Free papers are open for submission from 2023 / 07 / 01
Final submission 2023 / 12 / 25

	<p>Submission procedure is as follows: Submit an abstract and 5-minute video by 2023 / 12 / 25</p> <p>Dr David Choon said that once submitted in this format all papers will be recognised as accepted. Presenters will be informed that their papers will be available on the conference site for discussion under various sections. The papers will be ranked by popular vote. We will advertise papers as submitted and accepted. There are limited spaces for podium presentations. Papers will be accepted for the podium by the closing date of 2023 / 12 / 25.</p> <p>Dr David Choon said papers submitted earlier are more likely to get votes. Only registered participants can vote. Every section is allowed to propose 2 moderators. Each moderator has one vote per paper moderated.</p> <p>There will be a prize in each section for the highest-ranked paper. All submissions will be given a certificate at the podium by members of the section involved. Preferably the president of the section and a nominee of the education committee.</p> <p>After Dec 25, 2023, free paper submissions will be accepted but only for online presentation. Certificates will still be awarded. These submissions are not entitled to prizes.</p> <p>Dr Joon Kiong Lee said he has identified five members from the APOFFS to be the five speakers for the five lectures. Dr Joon Kiong Lee expressed his thanks to the Executive Committee for supporting the licensing fee for the society to conduct the course. Dr Joon Kiong Lee enquired if APOA will bear the cost for the venue and the food and beverages (lunch and tea) or if the cost has to be paid by APOFFS. Dr Joon Kiong Lee enquired if the registration would be from the APOA secretariat or the PCO. Dr Jamal replied there will be a certain registration fee that the APOA is contemplating between USD 50 to USD 100 based on approval by the section. The registration fee will be transferred to the APOA account. APOA will only take the expenditure used for the specialty day or pre-congress workshop and the remaining amount received as registration fees for the course will be transferred to the section accounts.</p> <p>Dr Tae Joon Cho enquired about the format of the specialty day. He expressed his hope that the specialty day programme would be more integrated with the main APOA meeting. Dr David Choon proposed that Dr Tae Joon Cho send a proposal to the Education Committee for further discussion. Dr Tae Joon Cho requested that the Executive Committee should send the decision made and Dr Jamal replied that an email regarding the decision will be sent the same night.</p> <p>Dr Ted Mah opined that the Congress Committee will accept all the abstract submissions that have been submitted on time irrespective of the quality of the paper. Dr Jamal explained that all delegates who submit an abstract and a PowerPoint presentation will be uploaded on the congress website. Dr Jamal said the public can view this and mark the abstract paper submitted. He pointed out that the papers with the highest rank would be able to do a podium presentation at the congress.</p> <p>Dr David Choon said the sections can make money through the website by providing an opportunity to make payments online. Dr David Choon proposed having a five-year rolling programme in which each section would decide the main issues to be discussed for the next five years. Dr David Choon said the sections have the autonomy to change the topics over time. Dr David Choon opined the main APOA meeting held annually is not for teaching but to report on consensus, opinions and conducting seminars regarding this.</p>
	<p>Dr Onder Aydingoz said the next meeting will be on 13th August 2023 at 8 pm (Kuala Lumpur time). and thanked all the participants for joining the meeting.</p>

The meeting adjourned at 2220 hours (GMT +8) with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Minutes prepared by:

Ms Kristin Liew

Minutes vetted by:

Dr Onder Aydingoz
Chair, Education Committee

Dr Arif Khan
Secretary General, APOA