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## Message from President

Dear Friends,

### **The effects of Covid-19**

I do hope you are all keeping safe and healthy during these rather trying times. Our world has been turned over in ways we never imagined in just 4 months with this Covid-19 pandemic. Yet, we need to plough on and we need to continue caring for our cancer patients even if we have to adjust to how care is delivered.

Unlike some other countries, we have been fortunate in Singapore so far, because we have not had many cancer patients who have been infected with Covid-19. Data from overseas have shown that cancer patients do poorer with Covid-19 than non-cancer patients and have a higher mortality rate. So, it is our responsibility to protect our cancer patients where possible. On this topic, SSO is participating in the ESMO CoCARE project, which is a global registry to collect data on cancer patients who have had Covid-19 infection, in hope that collectively, we will have a better understanding of outcomes in this patient group. Locally, there has also been some interest in doing a study on the effects of Covid-19 on oncology practices here and around the region. If anyone has interest in this or has the research skills for such a project, please contact me directly.

SSO's role in the continuing education of cancer specialists will not be stopped by Covid-19. SSO will continue to present various CME webinars so you are updated on the latest in oncology.



Specific to Covid-19, SSO organised a webinar for cancer patients on how to protect themselves from Covid-19 on 11 April 2020 [ Cancer & Covid-19 ], which received good feedback and a sharing session from our oncology colleagues in China on the effects of Covid-19 on cancer care on 09 May 2020 [ China Experience Sharing – Cancer Management in COVID-19], which was educational for us. Besides these, SSO participated in a lively panel discussion with our counterparts from the Malaysian Oncology Society on 25 April 2020 regarding COVID-19 and Cancer Management. Our immediate past-president, Dr Ravindran Kaneshvaran also represented Singapore in a webinar organised by ESMO on The Global Response to the COVID19 Pandemic on 19 April 2020. There are many other cancer-specific Covid-related meetings which we will continue to participate in as deemed fit. So, please continue to support our virtual meetings.

### **BASCO plans**

SSO EXCO recently met on 26 March 2020 to discuss our plans for Best of ASCO which was supposed to be held in July 2020. It was quite clear to the committee that it would not be feasible to run BASCO this year due to the pandemic. Thus, we unanimously agreed to postpone BASCO to July 2021 when we do hope it will be safe to meet in groups again.

### **SSO AGM**

Our annual SSO Annual General Meeting should have been held in April this year. Due to Covid-19, we decided to postpone the SSO AGM till the end of the Circuit Breaker and received permission to do so from the Registry of Societies. Based on our constitution, we should be voting for a new EXCO this year, however it appears that it will not be possible to meet as a group anytime soon. Thus, we will be holding a virtual AGM with remote voting for a new committee on 29 July 2020. So, please block this date and look out for our updates. Hopefully, we will have a record turnout since it will be a virtual meeting!

### **An eventful 2019**

We had an eventful year in 2019. New to our usual agenda was the SSO-ACORD trial concept workshop which was conducted just before BASCO, led by Dr Soon Yu Yang and Dr Martin Stockler. This was a collaboration between SSO and ACORD to help young oncologists develop research concepts which could be submitted to the ACORD full week trial protocol development workshop. This was attended by 31 attendees from 7 different countries.

We also held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Oncology Review Course and for the first time, we invited fellows from Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Vietnam. This course was led by Dr Elaine Lim and Dr Eileen Poon and was very well received.

SSO also became a member of the Asian Oncology Society and there was an inaugural signing ceremony held in Fukuoka during JSCO which I attended.

The SSO-CIC held an immunotherapy focused meeting after BASCO and we were privileged to have Prof Jeffrey Pollard and Prof Alberto Mantovani, both eminent physicians in the field of immunology, speak at a stand-alone symposium and share their inspiring work.

We continued to be the host society for ESMO Asia from 22-24 November 2019 which had a record turnout and supported other affiliated events around this conference. Dr Eileen Poon represented Singapore in the ESMO Generation Leadership program which was held for the first time in Singapore. We continue to support the Pan-Asian adapted ESMO guidelines with participation from our Singapore experts for the various cancer types.

Throughout the year, we continued our collaborations with our regional oncology societies and our EXCO have received warm hospitality from many of our friends.

Many of our events would not be possible without the support of you guys and of industry and for these we are thankful. 2020 is turning out to be a most unusual year and we will have time to reflect and many stories to tell after this. In the meantime, I leave you with a photo newsletter of the key events that were held last year and in early 2020, during non-Covid times. I hope these photos give you something to look forward to in the future. Till we meet again in person, please protect yourselves and be healthy.

Warm regards,

Choo Su Pin  
President – SSO



# SSO 39<sup>th</sup> AGM

**In light of the recently gazetted Covid-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020 which sets out alternative arrangements to conduct general meetings, we will be holding the Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers by electronic means. More details will be sent out soon.**

Date : **29 July 2020**  
Time : **1830hrs**  
Venue : Virtual Meeting, via Zoom

**BLOCK THIS DATE!!!!**

## Best of ASCO 2020 & 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting updates

Due to the developments of the COVID-19 situation and as a precautionary measure, BASCO 2020 will be postponed to 2021.

It has been a very difficult decision for the organising committee. However, your safety is of the utmost importance and this is in the best interests of everyone.

We will be announcing the new BASCO 2021 dates very soon so please do visit the SSO website for latest updates.

# Best of ASCO – 5th Singapore Society of Oncology Annual Scientific Meeting on 05-06 July 2019

**Singapore Society of Oncology organised its 5th Best of ASCO Annual Scientific Meeting on 05 & 06 July 2019 at Grand Hyatt Hotel Singapore. 5th Best of ASCO was in conjunction with SSO-ACORD Workshop on 04 July 2019 and SSO-CIC Meeting on 07 July 2019.**

Dr Elaine Lim was the Organising Chair and Dr Joline Lim was the Scientific Chair for BASCO 2019.

International experts from Medical Oncology Group of Australia, Japanese Society of Medical Oncology and Myanmar Oncology Society also played active roles during the Symposium.

The field of medical oncology has seen a multitude of advances and breakthroughs in research and clinical therapeutics in recent years. The Best of ASCO 2019 was designed to provide an illuminating overview of exciting developments and challenges in oncology by having a comprehensive program, which not only includes presentation of groundbreaking ASCO



abstracts, but also a plenary session and dedicated symposiums during which prominent local and international faculty which shared with us their clinical and research experiences in selected major tumor types of their specialty.

An abstract competition was held to encourage everyone in cancer research to come forth and share his or her knowledge in the field.

The abstract competition was in moderated poster (stand by poster). The authors were given strictly 3 minutes to present followed by 2 minutes for questions from the judges. The judges were Dr Adrian Lee and Dr Danghuyquoc Thinh (Team 1) and Dr Tan Chih

Kiang and Dr Nairayat Prasongsook (Team 2).

The top three abstracts were awarded to Dr Caryn Wujanto from National University Cancer Institute Singapore, Dr Kiattisa Sommat from National Cancer Centre Singapore and Dr Naoko Hosono from University of Fukui, Japan respectively.

Best of ASCO 2019 concluded successfully with an attendance of over 300 local and international delegates and faculty from 15 countries and over 20 abstract submissions.

# SSO-ACORD WORKSHOP

## 04 July 2019



SSO-ACORD Workshop 2019 was jointly organised by Singapore Society of Oncology (SSO) and the Australia & Asia Pacific Clinical Oncology Development (ACORD) on 04 July 2020.

The aim of this 1-day workshop is to help early career researchers turn their new ideas for cancer clinical research studies into persuasive 1-page concept outlines.

There were a total of 31 attendees from 7 countries who attended this workshop.

# Best of ASCO – 5th SSO ASM 2019 Gallery



Faculty dinner at The Halia Restaurant,  
at Singapore Botanic Gardens



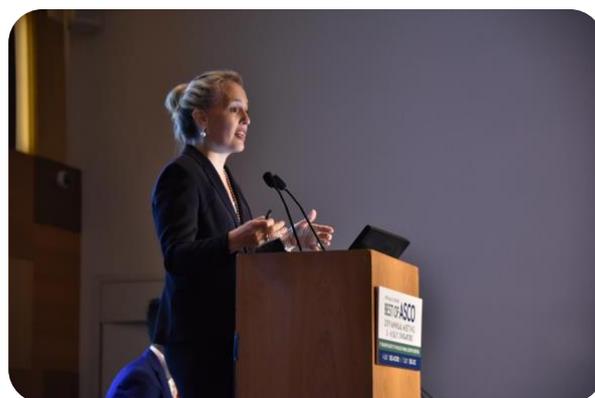
Panel discussion



More than 300 local and international  
delegates and faculty from 15  
countries attended the BASCO 2019



Best poster award:  
Dr Caryn Wujanto



Dr Rebecca Dent

To view more photographs from Best of  
ASCO 2019, please visit [here](#).

# SSO-CIC Meeting Gallery



## JSMO 2019

The Japanese Society of Medical Oncology Annual Meeting was held on 18-20 July 2019 in Kyoto, Japan. Dr Choo Su Pin and Prof William Hwang went as representatives of SSO.

## MOGA 2019

The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) of the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA), **Leading the Way in Medical Oncology Education, Research and Clinical Practice** was held at the National Convention Centre, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory on 14-16 August 2019.

Dr Elaine Lim went as a representative of SSO.

## ESMO 2019

SSO participated in the ESMO National Committees meeting and attended the ESMO Presidential dinner in Barcelona.



# ASCO Breakthrough

ASCO Breakthrough took place in Bangkok, Thailand from 11-13 October 2019.

Faculty dinner at ASCO Breakthrough with Dr Virote and Dr Nairayat from Thai Society of Clinical Oncology, Dr Chikashi Ishioka from JSMO and Prof Soe Aung from Myanmar.

Dr Elaine Lim will represent SSO at ASCO Breakthrough as we are a collaborating society.



## 57th Japan Society of Clinical Oncology 24-26 October 2019

The 57th Annual Meeting of Japan Society of Clinical Oncology was held on 24-26 October 2019, at Fukuoka, Japan. Dr Choo Su Pin was invited to the Asian Oncology Society inauguration ceremony on 25 October 2019. JSCO is the largest Japanese professional organisation of clinical oncology founded in 1963, with more than 17,000 oncology professionals belonging to the organisation. Singapore Society of Oncology is also a member society.



# ESMO LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

ESMO Leaders Generation Program was attended by Dr Eileen Poon on 18-21 November 2019.

The ESMO Leaders Generation Programme (LGP) was first launched in Europe in 2016 for ESMO medical/ clinical oncologists between 31-45 years old. It launched its first installation in Asia between 18-21 November 2019, and consisted of 16 participants from different countries across Asia.

The LGP was aimed at identifying and nurturing future leaders by exposing them to the work that ESMO does and how it fits into the world of oncology. It does this through a series of presentations, workshops and round-table discussion with world leaders.



In addition, it also aims to improve and enhance participants' leadership and communication skills through hands on media and situation-based training. This programme also allowed the chance for networking and for participants to seek career advice from the world's key opinion leaders in oncology.



# SSO - CIC Symposium 21 November 2019

The Singapore Society of Oncology – Cancer Immunotherapy Consortium was set up in 2018, chaired by Prof Toh Han Chong. The era of cancer immunotherapy has led to paradigm shifts in the outcomes of various cancers. SSO-CIC aims to help improve the understanding of cancer immunotherapy and the appropriate use of immunotherapy through educational activities and to work towards collaborative efforts in research where possible.

SSO-CIC Symposium was held on 21 November 2019, at Raffles Hotel from 1730-2100hrs.

## The topics & speakers for this event are:

- Inflammation and Cancer Prof. Alberto Mantovani
- Macrophages: Bad Actors in Cancer Prof. Jeffrey W. Pollard



# ESMO ASIA 2019

Singapore – 22-24 November 2019  
Suntec Convention Centre

The fifth edition of the ESMO Asia Congress, was held at the vibrant Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre. It gathered more than 3800 participants from over 70 countries sharing the latest data on multidisciplinary oncology. The Singapore Society of Oncology was the host society and also received a token of appreciation from ESMO.



From left: Fortunato Ciardiello, Choo Su Pin, Solange Peters, Lam Pin Min (Guest of Honour) and Josep Taberero



ESMO  
Faculty  
Dinner

Singapore Society of Oncology also hosted an ESMO faculty dinner on 22 November 2019 at the Candlenut restaurant. There were 30 faculty from ESMO who attended the dinner.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Medical Oncology Review Course

## 17-19 January 2020

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Medical Oncology Review Course was held on 17-19 January 2020, at the Auditorium of National Cancer Centre Singapore.

This course was chaired by Dr Elaine Lim and Dr Eileen Poon and was very well received. We invited fellows from Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Vietnam.



# Pan-Asian adapted ESMO guidelines

SSO continued to be involved in the Pan-Asian adapted ESMO guidelines. This year, topics covered were early breast cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma and non-small cell lung carcinoma.

The image displays three screenshots of the Pan-Asian adapted ESMO clinical practice guidelines. Each screenshot shows the title of the guideline, the journal information, authors, and a 'Related items' section with buttons for 'Read full article' and 'Download the PDF'.

**ESMO > Guidelines > Breast Cancer > Early Breast Cancer**  
**PAN-ASIAN ADAPTED ESMO CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES – MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH EARLY BREAST CANCER**

**Pan-Asian Adapted ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Early Breast Cancer: A KSMO-ESMO Initiative Endorsed by CSCO, ISMPO, JSMO, MOS, SSO and TOS**

Published online 16 JAN 2020 · Ann Oncol (2020)  
Authors: Y.H. Park, E. Senkus-Konefka, S.A. Im, G. Pentheroudakis, S. Sajl, S. Gupta, H. Iwata, M.Y. Mastura, R. Dent, Y.S. Lu, Y. Yin, B.K. Smruti, T. Toyama, S. Malwinder, S.C. Lee, L.M. Tseng, J.H. Kim, T.Y. Kim, K.J. Suh, F. Cardoso, T. Yoshino, J.Y. Douillard

**Related items**  
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**ESMO > Guidelines > Lung and Chest Tumours**  
**PAN-ASIAN ADAPTED ESMO CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES – MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH LOCALLY-ADVANCED UNRESECTABLE NSCLC**

**Pan-Asian Adapted ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Locally-Advanced Unresectable Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer: A KSMO-ESMO Initiative Endorsed by CSCO, ISMPO, JSMO, MOS, SSO and TOS**

Published in 2020 · Ann Oncol (2020) 31(2): 191–201  
Authors: K. Park, J. Vansteenkiste, K.H. Lee, G. Pentheroudakis, C. Zhou, K. Prabhash, T. Seto, P.J. Vooir, D.S.W. Tan, J.C.H. Yang, J. Wang, K. Govind Babu, Y. Nakayama, A. Alip, K.L.M. Chua, J.C.H. Cheng, S. Senan, Y.C. Ahn, T.Y. Kim, H.K. Ahn, S. Peters, T. Yoshino, J.Y. Douillard

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**ESMO > Guidelines > Gastrointestinal Cancers > Hepatocellular Carcinoma**  
**PAN-ASIAN ADAPTED ESMO CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES – MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED/RELAPSED HCC**

**Pan-Asian Adapted ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Intermediate and Advanced/Relapsed Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A TOS-ESMO Initiative Endorsed by CSCO, ISMPO, JSMO, KSMO, MOS and SSO**

Published online 06 JAN 2020 · Ann Oncol (2020)  
Authors: L.T. Chen, E. Martinelli, A.L. Cheng, G. Pentheroudakis, S. Qin, G.S. Bhattacharyya, M. Ikeda, H.Y. Lim, G.F. Ho, S.P. Choo, Z. Ren, H. Malhotra, M. Ueno, B.Y. Ryoo, T.C. Kiang, D. Tai, A. Vogel, A. Cervantes, S.N. Lu, C.J. Yen, Y.H. Huang, S.C. Chen, C. Hsu, Y.C. Shen, J. Tabernero, Y. Yen, C.H. Hsu, T. Yoshino, J.Y. Douillard

**Related items**  
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# CHINA EXPERIENCE SHARING – CANCER MANAGEMENT IN COVID-19

Singapore Society of Oncology organised a webinar with doctors from China to share their experience in Cancer Management in COVID-19 on 09 May 2020. The speakers for this webinar are Prof Liu Tian Shu & Prof Li Jin and was moderated by Dr Elaine Lim.

There were about 75 attendees for this webinar.



Organized by: Singapore Society of Oncology

Education Event brought to you by: Roche

**CHINA EXPERIENCE SHARING -  
CANCER MANAGEMENT IN COVID-19**

9 MAY 2020 | SATURDAY | 12:00 hrs - 13:30 hrs | Registration Fees: COMPLIMENTARY

**Prof. LIU Tian Shu** (Speaker)  
 • Director of Oncology Department, Fudan University Zhongshan Hospital  
 • Executive committee member of Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology

**Prof. LI Jin** (Speaker)  
 • Director of Oncology Department, Shanghai East Hospital, Tong Ji University  
 • Ex-chairman of Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology

**Dr. Elaine LIM** (Chair)  
 • Senior Consultant, Division of Medical Oncology, National Cancer Centre Singapore  
 • Vice President of Singapore Society of Oncology

Sat 11 April 2020 1 pm – 2 pm (Singapore time)

Webinar For Patients and Caregivers

# CANCER & COVID-19



Dr. Leong  
Hoe Nam



Dr. Choo  
Su Pin



Dr. Joline  
Lim

Organized by



Supported by



ONCOSHOT

## CANCER & COVID-19

A public webinar for patients and caregivers on Cancer & COVID-19 was **organised by Singapore Society of Oncology** and supported by Oncoshot on Saturday, 11 April 2020.

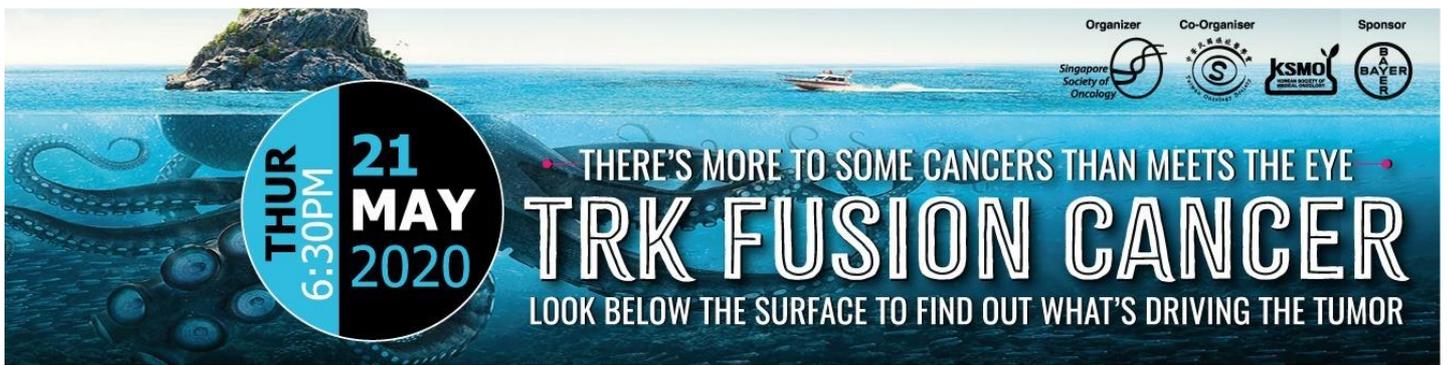
The event featured leading medical experts in Infectious Diseases and Oncology who addressed concerns that cancer patients and caregivers may have had during this challenging period.

The speakers for this event were:

- Dr Leong Hoe Nam (Infectious Diseases)
- Dr Choo Su Pin (Medical Oncology)
- Dr Joline Lim (Medical Oncology)



Those needing life-saving therapy will get treated, some can be reviewed remotely



## NTRK Fusion Cancer, 21 May 2020

The NTRK Fusion Cancer Webinar was organised by Singapore Society of Oncology, **co-organised by Taiwan Oncology Society and Korean Society of Medical Oncology** and sponsored by Bayer.

TRK fusion proteins (resulting from NTRK gene fusion) are a primary oncogenic driver across multiple tumors in adults and children. Identification of NTRK gene fusions and TRK fusion proteins is important to offer precise and tailored cancer therapy to improve patient outcomes.

### Speakers:

- Dr Hsieh Chia-Hsun
- Dr Daniel Tan
- Dr Choo Su Pin



# COVID-19 & Lung Cancer- Changing Care Worldwide

This webinar was held on 05 June 2020 and organised by Singapore Society of Oncology. It was also moderated by Dr Tan Min-Han from Lucence Diagnostics and we received around 85 attendees.

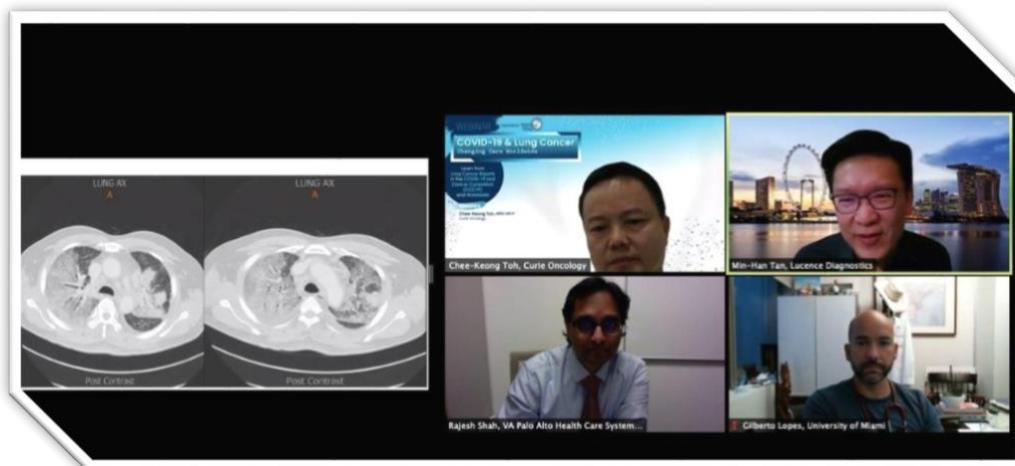
## Speakers:

- Dr. Gilberto De Lima Lopes from University of Miami
- Dr. Rajesh Shah from VA Palo Alto Health Care System and Stanford University
- Dr. Chee-Keong Toh from Curie Oncology



The webinar covered:

- Clinical impact of COVID-19 on imaging and diagnosis
- Considerations of treatment selection for lung cancer patients
- A case study of a ventilated patient initially suspected of COVID-19, and subsequently diagnosed with lung cancer profiled by liquid biopsy technology



## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE NOW!

Avoid a lapse in your member benefits by renewing your SSO Membership now. Our simple online form also allows you to update your profile and contact information.

To renew your membership, please go to <http://www.singaporeoncology.org.sg/membershiprenewal>.

## UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP PARTICULARS ONLINE

Have you changed your mailing address or telephone number? Update your personal particulars online, so we can keep in touch with you!

To update your particulars, please go to <https://www.singaporeoncology.org.sg/updateparticulars>.