

# Aspire

August 2019



*Professor Budi Wiweko  
President of ASPIRE*

## THE GROWTH OF ASPIRE

2019 is a really exciting year for ASPIRE. Earlier this year, our 6th ASPIRE masterclass concluded with the highest number of participations thus far. We have also wrapped up The 9th Congress of Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2019) which was held from the 2 – 5 May 2019 in Hong Kong. At the meeting this year, we have finally launched our long-awaited official journal, *Fertility & Reproduction*. For the first time, we had interactive meetings with the ASPIRE Country Representatives and members' meeting for our Special Interest Groups (SIG). Engagement with our leaders and members is very important to ASPIRE and we strive to hold more of



such meetings, improving the involvement of our members and leaders in future ASPIRE activities.

Currently, ASPIRE is preparing for our first regional meeting which will be held in Lahore, Pakistan, from 29 November - 1 December 2019 and The 10th Congress of Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2020) in Manila, Philippines from 16 – 19 April 2020. We believe these are stepping stones to help establish ASPIRE into a more professional society in the field of reproduction. ASPIRE has also taken measures to grow our presence in the reproductive field, by working with a media agency to expand on our news coverage.

ASPIRE would also like to take this opportunity to inform everyone that ASPIRE will be having exchange

sessions at the ASRM and ESHRE meetings every alternate year. This year, an ASPIRE session will be run at the ASRM 2019 which will be happening this October at Philadelphia, USA and starting from ESHRE 2020 in Copenhagen, we will be having an ASPIRE session at the ESHRE meetings every alternate year.

I would like to thank every ASPIRE member for their great contribution, supporting the growth of our society and helping ASPIRE to make an impact on the society.

Thank you very much

Professor Budi Wiweko  
President of ASPIRE

Aspire

# ASPIRE Congress



## The 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2019)

2 – 5 May 2019

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Cutting Edge of  
Reproductive Medicine

The 9th Congress of the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2019) was successfully held from 2 – 5 May at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong. Over 1,800 participants from over 49 countries including delegates, faculty members, exhibitors, sponsors and accompanying persons attended the congress.

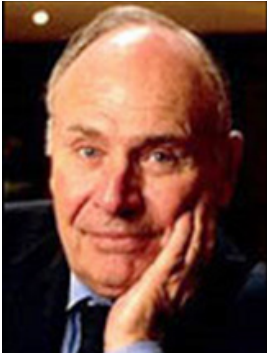
The congress featured plenary lectures, scientific sessions, company symposia, 7 pre-congress courses as well as oral and poster presentations with a total of 151 faculty members.

ASPIRE is proud to have concluded yet another successful congress and will continue striving to bring to you the best programme possible.





# Lifetime Achievement Award



*Professor Emeritus Bruno Lunenfeld*

Professor Emeritus Bruno Lunenfeld born in Vienna 1927 was the first to study and assess the combination of testosterone and estrogens in the menopausal syndrome for his medical thesis in 1954. He was the first to develop the clinical use of human menopausal gonadotropins; was instrumental in the creation of the international standard for gonadotropins, the classification of infertile patients as well as the ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome. He has also made significant contributions to the understanding of follicular recruitment, rescue, selection, growth and development, the ovulatory cycle and the mechanism of action of gonadotropins in ovaries and testis. Professor Lunenfeld has been a driving force in studies of the aging male, was the Founder and first President of the International Society for the study of the aging male, and Editor of the "The Aging Male". He published more than 400 papers (320 quoted in Pub Med).

Professor Lunenfeld is the founder of ASPIRE, was nominated Fellow (ad eundem) of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists (UK) and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. In 1995, he became honorary member of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) and the International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS).

He was also awarded the Special Recognition Award of the United States Public Health Service in 1983 in recognition of his outstanding contribution in the promotion of health, and in furtherance of cooperative health efforts between the United States of America and the State of Israel and "The Verdienstkreuz 1. Klasse" (German Government "Order of Distinction") signed by the President of Germany, Roman Herzog in 1995.



## Young Investigator Awards

ASPIRE launched the ASPIRE Young Investigator Award in 2016 to provide promising young investigators funding in support of quality research in ART as well as an opportunity for them to use ASPIRE Congresses as a platform to put forward their work. We would like to congratulate the 5 winners for their outstanding work and presentation and to everyone who have submitted an entry for ASPIRE 2019.

### ASPIRE 2019 Young Investigator Awardees



ASPIRE would like to acknowledge the following 5 winners for the Young Investigator Award:

Presenter	Country	Abstract Theme	Abstract Title
Mai Ma	Vietnam	Reproductive Genetics	CORRELATION BETWEEN FSH RECEPTOR POLYMORPHISM AND SUBOPTIMAL OVARIAN RESPONSE IN VIETNAMESE WOMEN UNDERGOING IVF
Vu Ngoc Anh Ho	Vietnam	ART, Clinical	THE EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY OF IN VITRO MATURATION OF OOCYTES (IVM) VERSUS IN VITRO FERTILIZATION (IVF) IN WOMEN WITH A HIGH ANTRAL FOLLICLES COUNT (AFC)
Takuhiko Ichiyama	Japan	Reproductive Genetics	ANALYSIS OF THE VAGINAL AND ENDOMETRIAL MICROBIOTA OF INTERFILE WOMEN WITH REPEATED IMPLANTATION FALIURE
Yiqing Zhao	China	ART, Basic Research	CNP-MEDIATED PRE-IVM IMPROVES CUMULUS FUNCTION AND OOCYTE QUALITY IN MILDLY STIMULATED MICE
Ping Yuan	China	Reproductive Genetics	NOVEL MUTATION IN THE ZP1 GENE AND CLINICAL PICTURES OF EMPTY FOLLICLE SYNDROME AND OOCYTE ANOMALIES



## Best Oral Presentations

Over 461 abstracts were received from 28 countries for ASPIRE 2019. Top 10 Oral and Top 10 Poster abstracts were selected to be evaluated for the Best 5 Oral presentations and Best 5 Poster Presentation.

ASPIRE would like to thank all authors who have taken their time and effort to submit their research works.

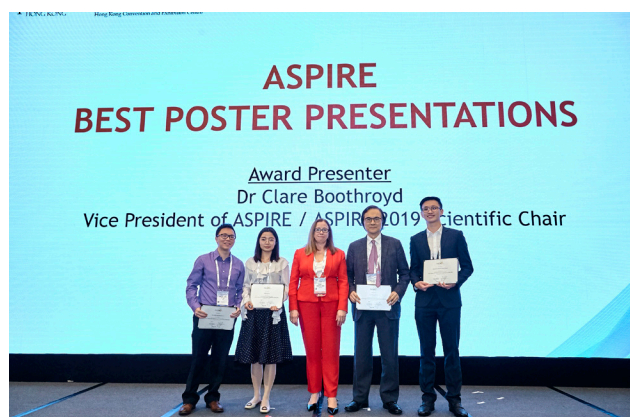
### ASPIRE 2019 Best 5 Oral Presentations



ASPIRE would like to acknowledge the following 5 winners for the best Oral Presentation:

Presenter	Country	Abstract Theme	Abstract Title
Vu Ngoc Anh Ho	Vietnam	ART, Clinical	THE EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY OF IN VITRO MATURATION OF OOCYTES (IVM) VERSUS IN VITRO FERTILIZATION (IVF) IN WOMEN WITH A HIGH ANTRAL FOLLICLES COUNT (AFC)
Mai Ma	Vietnam	Reproductive Genetics	CORRELATION BETWEEN FSH RECEPTOR POLYMORPHISM AND SUBOPTIMAL OVARIAN RESPONSE IN VIETNAMESE WOMEN UNDERGOING IVF
Michael Bonifacio	Australia	Reproductive Genetics	RARE AUTOSOMAL TRISOMIES FOUND IN NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL SAMPLES: NOT RARE, JUST HIDDEN AND IMPORTANT!
Yingying Wang	China	Contraception	ANTIFERTILITY EFFECTIVENESS OF A NOVEL POLYMER MATRIX COMPOSITE AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE ENDOMETRIUM IN RHESUS MACAQUES (MACACA MULATTA)
Takuhiko Ichiyama	Japan	Reproductive Genetics	ANALYSIS OF THE VAGINAL AND ENDOMETRIAL MICROBIOTA OF INTERFILE WOMEN WITH REPEATED IMPLANTATION FALIURE

## Best Poster Presentations



### ASPIRE 2019 Best 5 Poster Presentations

ASPIRE would like to acknowledge the following 5 winners for the best Poster Presentation:

Presenter	Country	Abstract Theme	Abstract Title
Wai Kheong Ryan Lee	Singapore	ART, Basic research	THE IMMUNE LANDSCAPE AFTER LOCAL ENDOMETRIAL INJURY IN WOMEN WITH RECURRENT IMPLANTATION FAILURE UNDER GOING IN-VITRO FERTILIZATION
Yanling Fu	China	ART, Clinical	HIGHER BLOOD PRESSURE IN 3 TO 6-YEAR-OLD SINGLETON BORN WITH OVARIAN HYPERSTIMULATION SYNDROME: FOLLOW-UP OF A LARGE SIZED, PROSPECTIVE STUDY
Jonathan Mann Seng Chooi	Malaysia	ART, Clinical	BLASTOCOELE EXPANSION STATUS AT TIME OF TRANSFER AFFECTS CLINICAL PREGNANCY OUTCOME FOLLOWING SINGLE FROZEN EUPLOID BLASTOCYST TRANSFER
Wun-Syuan Kuo	Taiwan	Reproductive Genetics	ASSOCIATION OF FUCOSYLTRANSFERASE 9 POLYMORPHISM WITH SUSCEPTIBILITY TO ENDOMETRIOSIS
Ya-Ching Chou	Taiwan	Reproductive Genetics	GENOME-WIDE ASSOCIATION STUDY REVEALS ENDOMETRIOSIS-ASSOCIATED LOCUS WITHIN THE INTURNED PLANAR CELL POLARITY PROTEIN GENE AT CHROMOSOME 4Q28.1





**SAVE THE DATE**

## THE 10<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS OF THE ASIA PACIFIC INITIATIVE ON REPRODUCTION

16-19 APRIL 2020

Philippine International Convention Center (PICC)

**BRIDGING THE GAP: FERTILITY AND REPRODUCTION**

For inquiries, please contact  
ASPIRE 2020 Congress Secretariat  
GIS Group Global Co., Ltd.  
Email: [info@aspire2020.org](mailto:info@aspire2020.org)

Organized by: **Aspire**

Hosted by:



[www.aspire2020.org](http://www.aspire2020.org)





## Important Dates

- Call for Abstract ▶ **1 July 2019**  
 Online Registration Start ▶ **15 October 2019**  
 Abstract Submission Deadline ▶ **15 November 2019**  
 Abstract Review Results Notification ▶ **2 January 2020**  
 Early Bird Registration End ▶ **1 February 2020**

## Bruno Lunenfeld Honorary Lecture Speaker



Professor Catherine Racowsky  
Harvard Medical School (USA)

## Keynote Speakers



Professor Jacques Donnez  
Société de Recherche pour  
l'Infertilité (Belgium)



Dr. Mario Festin  
World Health Organisation  
(Philippines)



Professor Paul Hofman  
University of Auckland  
(New Zealand)



Professor Peter Schlegel  
Weill Cornell Medicine  
(USA)



Professor le-Ming Shih  
Johns Hopkins University  
(USA)



Professor Carlos Simón  
University of Valencia  
(Spain)



Dr. Thi Ngoc Lan Vuong  
University of Medicine and  
Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh  
City (Vietnam)

## Registration Fees

Registration Category	Early Bird On or before 1 February 2020	Regular From 2 February to 6 April 2020	On-site After 6 April 2020
ASPIRE Member*	<b>USD 450</b>	<b>USD 500</b>	<b>USD 550</b>
Non-ASPIRE Member	<b>USD 600</b>	<b>USD 650</b>	<b>USD 700</b>
Full-time Student/Trainee**	<b>USD 150</b>	<b>USD 200</b>	<b>USD 250</b>
Accompanying Persons	<b>USD 100</b>		

\* The membership will be confirmed by the ASPIRE. To become a member or renew your membership, please visit the ASPIRE website. For enquiries, please contact [jghoa@aspire-reproduction.org](mailto:jghoa@aspire-reproduction.org).

\*\*Verification letter from your Department of the hospital or your Institution is required to qualify for the full-time student / trainee fee.



## Membership

## Be an ASPIRE member for 2019 and beyond!

The Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction, ASPIRE, was founded in 2001 to improve knowledge and awareness of ART and infertility-related services, with an ultimate aim of improving the quality of patient care. The society has been active in providing a platform for professionals in this field to share experiences and information in the development and advancement of fertility services in the Asia-Pacific region. ASPIRE would like to encourage fellow colleagues with similar interests in reproduction to join us as a member. We now offer yearly subscription plans.

### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION PLANS

1-Year Membership: SGD 90

2-Years Membership: SGD 180

3-Years Membership: SGD 270

4-Years Membership: SGD 360

5-Years Membership: SGD 450

#### MEMBERS' BENEFITS

- Access to the online ART Directory
- Access to ASPIRE Educational Portal\*
- Reduced registration fee to ASPIRE Congresses and Masterclasses
- The opportunity to participate in the "Call for Bids" to host ASPIRE congresses
- Free newsletter and regular updates on ASPIRE activities
- The chance to participate in ASPIRE projects and host regional events
- The right to attend and vote at General meetings of the Society
- Be part of ASPIRE's Special Interest Group (SIG) \*New\*

ASPIRE Education Portal archives approved speakers' presentation slides from our congresses or masterclasses for continual learning exclusively for ASPIRE members. Members of ASPIRE are given the unique opportunity to liaise with key leaders and researchers in the field of infertility and ART. ASPIRE membership is open to qualified doctors, certified nurses, counsellors, biologists and any other professionals working in this field.

To subscribe as an ASPIRE Member, please visit [www.aspire-reproduction.org/new-members-renewal/](http://www.aspire-reproduction.org/new-members-renewal/)

## ASPIRE 7th Masterclass



In association with



# ENDOMETRIOSIS

14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019  
HILTON COLOMBO,  
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA



The ASPIRE 7th Masterclass will be held from 14 – 15 December 2019 at Hilton Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The masterclass will examine the latest advances in endometriosis, and provide attendees the basic tools to develop a network of expertise for managing endometriosis in their setting.

### Some highlights to be covered by the experts

- World Endometriosis Society Consensus on Network of Expertise
- Generating Awareness and the Role of National Endometriosis Organisations
- Complementary Therapy – Acupuncture, TCM, Naturopathy, Reflexology, Homeopathy
- Patient Centred Outcomes
- New Medical Treatments

### Registration Fee

Category	Registration Fees
ASPIRE Members	USD 450
Non-ASPIRE Members	USD 520

### Call for Abstracts!

The 7th ASPIRE Masterclass organising committee is pleased to invite authors to submit abstracts for poster presentations under the theme “Endometriosis” or “Adenomyosis” at the upcoming masterclass. This is an opportunity to share your original work with international colleagues who are interested in the topic of Endometriosis. Abstracts will be reviewed by the organising committee. Accepted abstracts will be allocated a space for poster presentation outside the masterclass hall.

For more information, visit [www.aspire-reproduction.org/aspire-masterclass](http://www.aspire-reproduction.org/aspire-masterclass)



## ASPIRE 7th Masterclass

### Organizing Committee



*Professor Neil Johnson*  
World Endometriosis Society  
New Zealand



*Professor Tzeng Chii-Ruey*  
Taipei Medical University Hospital  
Taiwan



*Professor Yutaka Osuga*  
University of Tokyo  
Japan



*Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa*  
Past President College of O&G  
Sri Lanka

### Invited Speakers



*Professor Louise Hull*  
University of Adelaide  
Australia



*Professor Mari Kitade*  
Juntendo University  
Japan



*Professor Sun-Wei Guo*  
World Endometriosis Society  
China



*Ms Deborah Bush*  
World Endometriosis Society  
New Zealand



*Professor Stacey Missmer*  
World Endometriosis Society  
USA



*Dr. Saman Nanayakkara*  
University of Peradeniya  
Sri Lanka



*Professor Sun Chung-Hsien*  
Lucina Women and  
Children Hospital  
Taiwan



*Dr. Madhuri Patil*  
Dr. Patil's Fertility and  
Endoscopy Clinic  
India



*Dr. Saman Hettige*  
Manasa Ayurveda Hospital  
Sri Lanka



*Dr. Hemantha Senanayake*  
University of Colombo  
Sri Lanka

## ASPIRE 8th Masterclass



### Ovarian Stimulation & Poor Responders

The ovarian stimulation protocol plays an extremely important role which greatly affects clinical outcomes. In this masterclass, we will be discussing the available stimulation methods and a sharing on how to select the most suitable method for each situation. Selecting the right protocol for poor responders is the most difficult among all cases. We have prepared a method using cutting-edge technology to rescue these cases and it will be presented in this masterclass.

### Highlights of this masterclass are:

#### Overview and Improved ovarian stimulation

- Topics related to ovarian stimulation and progesterone
- Oocyte Retrieval from Non-dominant Small Follicles
- Mild (minimum) stimulation

#### Novel strategies for poor responders

- Topics related to POI Challenges
- Mitochondria research in ovarian stimulation
- Cytoplasmic donation
- Adjuvant Therapy
- In-vitro Oogenesis from induced Pluripotent Stem Cells
- Oocyte donation

### Registration Fee

Category	Registration Fees
ASPIRE Members	USD 470
Non-ASPIRE Members	USD 540

This masterclass will be held in Keio Plaza Tokyo in Tokyo from 31 January - 1 February 2020. Besides attending a carefully curated masterclass programme, it is also the perfect opportunity to experience the onsen culture in Japan whilst in the winter season, immerse yourself in the breath-taking scenic views and experience a well-deserved rest at a nearby ski resort. We look forward to seeing many participants in Tokyo on 31 January - 1 February 2020.

For more information, visit [www.aspire-reproduction.org/aspire-masterclass](http://www.aspire-reproduction.org/aspire-masterclass)

# ASPIRE 8th Masterclass

## Invited Speakers



*Professor Atsushi Tanaka  
Saint Mother Hospital  
Japan*



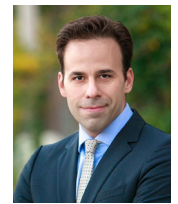
*Professor Tzeng Chii-Ruey  
Taipei Medical University Hospital  
Taiwan*



*Professor Budi Wiweko  
Universitas Indonesia  
Indonesia*



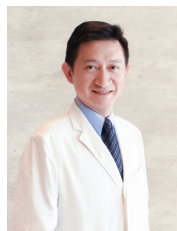
*Dr. Clare Boothroyd  
Bach and Boothroyd Medical  
P/L, Care Fertility  
Australia*



*Dr. Christos Venetis  
University of  
New South Wales  
Australia*



*Professor Scott Nelson  
University of Glasgow  
United Kingdom*



*Dr. Wang Huai-Ling  
Stork Fertility Center  
Taiwan*



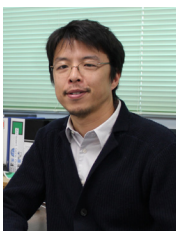
*Dr. Bunpei Ishizuka  
Rose Ladies Clinic  
Japan*



*Professor Kazuhiro Kawamura  
International University of  
Health and Welfare  
Japan*



*Dr. Keiichi Kato  
Kato Ladies Clinic  
Japan*



*Professor Katsuhiko Hayashi  
Kyushu University  
Japan*



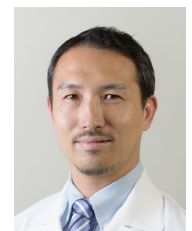
*Professor Yutaka Osuga  
Tokyo University  
Japan*



*Dr. Koji Nakagawa  
Sugiyama Clinic Shinjuku  
Japan*



*Professor Makio Shouzu  
Chiba University  
Japan*



*Dr. Keiji Kuroda  
Sugiyama Clinic Shinjuku  
Japan*



*Dr. Sumihide Okamoto  
ART Okamoto  
Women's Clinic  
Japan*



*Professor Hisashi Narahara  
Oita University  
Japan*



*Dr. Yodo Sugishita  
St. Marianna University  
Japan*



*Dr. Masahide Shiotani  
Hanabusa Women's Clinic  
Japan*



Aspire

## ASPIRE Regional Meeting

Aspire

“Reproductive health in a Changing World”



## Aspire PAKISTAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE



**29th Nov - 01st Dec 2019**  
**Pearl Continental Hotel,**  
Lahore-Pakistan

### Early Bird Registration 15th Oct, 2019

Consultants	PKR. 5,000/-	US\$ 35
PG's & GP's	PKR. 2,500/-	US\$ 18
Students	PKR. 1,500/-	US\$ 10

### Registration After 15th Oct, 2019

Consultants	PKR. 7,500/-	US\$ 54
PG's & GP's	PKR. 3,500/-	US\$ 25
Students	PKR. 1,500/-	US\$ 10



## Fertility & Reproduction (F&R)



**Professor Gab Kovacs**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

### Fertility & Reproduction – The Official Journal of Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE)

I am delighted to report that the first edition of our journal which was circulated as a “hard copy” at ASPIRE 2019 congress has been very well received. We plan to produce a printed copy for each ASPIRE Annual Scientific Meeting, but while the remaining editions will be circulated as electronic editions. We have recently published our second issue and it can be viewed at the ASPIRE website. We are preparing for the third issue and already have a couple of accepted articles, which will be published in September, with the final issue for 2019 in December.

We encourage you to submit your articles on your research, and the editorial system is working well. There is currently one discrepancy in the “Instructions to Authors” where one site states that references in the text should be numbered (Vancouver System) and another that the authors names and year of publication should be used (Harvard System). I believe that the Harvard System is more user friendly, so would like to confirm that F & R will prefer to use the Harvard format. First, when I read an article that quotes other workers, I like to know who is being quoted.

With Vancouver I have to turn or scroll to the reference list to see who the number refers to, which is frustrating, Secondly, when I write an article, I often go back review it, and then insert other references. With Harvard, that is easy, but with Vancouver, one has to go back and renumber every reference, which without a reference manager (which not every author has access to) is very difficult, time consuming and prone to mistakes. For this reason, I recommended that we use the Harvard System, and the “Instructions to Authors” will be adjusted accordingly.

Finally, in order for us to function, the Journal depends on many people to voluntarily give off their time. This includes our Associate Editors and our Referees. I would like to thank them for the work they have done so far, and to encourage them to continue the good work. I also appeal to them to continue to undertake these tasks as quickly possible so that researchers can have their submissions dealt with as quickly as possible.

In support of The Official Journal of ASPIRE, I would like to encourage all authors to submit your original work for hopeful publication and for all to cite references from Fertility & Reproduction.

Professor Gab Kovacs  
Editor-in-Chief  
Fertility & Reproduction (The Official Journal of ASPIRE)

## Call for Paper - Vol. 1 Issue 3

### Submission Deadline: 13 September 2019

ASPIRE is proud to have launched the 1st issue of Fertility & Reproduction (F&R) – The Official Journal of ASPIRE at our annual meeting, ASPIRE 2019.

We would like to thank everyone for your support to make this journal possible and for all the feedback received to make F&R even better.

ASPIRE is now preparing for the 3rd issue of Fertility & Reproduction and we will like to invite all authors to submit your original manuscripts.

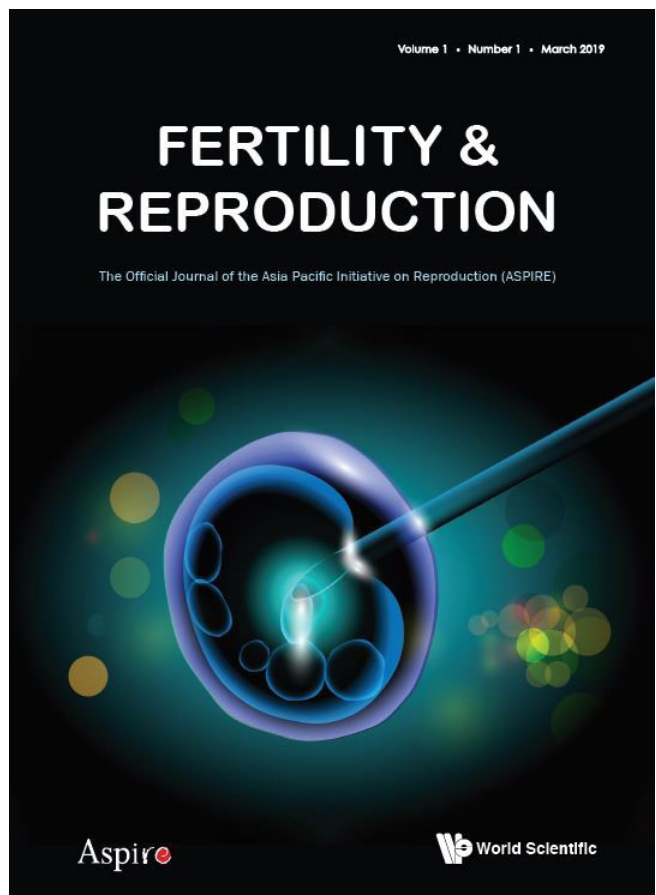
Please submit your manuscripts here:

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/fandr/login.asp>

Deadline:

13th September 2019

For more information: [www.aspire-reproduction.org/journal/](http://www.aspire-reproduction.org/journal/)





## Country Report - Japan

### JAPAN NIGHT Celebration at ASPIRE 2018 & ASPIRE 2019



*Professor Atsushi Tanaka  
ASPIRE Board Member  
Country Representative*

I would like to talk about JAPAN NIGHT at ASPIRE

I became a board member 3 years ago at ASPIRE congress in Jakarta. At that time only a few doctors knew about ASPIRE in Japan. I took it as a personal goal to increase the name awareness of ASPIRE and increase the number of participants from Japan in the ASPIRE meetings.

One particular action that I took to reach that goal was to start JAPAN NIGHT at the ASPIRE Meeting in Taipei, the purpose was to get together and promote friendship among Japanese participants. We had an attendance of about 40 in Taipei and 50 in Hong Kong and I am looking forward to higher numbers of Japanese participants in future meetings. We do not have this kind of get-together at other international meetings such as ASRM or ESHRE.

Not only do I consider this even a great success due to the attendance number, but also due to the high level of friendship it has encouraged. My hope is that more Japanese doctors join ASPIRE, become interested and help us develop it into an even stronger organization. Please enjoy some of the pictures taken at Japan Night at ASPIRE in 2018 and 2019.

I would also like to thank Kitazato Corporation for their support to this networking event.





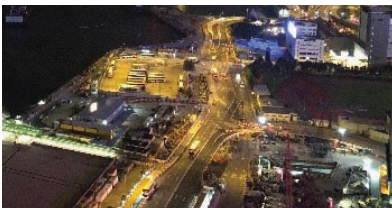


## Country Report - Australia

Australia was well represented at ASPIRE's Annual meeting in Hong Kong in May, both in attendance and in sharing their research findings. More than 70 delegates enjoyed the warm welcome and ambiance afforded by Hong Kong as well as the fine dining found at great restaurants. David Gardner and Cecilia Sjobolm gave great insights into optimising culture media and the latest embryological techniques, Bill Ledger, Clare Boothroyd and Rob Norman discussed ovulation induction techniques and PCOS. ASPIRE is increasingly being seen as the primary place to present reproductive research by Australians and many plans are well underway to attend the 2020 conference in Manila.



**Assoc. Prof. Louise Hull**  
**Country Representative**



A series of industry sponsored national meetings have been held in Australia to update fertility clinicians, nurses and embryologists. There are several new trends being taken up in clinical practice with the most noticeable one being the increasing use of frozen embryo transfer cycles and a decline in fresh embryo transfers. This is likely to reflect the ongoing improvements in freezing technologies including the use of automated freezing machines. The increasing ease and affordability of genetic testing, the avoidance of an embryo transfer in a cycle with a progesterone shift and the prevention of Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome are also contributing to this change of practice.

Non-invasive genetic testing has been internally validated and has now been introduced as a clinical service into an Australian IVF unit as a world first. DNA can be extracted from the embryo culture media without resorting to biopsying the embryo. ICSI does need to be used to avoid sperm DNA contamination. Leaders in Australia are developing a national policy for the use of ICSI and are planning to incorporate this new method of genetic testing. Lipiodol is another fertility treatment which is being increasingly used in Australia and this was explored by Ben Mol and Louise Hull at a session by Guerbet at ASPIRE. With careful thyroid level monitoring, especially in pregnancy, its use to help couples increase their chances of conception in natural cycles is supported by findings from a NEJM publication showing increased pregnancy rates in the cohort who were randomised to its use. Although only registered to determine tubal patency during a HSG, researchers are developing policies and exploring its use outside of this indication to see if it is effective and safe if used during a HyCosy and even at surgery.

Conversely, the use of the endometrial scratch is diminishing; with the recent finding that there was no benefit to pregnancy rates when women had this procedure in a large multi-centered, multi-national trial. This data was presented by Dr Sarah Lensen at ASPIRE 2018.

The ANZSREI group of fertility subspecialists are meeting in Sydney in July to discuss new technologies and develop policies ahead of our national Fertility Society of Australia meeting in Hobart, Tasmania. We welcome all members of ASPIRE to Tasmania in September for our annual meeting. Carlos Simone, Alan Handyside and other international speakers promise a great scientific program. Tasmania is an island state which is home to the Tasmanian devil and other unique fauna and flora, a world-famous Art Museum (MOMA) and interesting sights depicting Australia's early history as a penal colony.



## Country Report - Philippines



**Dr. Gladys Tanangonan**  
*President of Philippine Society for Reproductive Medicine*

2019 marks the 25th year of the Philippine Society for Reproductive Medicine (PSRM). This year will mark the society's birth into the ASEAN arena what with the forthcoming participation of PSRM in the AFOG convention in November 2019 and ASPIRE 2020 in April next year, both to be held in Manila. PSRM shares knowledge through its Annual convention which will be held on July 16-17, 2019 at Edsa Shangri-la Hotel in Manila. A post-congress course on fertility preservation on July 18, 2019 will be held at the same venue. The society also engages in CME activities around the country to update obstetrician-gynaecologists on special topics like Pelvic endometriosis, PCOS, Abnormal uterine bleeding, Adenomyosis and Leiomyoma, Contraception and Infertility. A Clinical Practice Guideline on Basic Infertility is also in the pipeline. To promote advancement of its members, lectures and seminars, as exemplified by the IVF series we have organized this year, are employed. The society will also continue to create awareness about women's health through different platforms by coming out with infomercials on certain topics. It is the society's silver anniversary. It will be a celebration!



**PHILIPPINE SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE**

**25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**CONCERNS, CONTROVERSIES AND CHALLENGES IN REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE**

**EDSA SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, MANDALUYONG CITY**  
**16-17 JULY 2019**

**FERTILITY PRESERVATION POST-CONGRESS COURSE**  
**18 JULY 2019**

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS UNTIL MAY 31, 2019**

**KEYNOTE LECTURES**

"State of the ART" 25 Years of REI in the Philippines  
Dr. Leonardo A. Almeida

Surgery for Endometriotic Cysts: What and How?  
Dr. Delfin A. Tan

**PLENARY SESSIONS**

Abnormal uterine bleeding  
In vitro fertilization  
Polycystic ovary syndrome  
Recurrent pregnancy loss  
Endometriosis  
Reproductive surgery  
The gynecologist's role  
Reproductive toxicology

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

Ovarian induction: Pearls for the gynecologist

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

LBST and transgender care: role of the REI / gynecologist  
Precocious puberty  
Male infertility  
Primary ovarian insufficiency  
Obstetric and gynecologic concerns in breast cancer  
Surgery prior to IVF

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## Country Report - Hong Kong



*Professor Tin-Chiu Li*  
*ASPIRE President-Elect*  
*Country Representative*

### The Hong Kong Society for Reproductive Medicine (HKSRM)

#### **Raising Awareness on Fertility Preservation**

The HKSRM is working on our collaborative project with 7 IVF units in HK to provide subsidized medical egg freezing to breast cancer patients. The comprehensive package includes medical consultation, controlled ovarian hyperstimulation, oocyte vitrification, and a storage period of 5 years. We hope to raise awareness on fertility preservation in the public as well as amongst breast surgeons and oncologists.

#### **Ovarian Club XV**

We are also busy organizing Ovarian Club XV, to be held on 14-15 December 2019. The theme this year is "From Science and Technology to Clinical Practice". We look forward to meeting you all again in Hong Kong.

Please follow us at <http://www.ovarianclub-asia.org>

Online Abstract Submission System is now open!





## Country Report - Russia



*Prof. Vladislav Korsak*  
*Country Representative*

### Travel down the river Katun on July 22 - 27, 2019

Dear Colleagues! The Russian Association of Human Reproduction invites you to take part in the annual informal event – the rafting of reproductologists. The event will be held on July 22 - 27, 2019.

On the way, there are powerful rapids. The skill of our experienced instructors will help you safely pass them. The rafting takes place in the middle reaches of the main water-River which begin on the glaciers of Mount Belukha (4509 m). We are sure that everyone will receive unforgettable impressions of the fantastic beauty of the mountainous Altai, of the magnificent moments and pleasures from communication with friends and like-minded people. Together with all, on July 25, in a wonderful company, we will celebrate "World Day of ART". For questions, please contact with Vostrikov Vyacheslav Valerievich [wkoctar@mail.ru](mailto:wkoctar@mail.ru)



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## Country Report-Russia (Cont'd)



### XXIX ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RAHR «Reproductive Technologies Today and Tomorrow»

September 4-7, 2019 — Rostov-on-Don



From 4 to 7 September 2019, the XXIX International Conference of the RAHR "Reproductive Technologies Today and Tomorrow" will take place in Rostov-on-Don. The event will be held in the DonExpocentre at the address: Prospect Nagibina, 30.

Today, the conference of the Russian Association of Human Reproduction, dedicated to reproductive technologies, has become a truly major event of the year, not only for obstetricians and gynecologists, but also for all professionals involved in the treatment of infertility, preservation and restoration of fertility. Including andrologists, surgeons, embryologists, genetics, endocrinologists, doctors of laboratory and functional diagnostics, molecular biologists, psychologists, sociologists and lawyers.

Conference participants in Rostov-on-Don are waiting for a rich program, which includes 12 scientific workshops, key lectures, round tables, debates and master classes. Leading Russian and foreign specialists in the field of ART will talk about the latest approaches to the treatment of infertility and achievements in this field.

The Conference raises the most urgent problems and topical issues, discusses the latest innovations and global achievements in the field of IVF, reproductive surgery, cryopreservation, donation and surrogate motherhood, genetic diagnosis, etc.

The main directions of the scientific program:

Russian Association of Human Reproduction: <http://rahr.ru/>

Details of the RAHR Conference: <http://conf.rahr.ru/>

For participation, please contact:

Radmila Tikhomirova

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## Country Report - Bangladesh



*Dr. Nusrat Mahmud  
Country Representative*



*Prof. Rashida Begum  
ASPIRE Board Member  
Country Representative*



*Dr. Maruf Siddiqui  
Country Representative*

### ASPIRE 2019

Firstly, Bangladesh is proud to have the second highest attendance at ASPIRE 2019. We are motivated and will continue to grow the bangladeshis attendance even further at the next ASPIRE meetings.

### Laparoscopy Workshop

Just recently, we have arranged a workshop on Laparoscopy on 29th and 30th of June. Dr. Hafiz Rahman Padya, a renowned Laparoscopic surgeon from Kochi, South India was present. It was designed in such a way that the new generation of Laparoscopic surgeons can get the chance to review their techniques and to update their knowledge. There were hands on session by using simulators and live surgery sessions.

### ESHRE Meeting

Prof. Rashida Begum board member of ASPIRE and the country representatives Dr. Nusrat Mahmud and Dr. Maruf Siddiqui were present at the recent ESHRE meeting. It was an informative session where recent updates and guidelines has been discussed. It can be incorporated in the Asia Pacific region later.

It was a platform of social meeting too where we had the opportunity to have a lively discussion with Prof Budi Wiweko, President of ASPIRE.

### ASPIRE Bangladesh Chapter

Members of ASPIRE Bangladesh chapter is contributing different CMEs and awareness program both in print and electronic media regarding Infertility and other major health issues. Besides they work hand in hand with the Ministry of Health, Government of Bangladesh and stake holders to formulate national guidelines relevant to Women's Health in Bangladesh.

