

# CoR Newsletter

Issue  
December 2023



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### Editor's Note (Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli)

Assalamualaikum and a Good Day to my colleagues.

Our appreciation and thanks to the contributors of our past Issue - Apr 2023, Prof Dr Kartini Rahmat, Dr Farhana Fadzli, Dr Hasyma Abu Hassan, Assoc Prof Dr Bushra Johari, Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli, Dr Noor Khairiah A. Karim and Dr Melisa Lim Seer Yee.

Members are welcome to contribute articles suitable for **CoR Newsletter**. Please submit to [secretariat@radiologymalaysia.org](mailto:secretariat@radiologymalaysia.org) - for appropriateness, only articles vetted and approved by the editor will be published.

This is our issue for Dec 2023 of the **CoR Newsletter**. Our jumbo issue brings you a tribute to the late Dato Dr Abdul Samad Sakijan and updates on several past events on HKCR-COR collaboration, KCR, JRS, Body Imaging Webinar 18.03.2023, AOSOR Youth Club, Space Medicine, RANZCR, Leadership Achievement Award and HKCR Young Radiologist.

In the present time, let us give our thanks and prayers for God's blessings for a healthier and safer 2023, for strength in mind and peace in Malaysia and our fortitude as Radiologists, continuing to provide excellent healthcare to meet the nation's needs in the best ways we could render.

To our colleagues who had recently celebrated Christmas, may you and you loved ones be graced with all good tidings, peace and joy during this wonderful Christmas season!

As we let go of the remarkable and challenging 2023, here comes 2024!  
A very happy and prosperous New Year 2024 to everyone!

May you look forward to the brand new year with sheer confidence and utmost courage, give wings to your dreams and may it bring all that your hearts desired.

Good Luck. Good Health. Good Wealth. Have a Happy and Fantastic New Year!

Enjoy the newsletter. Take care, Everyone!

*Co-opted Council Member  
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Dr Nur Adura Yaakup*

*Co-opted Council Member  
SIG Cardiac Imaging  
Dr Noor Khairiah A. Karim*

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*Co-opted Council Member  
Head of Radiology Service-MOH  
Dr Norzaini Rose Mohd Zain*

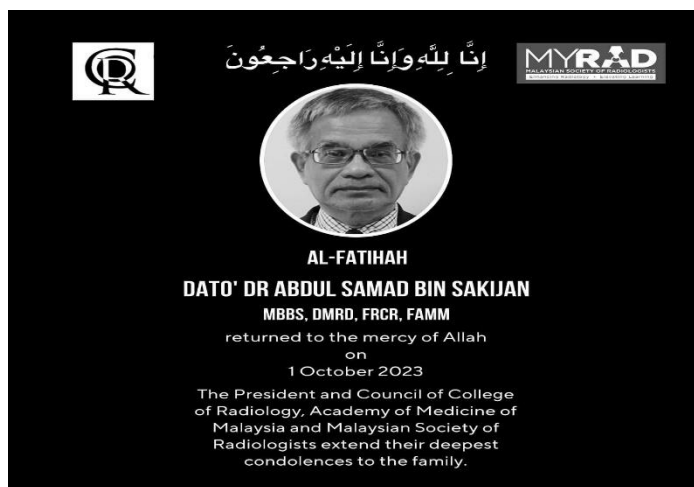
#### **CoR Newsletter Editorial Team**

*Editor:  
Prof. Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli*

*Editorial Assistant:  
Ms. Lesley Whitelaw*

## **OBITUARY In Loving Memory**

**Dato' Dr Abdul Samad bin Sakijan**  
**31 December 1951 – 1 October 2023**



Dato' Dr Abdul Samad Sakijan was born on 31st December 1951, heralding from a small kampung in Muar, Johor. He returned to Allah SWT on 1st October 2023 aged 72.



He obtained his MBBS in 1977 and completed his housemanship in Kuala Lumpur General Hospital. His career in Radiology started when he left for London in 1979 to pursue specialization in radiology. In 1983 he returned to Malaysia and served as a lecturer in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) until 1989 when he obtained Associate Professorship. In 1993 he was appointed as full Professor of UKM.

Dato' Samad is well known as the Father of Interventional Radiology (IR) in Malaysia, as he was the first in Malaysia to start various IR procedures, including image guided percutaneous aspiration and biopsies, PTBD (Percutaneous Transhepatic Biliary Drainage) including plastic and metallic stenting, TACE (transarterial chemoembolization), TIPS (transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt), embolisation of arterial bleeding in the lungs, gastrointestinal and genitourinary tracts, nephrostomy and urinary tract stenting, IVC filter placement, etc. His innovative skills and technical know-how were exemplary.



Apart from his IR skills, he was a great teacher and mentor to many radiologists, putting in tremendous efforts and time to motivate them and lay a strong foundation of IR in Malaysia. He later retired from his academic role, but he remained active in teaching and performing IR procedures in his resident hospital, as well as supporting IR services in the National Heart Institute. Many radiologists will remember his weekend afternoon classes for trainees which displayed his breadth of knowledge as well as a great sense of humour.



In recognition of his lifetime contribution to IR, Dato' Samad was awarded the Gold Medal at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the Asia Pacific Society of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology (APSCVIR), the first Malaysian to receive this award. Other significant awards received by Dato' Samad include Darjah Indera Mahkota Pahang (DIMP) by the Sultan of Pahang in 1992 and Dato' Paduka Mahkota Perak (DPMP) by the Sultan of Perak, both with the title of Dato'.



Dato' Samad was also frequently engaged in the College of Radiology and the Malaysian Society of Radiologists events, sponsoring the Dato' Samad Quiz annually for the past decade. The quiz is one of the highlights of the Malaysian Congress of Radiology, in which Master of Radiology representatives from Universities in Malaysia vie for the title of winner of the Dato' Samad Quiz Trophy. Dato' Samad has entertained participants and audience alike with his challenging radiology cases and witty banter with the students. Sadly, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 would be his last quiz.



Dato' Samad left a truly remarkable legacy to the Radiology fraternity in Malaysia which will continue to grow with time.

He also left behind his wife, Prof Emeritus Datin Dr Che Ilina Che Isahak, a prominent microbiologist in Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), 2 children, and 2 grandchildren.

May Allah SWT accept all his good deeds.

*“Verily we belong to Allah, and verily to Him we do return”*

**Obituary written by: Dr Farhana Fadzli - Council Member, CoR/MyRad**

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## **ASIAN-OCEANIAN RADIOLOGY FORUM (AORF)** **&** **KOREAN RADIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE (KCR)**

**Article contributed by: Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli**  
**President, CoR/MyRad**

The AORF hosted by the Korean Society of Radiologists (KSR) was held on 21 September 2023 at the Coex, Seoul. The forum was attended by representatives of 15 countries from the Asian-Oceanian regions comprising Japan, Malaysia, China (Main/Taipei/Hong Kong), India, Indonesia, Korea, Mongolia, Philippines, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Australia/New Zealand, Singapore, Vietnam and Macao. The topic was 'The Growing Problem of Radiologist Shortages'.

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**15 ASIAN-OCEANIAN  
COUNTRIES  
PARTICIPATED**

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Malaysia was represented by Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli, President of the College of Radiology, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia. (COR, AMM). Prof Norlisah presented our status as Radiologists and the challenges we face. The government's possible solutions were also demonstrated [<https://doi.org/10.3348/kjr.>].

It was interesting that advanced countries such as Japan with its higher numbers of Radiologists to population ratio, also face different challenges. Most of the problems presented by various countries are related to workload competition from non-radiological physicians and remuneration. Some solutions suggested are AI, teleradiology (rural areas) and increasing numbers of subspecialties in Radiology.



The 79th Korean Congress of Radiology (KCR 2023) with the theme “Exploring Beyond the Horizon” was held from September 20 (Wed) to 23 (Sat) 2023 at Intercontinental Seoul Coex. The Korean Society of Radiologists (KSR) is a large society with 224 Malaysians as international members. During this KCR, 33 Malaysians attended the conference.

Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli was invited to participate in several sessions which were:

AOSR-KSR Business Meeting on Wed September 20 to update collaborations between the 2 societies

MCoR-KSR Business Meeting on Fri September 22 to forge a closer relationship between KRS and COR

Several social programs for the KCR included opening sessions, welcome receptions, KSR International Leadership Night, Presidential Dinner and Congress Banquet. Here, Korean cuisine, traditional and contemporary dance and music were highlighted.

Congratulations to Assoc Prof Dr Faizatul Izza who managed to garner the Bronze prize for photo competition within KCR.

Attending any International Radiological Society meetings is not just about staying current with the latest advancements in the field. It is also an invaluable opportunity for networking, forging friendships and building work-related camaraderie. KCR gatherings bring together brilliant minds from across the globe, providing a unique platform to exchange ideas and establish connections that transcend borders. I urge our colleagues to venture and attend KCR in the future. The registration fees are affordable and most of the programs are in English. It would also be an opportunity to make friends, visit the country and experience Korean culture, their culinary and hospitality.

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**ASIAN RADIOLOGY SUMMIT**  
**&**  
**82<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING of the JAPAN RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY (JRS)**

**Article Contributed by: Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli**  
**President, CoR/MyRad**

The Asian Radiology Summit hosted by JRS was held on 14 April 2023 at the Yokohama Bay Hotel. The summit was attended by 14 countries from the Asian-Oceanian regions comprising Japan, Malaysia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, Mongolia, Philippines, Kazakhstan, Thailand, China (Main/Taipei/Hong Kong), Australia/New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan. The topic for discussion was Imaging Guidelines -which one do you use and how?

Malaysia was represented by Prof Dr Norlisah Mohd Ramli, President of the College of Radiology, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia. (COR, AMM). Prof Norlisah presented our COR Imaging Guidelines which was adapted with permission from the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) UK, utilising RCR documentation ‘Making the best use of Clinical Radiology’. COR’s title was ‘Guidelines for Clinical Practice in Radiology. Second Edition, and it was published in 2017. The Director General of Health Malaysia, Datuk Hisham Abdullah, endorsed the document.



The Guideline was written in English and aimed to guide Clinicians and Radiologists based on evidence-based guidelines that were formulated considering established practices in the Malaysian context and are intended to guide practising clinicians in arriving at the best possible solution to a given clinical problem. Recommendations have been graded according to evidence levels. Grading is adapted from the Oxford Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine and based on the system initially developed by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research (now the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality).

The team of Malaysian Radiologists from public and private centres and other clinical specialists from various disciplines provided their time and expertise to contribute towards this endeavour. With this document, it is hoped that the utilisation of radiology services in Malaysia will be more streamlined to reduce unnecessary examinations while ensuring that the management of patients is not compromised.

The Guidelines for Clinical Practice in Radiology. Second Edition is available for the public, Clinicians and COR members at the College of Radiology Website at <https://www.radiologymalaysia.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Radiology-Guidelines-Pocket-Booklet-spread-page1.pdf>.

It was interesting to note that Malaysia was quite advanced in having our national-based Guidelines compared to other countries. Hong Kong has an admirable system with its guidelines available as an application. As we advance, for better utilisation, suggestions were to integrate the Guideline into the Hospital Information System and make it more interactive for clinical usage.

This is the second hybrid JRS meeting after physical meetings were allowed during the post-COVID pandemic. JRS is a large society with 10,413 members. On-site physical attendees numbered 2000. During this meeting, Prof Norlisah was invited to several meetings, which were:



1. JRS -AOSR Leadership meeting on Thurs April 13, to forge a closer relationship between JRS and AOSR



2. Presidential meeting JRS-COR, April 14 to discuss Radiological procedural charges of the 2 countries



3. AOSR Executive Council meeting, April 14, Prof Norlisah presented as Co-chair Quality, Safety and Standards Committee update

There were also two social invitations for the Presidential Dinner (April 13) and International Networking Dinner (April 14).



*International Dinner Network Dinner with  
Kay Yamaada and RANZCR President, Dr Sanjay*

Having COR representation in these meetings helps strengthen the relationship and collaboration between Malaysian and International Radiology Societies. Meeting with our international colleagues was a superb opportunity to forge lasting friendships and network. I urge our colleagues to venture and attend JRS in the future, the registration fees are affordable and 35% of the program are in English. It would also be an opportunity to make friends, visit the country, experience Japanese culture and food.

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## COR-SIG BODY IMAGING WEBINAR

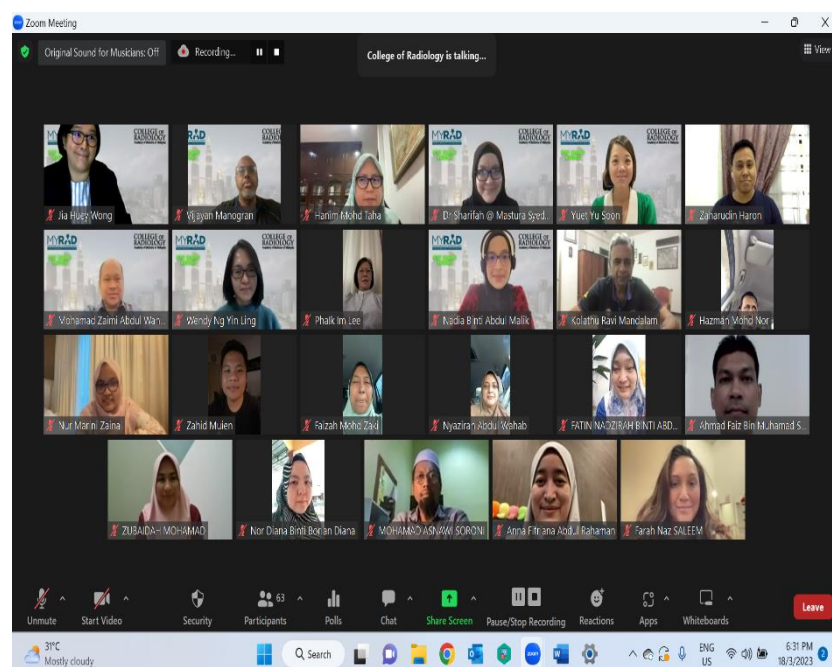
Article contributed by: Dr Zaharudin Haron  
Organizing Chairperson


We were very fortunate to have another virtual SIG Body Imaging webinar for 2022. This session was dedicated for kidney pathology which covered congenital until the possibility of kidney transplant. The webinar was held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 after the original date scheduled for November 2022 was cancelled due to the occurrence of the General Election. 84 participants participated in this virtual webinar.


There were 8 clinical lectures on important kidney pathology moderated by Dr Wong Jia Huey. We invited a primary team i.e. nephrologist and surgeon, in order to share their expectation from radiology team. We also invited Dr Sharifah @ Mastura Syed Abu Bakar, Head of Body Imaging (genitourinary) KKM, to give a short lecture regarding introduction to KKM subspecialty training program. The aims are to promote more general radiologist to pursue their study in this field.

*Kidney Pathology  
covering congenital  
until possibility of  
kidney transplant*

We hope to organize more webinars in the future for continuous medical education among Radiologists in Malaysia with support from College of Radiology (CoR) and Malaysian Society of Radiologists (MyRad). Look forward to seeing everybody at our next Body Imaging webinar.



**COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY**  
Academy of Medicine of Malaysia

**MYRAD**  
MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGISTS

**BODY IMAGING WEBINAR**

4 CPO POINT

**MARCH 18, 2023**  
2PM - 6PM

The kidney is an essential organ for each human being. Understanding the common pathology and imaging protocol is necessary for correct diagnosis and management. The kidney is also the most common organ being donated for the continuation of other people's life in Malaysia. This webinar aims to explore and enlighten this issue as our kidneys are organs forever and beyond

Time	Title	Speaker
2:00-2:05	Opening address and Welcome	Dr Wong Jia Huey
2:05-2:30	Kidney development and congenital malformation	Prof Dr Faizah Mohd Zaki
2:30-2:35	Q&A	
2:35-3:00	Kidney trauma	Dr Hayzrah Abdul Wahab
3:00-3:05	Q&A	
3:05-3:30	Kidney injury secondary to systemic illness or iatrogenic	Dr Nadia Abdul Malik
3:30-3:35	Q&A	
3:35-3:40	Break	
3:40-4:05	Primary and secondary kidney tumour	Datin Dr Malinda Abd Majid
4:05-4:10	Q&A	
4:10-4:35	Polycystic system pathology: Oncology and non-oncology	Dr Soon Yuet Yu
4:35-4:40	Q&A	
4:40-4:50	Introduction to KKM subspecialty training program	Dr Sharifah @ Mastura Syed Abu Bakar
4:50-4:55	Break	
4:55-5:20	Renal replacement therapy (renal transplant) in Malaysia: New hope for the failures	Dr Mohammad Zaimi Abdul Wahab
5:20-5:25	Q&A	
5:25-5:50	Renal transplant imaging for donor and recipient: pre and post-surgical imaging	Dr Wendy Ng Yin Ling
5:50-5:55	Q&A	
5:55-6:20	Renal transplant: Surgeon expectation from Radiologist and how do I do it?	Mr Vignay Manogaran
6:20-6:25	Q&A	

**Registration last day**  
16.03.2023

03 8994 2808 or 012-2826208  
secretariat@radiologymalaysia.org

**REGISTRATION FEE:**  
RM60 | COR MEMBERS |  
RM150 | NON-MEMBERS |

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## AOSOR YOUTH CLUB 2023

Article contributed by: Dr Farhana Fadzli  
Council Member, CoR/MyRad

The AOSOR (Asian Oceanian School of Radiology) Youth Club was established in 2015 with the aim of bringing together young radiologists from the member countries of the AOSR (Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology) in order to breed and cultivate a group which will be the seeds for new leaders of AOSR as well as in their own radiological societies. Malaysia has been an active member of AOSR, and has been sending delegates to the Youth Club every year since its conception.

*Asian-Oceanian School of  
Radiology Youth Club established  
since 2015*

It was a great honour to have been chosen as College of Radiology, Academy of Medicine Malaysia's representative for the 6<sup>th</sup> AOSOR Youth Club which was held in Shilla Stay Samsung, Seoul, Korea. This year, the programme spanned over 3 days from 17-19<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The AOSOR kindly sponsored flight tickets and accommodation.



The event began with a welcome dinner which allowed icebreaking opportunities between the trainees and tutors. 18 countries were represented among the members of the AOSR, with trainees from as far as Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan. The next day, the Youth Club started in earnest with a full day programme consisting of the history of the youth club by the founder of the Youth Club Prof Dr Jongmin Lee, from Korea. This was followed by a talk by Dr Seungchul Han, also from Korea, on the importance of leadership in radiology.

The rest of the day involved a workshop with a trainer from Dale Carnegie, who helped us to identify our individual leaderships styles as well as techniques for assertive and authentic communication in order to become effective communicators and leaders. Among the 4 leadership categories of Visionary, Achiever, Facilitator and Analyzer, I found myself to be more inclined to the Facilitator classification, valuing teamwork and relationships with others and building an encouraging and supportive environment. During this section of the Youth Club, we had plenty of opportunities to interact with the other trainees via group work and sharing of opinions and experiences. The day concluded with a delicious traditional Korean dinner at a restaurant called Sariwon, where we all experienced the famous dishes of Bulgogi and Bibimbap.

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**4 Leadership Categories:**

*Visionary*  
*Achiever*  
*Facilitator*  
*Analyzer*

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On the final day, we were very fortunate to have the leaders of AOSR and AOSOR giving talks on various topics regarding Global Leadership and the challenges involved (Prof Dr Joseph KT Lee from USA), Academic and Society Member Management, particularly from the point of view of AOSR and how other societies perform (presented by our very own past COR and AOSR president, Dr Evelyn Ho), Inter-Society Relationship, in which it was pointed out that COR has yet to have its own International Liaison officer (by Dr Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon from Thailand, President-Elect of AOSR), Finance Management and its importance to the society (Dr Hemant Patel from India), Trends of Radiology in Asia Oceania, and how it is crucial for radiologist to spot trends early and act fast upon them in order to not be left behind (Dr Charles Goh from Singapore), Scientific Activity Management, where we were tasked on creating a programme for a scientific congress (Dr Whal Lee from Korea) and last but not least, Perspectives and Preparation in Radiology where we had an active discussion on how to make Radiology more relevant to medicine as a whole (Prof Dr Yi-Hong Chou from Taipei, Director of AOSOR).

The event ended with a farewell Director's dinner at Mad for Garlic and the trainees also took the opportunity to travel to Myeong-Dong and socialise as a group.



This workshop opened my eyes to the radiology landscape outside of Malaysia, particularly in some countries that may be facing even more challenges than our country. However, it was clear that most radiology departments faced similar issues of staff shortages, limited access to advanced imaging technology as well as financial constraints. This workshop brought us all together into a close-knit group and created bonds between the trainees and trainers that I hope will be sustained for years to come. I believe that these new connections will help COR to grow further internationally and allow stronger collaboration in training, networking and research.



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## SPACE MEDICINE: RADIOLOGIST'S PERSPECTIVE

Article contributed by:

**Dr Fathinul Fikri Ahmad Saad**

**Translational Molecular Imaging Laboratory  
Pusat Pengimejan Diagnostik Nuklear  
Universiti Putra Malaysia**

Space radiation experiment in the exposed Japanese Space Station -JAXA pressurized facility- KIBO in the International Space Station (ISS).; [Experiences and Opportunities](#).

Translational molecular imaging niche area in UPM have paved ways for I as a radiologist and my fellow researchers in medical physicist and software engineering to embark on the proposal for such project engaging a dosimetry tool called PADDLE and optic fiber (SOFPADS) during the Space Environment and KIBO utilization Network (SEKUW) workshop 2019 part of the JAXA development project for the Asian-working group. The project marked the first Malaysian's space experiment featuring non-human payload in the external environment of the ISS – Extravehicular activity, (EVA). JAXA has initiated the new initiative programme to optimize the utility of the KIBO experiment module by offering various experiments opportunities to researchers across the globe. The scope of experiments is varied from the life science in microgravity environment, earth observation, life science experiment and fundamental science experiment. <http://iss.jaxa.jp/en/kiboexp>.

In 2021, our SOFPADS had successfully recovered samples from the international space station via transportation of the Space-X vehicle cargo under supervision of the NASA and JAXA collaborative networks. The importance of testing the harmful radiation dose in the ISS module is timely as the ISS module has long been in service for which potential heavy ions in space from solar storm may affect the human biology for the long space flight. Japanese Space station has launched the initiatives to offer free -to-all space experiment in their newly built pressurized experiment module in the ISS. Following the acceptance of the proposal of the SOFPADS experiment in evaluating the radiation dose in the ISS, several compliance tests were required to ensure the sample module were fit for the space travels (Figure 1).



Figure1: Acceptance ceremony by the JAXA of the SOFPADS for the space trajectory

The samples were then called the payload for the experimental storage in the area PADDLE and in the handrailed extravehicular environment (EVA). The payload went through series of procedures to enable the NASA's space-X rocket cargo to prepare the launch into orbit in 2021 at the launch pad in Florida (Figure 2). To ensure that there were no potential harmful radiation and unexpected vibration during the transportation, the samples were wrapped in the special radiation-resistant material enclosed in a space-compliance compartment which weighed less than 250mg. It took 300 days for the SOFPADS to be localised in the KIBO laboratory module in the ISS and in the EVA before the deportation of the samples to the TSUKUBA space center, Tokyo in 2021.

The JAXA consultant moderators took all necessities to ensure the samples were safely arrived, stored, recovered to the earth station. The Malaysian Space Agency - MySA facilitated the process and ensuring all safety measures, inter-countries legitimate affairs were well taken care of. For each sample, the reading of the dose data was served by the JAXA research team at the TSUKUBA space center prior to the release of the result to UPM. Following successful mission, we were given an opportunity to share our experience on the method and challenges among the Space Frontier Working Group (SFWG) in the Asea Pacific Regional Space Forum -APSRAF meetings (2019-2021).

The cost for the transportation was reasonable and affordable as the programme free-to-all has further minimized the red-tape for research collaboration. The business model for such initiative was the first achievable feat by the JAXA to encourage international researchers to conduct research in space with the effective time lapse and deliverables. At the present moments, UPM has received



a merit for acknowledgement for such successful works and coordination for the non-human samples in radiation research and hereby, future research prospect would enable Malaysian researchers to strengthen the capacity building in skilled personnel and research scope in space medicine (Radiology) in collaboration with the JAXA counterparts. Based on the working experience with the JAXA, to unlock potential, the non-human experiment would be preferred to human experiment model as the latter would require complex procedures and approval from various authorities to enable space launch in the expected time frame.



Figure 2: SOFPADS was subjected to safety test and data recovery.

In short, the research prospect in Space Medicine (Radiology) may not only focus on how diseases characterized structurally and functionally but, surveillance on what shape and underpin the disease landscape i.e., space radiation and physiology are deemed importance as it may accelerate and modify human hemostasis in the pattern which have never met the eye.

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**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS  
RANZCR 2023 - 19-21 OCTOBER in BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA**

**Article contributed by:  
Dr Shantini A. Arasaratnam  
Honorary Secretary, CoR/MyRad**

The College of Radiology, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia was invited to attend the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR 2023) 73rd Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) 2023, held at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Australia from 19 to 21 October 2023. This is the first time CoR has joined as an invited International delegate.

RANZCR 2023 was a well-organized conference with multiple concurrent sessions in the various fields of Radiology and Oncology. The theme of the ASM 2023 was “Beyond” i.e. taking you beyond the clinical, beyond the expected and beyond the traditional scopes of the specialists.

**RANZCR ASM 2023**  
**“Beyond”**  
*...taking you beyond the  
clinical, beyond the expected  
and beyond the traditional  
scopes of specialists.*

There were collaborations with fellow clinicians to ensure the best patient outcomes in medicine. Multidisciplinary sessions were a keystone in their scientific programme. Their lectures were based on the latest technological advances, teaching points, and hands-on sessions. In addition to the scientific programme, the Organising committee also focussed on leadership, professional well-being and adjuncts to improve patient outcomes.

There was an exciting breakfast session on the second day titled “Women in Leadership”. On the third day morning at 6am, there was a Walkaton-themed Targeting Cancer Fun Run.

There were 1590 participants and more than 90 exhibition booths for this conference. The President and his team met representatives from various countries to discuss how we could create international collaborations. I had met up with the President A/Prof Dr Sanjay and discussed on the following 2 issues.

- a. RANZCR can work together with CoR/MyRad for conferences. CoR can invite their speakers & RANZCR does the same for their conferences.
- b. Training for our Fellows for all Radiology subspecialty programmes. The President said that it could be worked out. However, getting a paid job may be difficult. Our Fellows may be allowed to do hands-on training under supervision.

The President had invited the Secretary, Ms Melissa Doyle to be present during the meet-up. For both these issues discussed, the President has requested that it be written to RANZCR.



RANZCR Annual Ceremony



International Speakers, VIP Guests & Sponsors  
Reception: Pre-Congress 18.10.2023



Meet Up with RANZCR President  
A/Prof Dr Sanjay



Invited Delegate from CoR

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MY JOURNEY IN HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT WITHIN RADIOLOGY

Article contributed by:  
Dr Naveen Rajadurai  
Vice President, CoR/MyRad



As a radiologist working in private healthcare, when Covid struck in 2020 in Malaysia, I am sure a lot of my colleagues were unable to adapt to this worldwide pandemic that struck our country. We were subjected to 3 lockdowns within 2 years. Patient loads were reduced markedly in private healthcare apart from Covid patients. This opened up a lot of free time for me within my working hours. Instead of moping about the inevitable, I



decided to buck up and use this ‘downtime’ to improve myself by hitting the books again. But how would improve myself? I had already dedicated 5 years of studying medicine, 4 years in Radiology and 3 more years pursuing my subspecialty in Musculoskeletal Interventional Radiology. Recently, I was also promoted to head a Radiology department in a sister hospital and this position required me to enhance and equip myself with healthcare management knowledge which was simply alien to me.

Thus, I decided to pursue a course in Healthcare Management. As a radiologist this was well out of my comfort zone and beyond the scope of any training I had received throughout my medical career or undergraduate training. So, where should I start? Do I want to be an administrator? Am I going to give up radiology? These questions were posed to me not only by myself but by some of my colleagues in my hospital. On one hand, I was unsure of my career pathway but I did feel a bit exhilarated at trying something new.

Now to decide on the programme and how long would I want to invest in it. After scouting around, I came across the “Leadership in Medicine: South East Asia Programme” catered towards healthcare workers which was a collaborative programme between Harvard Medical School and Sunway University. It was a 13 month programme with 3 physical workshops, 2 held in Sunway University Campus and the final workshop in Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. This was more attractive as compared to pursuing a 3 years full fledged MBA which would have consumed a lot more of my time. Plus, with this programme I did affiliate with a reputable established international institution with access to their Harvard Business School faculty as my trainers.

I enrolled in the programme in March 2022 and graduated in March 2023. It was an invaluable experience as my cohort of fellow students included medical personnel from all parts of the world totalling 70 classmates who remain close till today. The programme modules included Financial Management and Forecasting in Healthcare, Hospital Human Resource Management, Hospital Information Technology, Patient Safety, Medical Service Quality Management and Improvement, Strategic Management and Hospital Organizational Structure. These modules were delivered via ‘on demand’ lectures with monthly live sessions requiring completion of the assessments for each module. This contributed to the final exam result assessment which also included a mid term assessment, final term assessment, team presentations and a Capstone project. The Capstone project is a quality improvement project which requires all candidates to submit a 3000-word quality improvement project to be potentially implemented in your respective centre.

Balancing time between family, studying for exams and my clinical work apart from my other professional commitments like College of Radiology, Malaysian Society of Interventional Radiology and academic work with KPJ Healthcare University was at times overwhelming but I thank the support from my family, colleagues and friends who spurred me to complete this programme. I can tell you my memory recall mechanism is not what it used to be and I salute all those seniors who have braved sitting through examinations in their twilight years.

Finally, equipped with the knowledge from the Post Graduate Medical Education (PGME) Leadership in Medicine: South East Asia programme, I graduated in Harvard Medical School and became an alumni of Harvard University. This journey was truly a life changing experience and I am truly blessed to have completed it and made good friends in the process. So back to the previous questions.



Do I want to be an administrator? Maybe. But this programme has helped me immensely in setting up my department and engaging with the hospital management to plan, strategize and improve the services as well as forecast the potential growth of our radiology services.

Am I going to give up radiology? No way. My heart will forever lie with Radiology specifically Musculoskeletal Interventional Radiology.

*‘Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did--Newt Gingrich’*

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## HONG KONG COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS

**Article contributed by: Dr Eric Chung**  
**Council Member, CoR/MyRad**

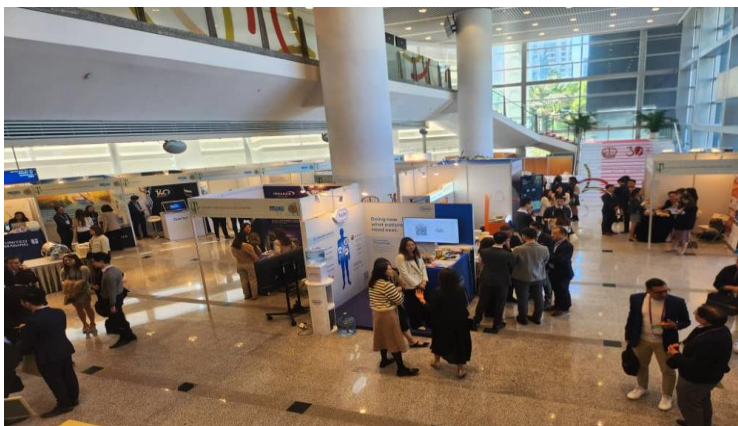
Embarking on a journey of professional development, I had the privilege of attending the 10th Joint Scientific Meeting of The Royal College of Radiologists & Hong Kong College of Radiologists, coupled with the 31st Annual Scientific Meeting of Hong Kong College of Radiologists via an education grant. The conference, held on 18-19 November 2023 at the esteemed Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, Jockey Club Building, emerged as a pivotal moment in my career, offering unique insights and opportunities.



*Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, Jockey Club Building*

The conference, revolving around the themes of "Urological Malignancies," "Cardiovascular Radiology," "Head & Neck Malignancies," and "Medico-legal Issues," provided a comprehensive overview of key areas in radiology. This thematic diversity ensured a well-rounded exploration of the latest developments in the field.

The conference's collaborative spirit, fostered by the partnership between the Hong Kong College of Radiology and the Royal College of Radiology, extends to include dedicated oncology sessions and vendor booths. This inclusive approach provides a distinctive opportunity for attendees, enabling me to immerse myself in a uniquely tailored experience. Engaging with the latest advancements in cancer drugs in this environment has not only been informative but has also granted me a personalized understanding of the evolving landscape of oncology.



*Lobby of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, Jockey Club Building filled with oncology and radiology vendor booths.*

The conference's streamlined program, with separate halls for radiology and oncology, facilitated a focused and immersive learning experience. Amidst the organized structure, the medicolegal sessions left a lasting impression, shedding light on the intricate intersection of law and medicine and adding depth to my understanding of the field.

Despite being confined to only two conference halls, the event managed to draw a substantial participation of 900 attendees. This not only infused vibrancy into the proceedings but also created a dynamic environment ripe for networking. The connections forged during the conference went beyond the mere exchange of ideas, setting the stage for potential collaborations and the development of enduring professional relationships.

In conclusion, the 10th Joint Scientific Meeting of The Royal College of Radiologists & Hong Kong College of Radiologists offered a nuanced and personalized experience, shaped by the receipt of an individual grant. Beyond the collective learning, the conference became a platform for tailored exploration, networking, and personal growth.



*A full house in the radiology session hall.*

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