

# **REPORT OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ASIAN STROKE SUMMER SCHOOL - A TRUE SUCCESS!**

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The 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Stroke Summer School was held in Can Tho, Vietnam from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2019. The local organizing committee was led by Prof. Tran Chi Cuong, General director of Can Tho Stroke International Services General Hospital in Can Tho city, Vietnam. Prof. Jan Gralla, PD Dr. Pasquale Mordasini and Prof. Urs Fischer from the Department of Neuroradiology and Neurology, University Hospital Inselspital Bern Switzerland, actively supported the local organizing committee. The Asian Stroke Summer School was endorsed by the major World, Asian and European stroke societies, including the World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology (WFITN), European Stroke Organization (ESO), European Society of Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy (ESMINT) and Asian-Australasian Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology (AAFITN).

Around 100 participants, including 70 rising stroke physicians, cardiologists, radiologists, and 30 neurointerventionalists arrived in Can Tho from the following 17 different countries: Vietnam, Myanmar, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Jordan, India, Zimbabwe, Thailand, Hongkong, Pakistan, Japan, Brunei, USA, Italy, Switzerland, France.

The primary aim of the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Stroke Summer School was bringing together Asian stroke physicians and neurointerventionalists in order to enhance interdisciplinary management of patients with acute ischemic stroke. Another main focus was the development and implementation of stroke care networks and on training of stroke physicians and neurointerventionalists in order to meet the increasing needs in most of the Asian countries.

The Asian Stroke Summer School started on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 with the welcome of the president of the organizing committee **Prof. Tran Chi Cuong** and **Prof. Jan Gralla**.

**The 16 high level international speakers from all over Asia and Europe** (Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Pakistan, India, Hong Kong, Japan, USA, France, Italy and Switzerland), including neurologists and interventional neuroradiologists led challenging discussions. The teaching program included 35 lectures and 4-6 tutorials. The main focus of the lectures was interdisciplinary treatment of acute ischemic stroke. There were sessions on acute stroke imaging, acute treatment strategies including endovascular approaches, stroke treatment in difficult circumstances and needs to set up an interdisciplinary stroke center. In the afternoon tutorials were given separately for neurointerventionalists and stroke physicians.

Neurointerventionalists had the opportunity for structured hands-on teaching in small groups on endovascular procedures with animal models and management of complications of endovascular treatment. Stroke physicians could learn neuroangiography on a model and they were taught interpretations of CT and MRI by neuroradiologists.

A special highlight for the interventional neurointerventionalists were the hands-on teaching sessions with the animal model. Small groups of 4-5 participants were given the opportunity to perform diagnostic angiography and endovascular treatment procedures such as thrombectomy with multiple devices.

During the Asian Stroke Summer School participants and faculty had a joint course dinner to favor socialization and networking.

We are grateful for the support of the sponsors helping to realize this important step in the education of Asian stroke physicians:

Boehringer Ingelheim, Medtronic, Siemens Healthineers, Microvention, Penumbra, Phenox and Rapid.

The local organizing committee thanks all the invited speakers for giving time and efforts to the Asian Stroke Summer School, for coming to Can Tho, and for delivering high quality lectures. Their interest and passion to teach the upcoming generation of Asian stroke physicians and neurointerventionalists was clearly visible.

**We are pleased to announce that there will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian Stroke Summer School in Can Tho, Vietnam, in 2020.**

Can Tho, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**General Director of Can Tho S.I.S General Hospital**



**Phd.MD. Tran Chi Cuong**