

1st Johor Liver Cancer Awareness Campaign

Prepared by Anuradha Valan, HPB Fellow HSAJB

On 17th of June 2023, we were privileged to organize the first ever Johor Liver Cancer Awareness Campaign which was held at the Baylis Lecture Theatre, Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia. The campaign was jointly organized by healthcare professionals in the government and private hospitals in the state of Johor who were concerned with the increasing number of hepatocellular carcinomas in the state.

The campaign was initiated by Mr. Tee Chee Sian, a Senior Consultant Hepatopancreatobiliary Surgeon. The idea was brought to the attention of the Head of Family Medicine Specialist in the state of Johor, Dr Rohayah Abdullah. Together, a committee was set up with other consultants in the government and private hospitals who were surgeons, gastroenterologists and oncologist dealing with hepatocellular carcinoma. We were also fortunate to garner support from the Malaysian Medical Association and the Malaysian Society of Hepatopancreatobiliary Surgeons.



17th June 2023, Saturday	
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 1:15pm	Introduction and welcoming remarks • Debates for surveillance programme Dr Tee Chee Sian
1:15pm - 1:30pm	Early Detection and Intervention of Chronic Liver Disease in Primary Care Dr Rohayah Abdullah
1:30pm - 1:45pm	• Who are potentially at risk for liver disease that may cause HCC? • Primary care referral framework for high risk patient Dr Chan Weng Kai
1:45pm - 2:00pm	Question and Answer session
2:00pm - 2:15pm	• Understanding the changing landscape of hepatocellular carcinoma • Warning signs of HCC development Ms Anuradha Valan
2:15pm - 2:30pm	Tea break
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Clinical consideration for systemic therapy in advanced HCC Dr Lim Chue Sen
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Challenging session • What should we do when liver enzymes are raised? • What should we do when a patient is presenting themselves with a liver mass? • How often shall we screen a patient with cirrhosis? • What is the HCC patient journey beyond referral? • When do we reserve time to diagnose? • When in this region do we refer the patients to an different stages of the disease? Moderator: Dr Tee Chee Sian
3:00pm - 3:15pm	Question and Answer session
3:15pm - 3:30pm	Summary of key take home messages

MODERATORS AND SPEAKERS	
	Dr Tee Chee Sian Consultant Liver Surgeon, Agency Specialist (K1)
	Dr Rohayah Abdullah Head of FMU, Johor, Consultant H&A Senior Lecturer, Johor Bahru
	Dr Chan Weng Kai Consultant Gastroenterologist and Physician, K12, Puteri Johor
	Ms Anuradha Valan Consultant General Surgeon, Hospital Sekeloa, Amoi, Johor Bahru
	Dr Lim Chue Sen Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Hospital Sultan Ismail
	Dr Lee Seon Liang Consultant Internal Medicine (Physician Gastroenterology, Gastroenterology)
	Dr Louis Ling

Figure 1: Programme schedule and speakers.



Figure 2: Committee members.



Figure 3: Inauguration ceremony by Professor Harinarayan Radhakrishna.

The event was inaugurated by Professor Harinarayan Radhakrishna, the Dean of Clinical Affairs, Newcastle University Malaysia.

The main objective was to spread awareness on hepatocellular carcinoma to the primary care doctors in the government and private health care centers in the state of Johor as they are the first stop for patients with undiagnosed health care problems. Therefore, the aim was to educate and update these doctors regarding the current state of hepatocellular carcinoma.

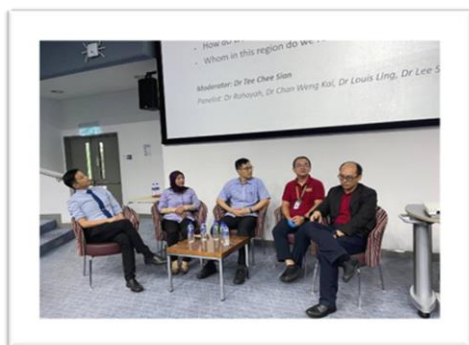


Figure 4: Open dialogue session.

Various topics were selected to address epidemiology, risk factors, symptomatology, investigation, and management of hepatocellular carcinoma.

There was also an open dialogue session held to address the frequently asked questions by the primary care doctors.



Figure 5: Audience.



Figure 6: Speaker from Sultanah Ismail Hospital.



Figure 7: Speaker from Sultanah Aminah Hospital.



Figure 8: Participants visiting the exhibition booths.



Figure 9: Industrial partners.



Figure 10: Various exhibition booths.

The event was a success due to the dedication of all primary care doctors, relentless committee members, presence of distinguished speakers and not to forget the support of our various industrial partners.

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