

# HPB JOURNAL CLUB

MAY 2023

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The much-awaited Journal Club hosted by HPB Unit, Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah was initially planned to be regional. Due to unforeseen circumstances and clashes of schedule, our Philippine and Singapore peers were not able to join us as anticipated. Nevertheless, that did not dampen the host spirit to coordinate a 2-day Journal Club in Penang all the way from our base in Alor Setar. The event was held at Bayu 1 Function Room, Ascott Gurney Penang from 13th to 14th May 2023 in collaboration with MyHPBS and the supports of various industrial partners who took part in the booth exhibitions and lunch lectures.

Fellows flew in from centers from both West and East Malaysia to present in total 16 papers focusing on the chosen organ - liver, covering both malignant and benign topics plus liver transplantation. The fraternity convened not only from Ministry of Health hospitals but also the Ministry of Higher Education and not forgetting those from private practices with the attendance almost reaching 50 strong.

## DAY 1

Day 1 started with opening remarks from Mr Manisekar Subramaniam, the National Head of HPB Surgery Service. Then the morning session kicked off with 4 papers on various aspects of liver transplantation, discussing from managements to outcomes for its various indications. The interesting selections generated a robust question & answer session.







The subsequent Day 1 papers were focused on malignant topics covering from hepatocellular carcinoma to colorectal liver metastases. Ms Dayang Azzyati's presentation on Himalaya trial on STRIDE regime segued into a lecture by Dr Ang Soo Fan, an oncologist from Penang Adventist Hospital. His topic '*Treatment Decision-Making with Lenvima In Inoperable HCC: Who Are The Right Patients?*' comprehensively explored the up-to-date options available for advanced stage hepatocellular carcinoma.

A short break for lunch was followed by another 2 papers and a lecture by AP Koh Peng Soon titled '*Radioembolization or SIRT for HCC: The Surgeon's Role.*' The fraternity then gathered for a group photo before visiting the exhibition booths and enjoying the tea break.

Fully embracing the work hard, play hard adage, we concluded the day with dinner at Planters Lounge, Eastern & Oriental Hotel. This special occasion was made possible with the adept organization by Mr Jasjit Singh Nijhar. After a long day of academic presentations and discussions, the fraternity let their hair down and watched the sunset while enjoying the delicious buffet spread, overlooking the Andaman Sea.





## DAY 2

We commenced Day 2 in high spirit following the success of Day 1 which saw presenters not only keeping to the time frame allocated but also generated meaningful academic discussions. 6 papers were presented and critically appraised by various fellows during the morning session. In between, we managed to squeeze the interval evaluations for all the fellows from Year 1 to Year 3 plus the entrance interviews for 3 of our newest candidates from the Ministry of Higher Education. Lunch break was preceded by a lecture by Dr Norshazriman Sulaiman, an interventional radiologist from Gleneagles Hospital, Kuala Lumpur titled '*Microwave Ablation of Liver Tumours: Current Practices.*'



Day 2 selections were heavier on benign topics but it did not fail to create a buzz. Tasked with presenting the first lecture for the evening session after a rather heavy lunch buffet, Mr Harivinthan Sellappan successfully engaged the audience with the help of Slido polls and managed to prevent anyone from dozing off from the carb overload with his presentation on management of bile leak following blunt liver trauma. At 3.00pm as scheduled, we concluded the 2-day event with closing remarks from Mr Manisekar Subramaniam and Prof Yoong Boon Koon as President of MyHPBS.

The Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah team would like to conclude that it was our pleasure to be given the opportunity to host this round of Journal Club. We hope everyone departed way with new key takeaways from the presentations whilst enjoying the camaraderie. We pass the baton to Hospital Selayang team for the next upcoming Journal Club. Until then, farewell and see you all again next time.

THE END

