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A journal club is an educational meeting in which a group of experts discuss published articles in order to keep abreast with recently published literature. It is also a signature pedagogy in postgraduate medical education. The first journal club was organized by Sir William Osler at the Johns Hopkins Medical Centre in the United States.

The Malaysian Hepato Pancreato Biliary (HPB) Journal Club was first initiated in 2016 as a part of the HPB Fellowship Training Programme. It is held in various locations throughout the country. These days, the journal club is referred to as continuing medical education whereby HPB trainees are assessed on their knowledge, critical thinking and presentation skills.

The recent HPB Continuing Medical Education was held at Renaissance Johor Bahru Hotel from 25th to 26th of November 2022. The event was organized by the HPB Unit of Sultanah Aminah Hospital Johor Bahru in collaboration with the Malaysian Society of Hepato Pancreato Biliary Surgeons (MyHPBS) and various industrial partners which took part in the booth presentation. The topic this time around was Chronic Pancreatitis whereby the fellows presented various scientific articles under the heading that incorporated the aetiopathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment modalities that includes medical, surgical and role of islet cell transplantation

The topic Chronic Pancreatitis was proposed by Ms Kharlina Khairudin, Head of Hepato Pancreato Biliary Unit Sultanah Aminah Hospital Johor Bahru during the last continuous medical education which was held at Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. It was proposed mainly because the dilemma in providing the optimum treatment as no standard management outline due to its heterogeneity in aetiology, condition on index of presentation, limited access to standard treatment options and furthermore this disease is generally not given emphasis in view of its relatively benign nature of this condition. The magnitude of epidemiological data on chronic pancreatitis is lacking in Malaysia and globally.





The program started with an opening speech by the National Head of the Hepato pancreato biliary Malaysia, Mr Manisekar Subramaniam who spoke on the importance of continuing medical education in the fraternity to keep abreast with current practices and also to try and assimilate some of these practices locally. He also added that the event is also a means to keep the members of the fraternity close thus forming professional bonds and working as a team in order to deliver the best treatment possible to the patients.



Over two days, the fellows discussed various scientific papers which generated robust discussion amongst the attendees. The current President of the MyHPBS, Associate Professor Dr Yoong Boon Koon also delivered a speech on the importance of the continuous medical education in current times. The event was also graced by senior consultants in KKM, Universities as well as private practice HPB surgeons. The participants were taken to dine at the seafood village, Senibong Valley, an area that overlooking Singapore while enjoying the view of the sunset. The fraternity decided that the next continuous medical education to be held in Penang at a regional level with collaboration with regional centres in Philippines and Singapore.

