

INTERNATIONAL LAPAROSCOPIC LIVER SOCIETY 4TH WORLD CONGRESS

13th -15th September 2023



The International Laparoscopic Liver Society (ILLS) was established in 2016 with the aim to share innovations, indications and techniques, and evolving guidelines. This year the society held its 4th World Congress in the eternal city - Rome, Italy. The 3-day congress chaired by the renowned Prof Luca Aldrighetti was the first post-pandemic opportunity for global HPB surgeons interested in minimally invasive surgery to meet face to face. Recent advancements and achievements, new technologies and innovative techniques were showcased heavily during the congress held at Ergife Palace Hotel. Among the 83 distinguished faculty, 3 were South East Asia representatives - Prof Brian Goh from Singapore, Dr Catherine Teh from Philippines, and Dr Rawisak Chanwat from Thailand.

2 separate pre-meeting courses preceded the congress - one on robotic liver surgery and another on minimally invasive liver surgery (MILS). This was followed by session showcasing videos from several pioneers, including the eminent Prof Cherqui Daniel and Dr Go Wakabayashi, highlighting some of the most complex and innovative resections that they had performed. Oncological sessions spread over the next few days included in-depth discussions on MILS in hepatocellular carcinoma, colorectal liver metastases and biliary cancers. Special sessions were also included to highlight MILS and Gender Equity, and MILS in Emerging Countries.

Author and Dr Ian Chik with Dr Catherine Teh



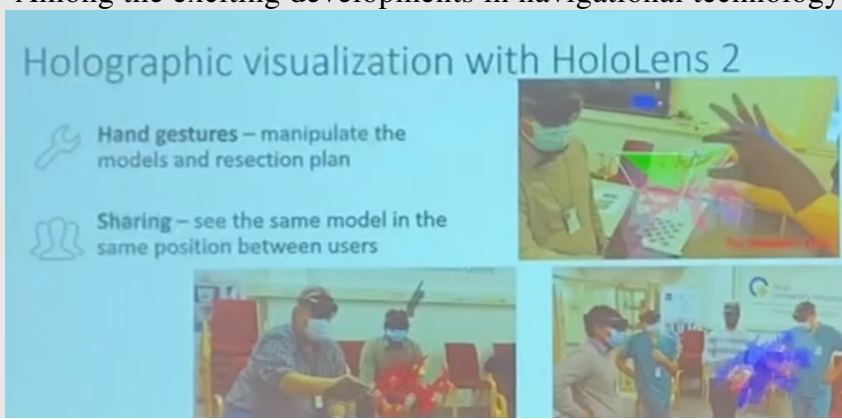
Malaysia was represented on the second day by our final year fellow, Dr Ian Chik. He was shortlisted to present during Best Of The Best Selected Video session. The well executed video on **Laparoscopic Hepatectomy And Tumour Thrombectomy For Hepatocellular Carcinoma With IVC Thrombus** was met with encouraging response from the crowd.



Personally, the highlight of the congress was on the third day during the Navigation System in MILS session. From 3D simulation to 3D holograms and mixed reality in MILS, the session truly excite on what is in store in the near future to further enhance MILS in HPB surgery. All in all the congress was an enlightening and refreshing exposure on many of the recent achievements in MILS.

Currently, there are only 2 members of the society from Malaysia. Annual membership fee costs USD200, however a special trainee membership is only USD20. Members will benefit from special rate for congress and other educational events. They are also privileged to access the website resource page which include the latest publications on MILS and link to educational videos sharing both laparoscopic and robotic resection techniques.

Among the exciting developments in navigational technology



Dr Catherine Teh sharing insights during “Women in HPB Surgery” lecture



The next 5th ILLS World Congress will be held in Seoul, Korea on 24-27th June 2025. Gauging by the success of the congress this year, we can look forward to another impressive meeting showcasing the best and the latest of what minimally invasive liver surgery has to offer. For now, arrivederci!