

MEETING REPORT

16th Asian Pacific Cancer Conference, Manila

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The Asian Pacific Federation of Organizations for Cancer Research and Control (APFOCC) staged the 16th Asian Pacific Cancer Conference (16th APCC) in Manila, Philippine on November 18-21, 2001. The meeting was held in the Philippine International Convention Center and the President of the APFOCC for 2000-2001, Dr. Ernest Domingo, President of the Philippine Cancer Society, organized the 16th APCC under the main theme "Fighting Cancer in the New Millenium". In total 1,800 members, including 400 overseas members from 35 countries, registered to attend this meeting. Regretfully quite a few delegates, especially from the USA and Europe, backed out due to the tum of world events, however, some plenary lectures were video taped.

In the opening ceremony, Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in a statement congratulated the organizers and participants of the 16th APCC, encouraging

experts in the field to find innovations in cancer control. Dr. Domingo gave a message on behalf of the local organizing committee members of this conference "The conference seeks to be a venue of exchange for new knowledge, research and discoveries on cancer with a slule of experts in the field lined up for the world congress to share their insights. We hopefully to give an equally lasting, equally productive contribution." Cultural presentations lent color to the opening ceremonies engaging performance of the Ballet Phillipines and the most impressive event at the opening ceremony was that a child cancer survivor gave the invocation, reminding delegates the purpose of the congress. The conference was ritually closed by the message from the Vice-President in conformity to the national formal ceremony in the evening of November 21st, 2002.

In total 356 papers were presented at the 16th APCC, including 48 subjects in 16 symposia, 6 plenary lectures, 6



The Venue

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special lectures, 6 meet the experts, 22 subjects in 8 lunch satellite symposium and evening symposium, 12 Cancer Control/Care Network Symposium-Workshop, 44 oral presentation and 211 poster presentation. In order to reinforce the 16th APCC, a practical satellite program with a UICC Symposium on “Cancer Situation and Needs: Towards a systematic Approach to Cancer Control” organized by the CICA (Committee on International Collaborative Activities) Program was held on November 20th, 2002.

The News Letter was issued every day during this conference and reported the main topics as follows. 1) The traditional Chinese medicine is primarily concerned with fortifying the body’s immune system right after radiotherapy and chemotherapy. 2) There is a projected 50% rise in cancer incidence worldwide by the year 2020. 3) We should tackle cervical cancer, the second most prevalent in women, by the primary and secondary prevention, especially against

HPV infection. 4) Issues on public health and cancer epidemiology raised in Asia. The five rule points for cancer prevention in APJCP Vol. 2 No. 1, 2001 was introduced. 5) To establish evidence-based cancer care, well organized clinical trials on cancer should be conducted in Asia, especially for common cancers in Asia and . 6) Ten new agents in the treatment of metastatic breast cancer have been approved by the US government during the last five years. 7) Colorectal cancer can be prevented through early prevention, chemoprevention and lifestyle modification.

The next meeting (the 17th APCC), with the main theme of “Standardization of Practices” is to be held in Bali, Indonesia in 2003 with Dr. Evert Poeiray, the President of the Indonesian Society of Oncology and the President of the APFOCC (2002-2003). It was also decided that the 18th APCC, in 2005, should be organized by the delegated from Korea.



Opening Ceremony