APHRS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023 | NO.64

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GREETINGS FROM THE APHRS PRESIDENT

I am pleased to announce that I have been appointed to serve a second one-year term as President of the APHRS, beginning in January 2023, and I am once again humbled by the weight of this responsibility.

Thanks to the efforts of past presidents, board members, and members, the APHRS has made great strides since its establishment in 2008. Arrhythmia is one of the three major areas of cardiovascular disease along with ischemic heart disease and heart failure. Modern arrhythmia treatment consists of a wide variety of areas, including non-pharmacological treatment such as catheter ablation, arrhythmia device therapy (ICD, CRT, remote monitoring) and arrhythmia surgery, pharmacological treatment including anticoagulation therapy, genetic diagnosis of hereditary arrhythmia, and recently the prediction and diagnosis of arrhythmia using digital technology such as artificial intelligence (AI), wearable devices, and big data analysis.

On the other hand, the Asia-Pacific region is a very diverse region in terms of race, economy, and medical and academic levels. For this reason, one of the important missions of the APHRS is to ensure the equalization of the level of medical care in the Asia-Pacific region. One of the key elements necessary to achieve this is to provide extensive education for members involved in arrhythmia care in the region. Arrhythmia treatment, especially ablation and arrhythmia device therapy, often involves the use of highly advanced medical devices, and it is important to have a multidisciplinary team approach with the participation of medical professionals (clinical engineers, clinical technologists, nurses, radiology technologists, pharmacists, and CDRs). Due to the spread of the COVID-19 infection since the beginning of 2020, we have been delivering online educational programs for the past two years.

A face-to-face APHRS 2022 could be held in Singapore last November for the first time in three years. We were able to have an enthusiastic discussion at the face-to-face conference that everyone had been looking forward to. We will continue to promote education by holding face-to-face conferences and educational programs, while taking all possible measures to prevent infections. APHRS is also an Asia-Pacific regional society that exists as a counterpart to North America (HRS), Europe (EHRA), and Latin America (LAHRS). To this end, we would like to strengthen our cooperation with HRS, EHRA, LAHRS, and other societies representing the region more than ever, organize joint sessions and publish Consensus Statements. Furthermore, the development of research and practice in the Asia-Pacific region also requires the creation of a reliable database for catheter ablation and arrhythmia device therapy. I believe it is necessary to promote registration studies and document writings that take advantage of the characteristics of the Asia-Pacific region. In order to further develop the APHRS on an ongoing basis, it is necessary to foster young physicians who aspire to become arrhythmia specialists, actively involve female physicians, and promote exchange between basic medical scientists and clinicians, which I will actively promote.

As President of the APHRS, I will do my utmost to address these issues, more than ever before, and I look forward to your support and encouragement with our board members and members.

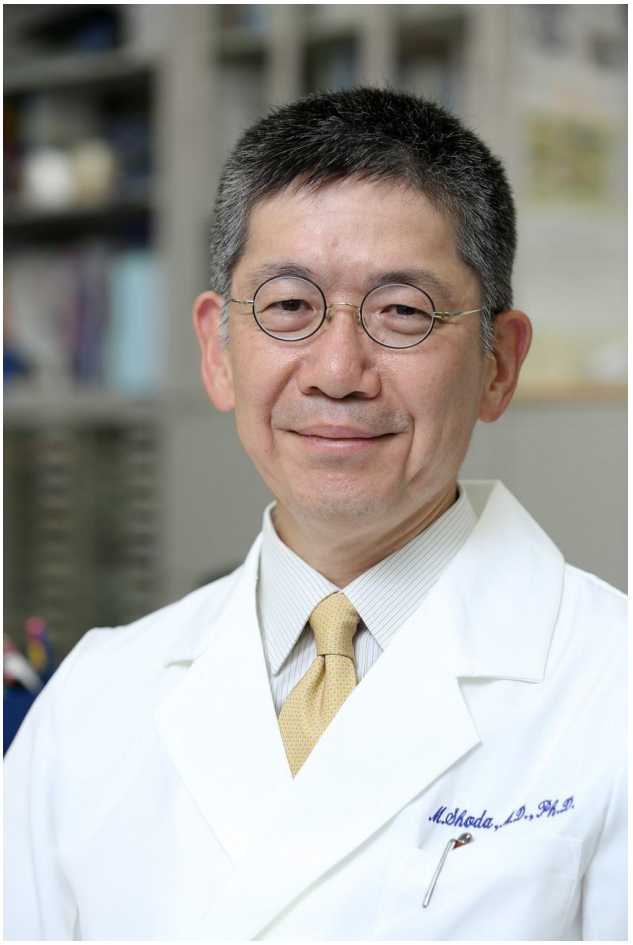
Wataru Shimizu
President of Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society (APHRS)
(Professor of the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Nippon Medical School)

GETTING TO KNOW APHRS LEADER

Morio Shoda, MD, PhD

APHRS Lead Extraction Subcommittee Chair 2023

Director & Professor,
Clinical Research Division for Heart Rhythm Management,
Department of Cardiology
Tokyo Women's Medical University



Why did you choose to enter medicine and above all, prefer to specialize in Electrophysiology?

I decided to become an arrhythmia physician because of an interesting class in cardiac electrophysiology at my university medical school.

What do you regard as the most significant development in Electrophysiology in the recent past?

Biosense CARTO pried open the door to the world of 3D mapping of arrhythmias. As seen in the various types of mapping systems that followed, CARTO's achievement is the most significant milestone of the past half century.

Who has inspired you the most in your life and why?

I was most inspired by Dr. Shlomo Ben-Heim, the developer of CARTO. I was impressed by his intellectual ability, of course, but I also admired his ability to execute a concept and bring it to life.

Can you talk about an accomplishment that you are particularly proud of?

I take pride in the fact that I can perform all aspects of arrhythmia-related medical care myself, including device implantation, lead extraction procedure, and arrhythmia treatment in pediatrics and congenital heart disease, in addition to arrhythmia ablation therapy.

If you could have an alternative career, what would it be and why?

When I was younger I wanted to be a soccer player, but now my hope is to be the strongest professional cyclist.

What are your hobbies and interests outside of medicine?

My hobbies at the moment are road bike tours and gravel bike adventures.

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

My three dogs and my recently born first grandchild always make me laugh.

What is your best life advice, motto or favorite quote?

Find something you can devote yourself to outside of your most cherished area of professionalism.

How do you keep a healthy work/life balance?

Getting up early every morning to walk my dogs.

What are your thoughts about some of the emerging technologies, and the way they will shape the future care of arrhythmia patients?

I believe that advances in artificial intelligence will enable us to predict the prognosis of patients and intervene early in their treatment.

What advice would you give to your younger self?

You should not stay at one university hospital for a long time.

If you were a movie character, who would you be and why?

Marilyn Monroe, because I want to be with her always.

You're a new addition to the crayon box. What color would you be and why?

Charcoal gray, because it is neither black nor white.

Favorite weekend activity?

Road Bike Cycling.

THE 15TH ASIA PACIFIC HEART RHYTHM SOCIETY ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The 15th Scientific Session of the Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society (APHRS 2022) was held on 18-20 November at Suntec City Convention Centre Singapore. Organized by the Heart Rhythm Association Singapore (HRAS), the APHRS 2022 celebrated a new chapter for the society, as it was the first annual scientific session held in-person since 2019. It also marked the first time the APHRS conference returned to Singapore since its inaugural session in 2008. Over the course of 3 days, the APHRS 2022 featured an elaborated scientific programme, with 134 scientific sessions covering the field of both adult and pediatric electrophysiology, device management and the basic sciences.

REGISTRATION

APHRS 2022 attracted 2,038 participants from 45 countries.

No	Country	Count	No	Country	Count
01	Singapore	396	24	Mexico	1
02	Argentina	2	25	Mongolia	4
03	Australia	155	26	Myanmar	8
04	Austria	11	27	Nepal	1
05	Bangladesh	5	28	Netherlands	2
06	Belgium	1	29	New Zealand	11
07	Brunei Darussalam	7	30	Oman	2
08	Cambodia	22	31	Pakistan	2
09	Canada	7	32	Philippines	38
10	China	81	33	Poland	2
11	Croatia	1	34	Saudi Arabia	2
12	Czech Republic	3	35	South Korea	182
13	Denmark	1	36	Spain	5
14	Finland	2	37	Sri Lanka	3
15	France	6	38	Switzerland	1
16	Germany	4	39	Taiwan	152
17	Hong Kong	38	40	Thailand	131
18	India	97	41	Turkey	2
19	Indonesia	87	42	United Kingdom	17
20	Israel	2	43	United States	190
21	Italy	11	44	Vietnam	78
22	Japan	157	45	Unknown	17
23	Malaysia	91		Grand Total	2038

INVITED FACULTY

333 faculty members from 35 countries were invited to be part of APHRS 2022's scientific programme.
(Asia Pacific: 266 | International: 67)

No	Region	Country	Count	No	Region	Country	Count
01	Asia Pacific	Singapore	40	19	International	Argentina	2
02		Australia	32	20		Austria	1
03		Brunei Darussalam	2	21		Canada	4
04		Cambodia	2	22		Czech Republic	1
05		China	13	23		Denmark	1
06		Hong Kong	4	24		France	3
07		India	26	25		Germany	3
08		Indonesia	16	26		Italy	2
09		Japan	34	27		Mexico	1
10		Malaysia	9	28		Netherlands	2
11		Mongolia	1	29		Philippines	9
12		Myanmar	4	30		Poland	1
13		New Zealand	5	31		Spain	1
14		South Korea	31	32		Switzerland	1
15		Sri Lanka	1	33		Turkey	1
16		Taiwan	23	34		United Kingdom	9
17		Thailand	18	35		United States	25
18		Viet Nam	5		Grand Total		333

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

APHRS 2022 featured an elaborated scientific programme, consisting of 134 scientific sessions within a span of 3 days. The programme also included joint sessions with international, regional and national societies, including EHRA, HRS, LAHRS, WSA, ISHNE, CSPE, CSA, Korean Heart Rhythm Society, Indian Heart Rhythm Society, Myanmar Cardiac Society, Hong Kong College of Cardiology and Heart Association of Thailand-EP Club.

No	Session Type	Count
01	Symposia	45
02	Plenary	1
03	TV Series (On-Demand Sessions)	10
04	Young Investigators' Award	2
05	Late Breaking Trials	2
06	APHRS Special Initiatives	2
07	GP Forum	1
08	Public Session	1
09	Oral Presentations	40
10	Industry Workshops and Courses	4
11	Industry Symposia	9
12	Industry Innovation Theatre Sessions	13
13	Pre & Post Industry Webinars	4
Grand Total		134

The inaugural APHRS Emerging Leaders' Summit brought together 27 emerging leaders in cardiac electrophysiology from the Asia-Pacific region to meet, network with their peers and to gain insights and mentoring from senior established stalwarts and pioneers in the field.

ABSTRACTS

The conference accepted 484 abstracts, of which 8 abstracts were accepted for Young Investigators' Awards, 8 for Late Breaking Clinical Trials Presentation, 227 for Oral Presentations and 241 for Poster Presentations.

All the accepted abstracts were published in the Journal of Arrhythmia.

No	Theme	Oral Presentation	Poster Presentation	YIA	Late Breaking Trial	Count
01	Ablation Technology	19	17			36
02	Atrial Fibrillation	69	70	5		144
03	Basic Science	3	14	1		18
04	Cardiovascular Implantable Electronic Devices	42	59	1		102
05	General Electrophysiology / Prevention / Screening / Imaging / ECG	29	33	1		63
06	Heart Failure	11	6			17
07	Paediatrics and Grown-up Congenital Heart Disease	12	2			14
08	Supraventricular Tachycardia	8	10			18
09	Syncope and Sudden Cardiac Death	14	11			25
10	Ventricular Tachycardia	20	19			39
11	Late Breaking Trials Submission				8	8
	Grand Total	227	241	8	8	484

ABSTRACT AUTHORS

The abstracts were presented by 361 authors from 25 countries.

No	Country	Count	No	Country	Count
01	Singapore	15	14	Italy	4
02	Australia	25	15	Japan	49
03	Austria	1	16	Malaysia	18
04	Brunei Darussalam	1	17	Pakistan	1
05	Cambodia	2	18	Philippines	10
06	Canada	1	19	South Korea	60
07	China	19	20	Spain	1
08	Croatia	1	21	Taiwan	28
09	Czech Republic	1	22	Thailand	15
10	France	1	23	United Kingdom	6
11	Hong Kong	7	24	United States	24
12	India	33	25	Vietnam	6
13	Indonesia	32		Grand Total	361

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Besides an enriching and extensive scientific programme, APHRS 2022 also featured an exhilarating social programme that showcases the unique elements of Singapore.

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony was held on 18th November afternoon. The Ceremony started with a Lion Dance performance on stilts, signifying a “new beginning” for APHRS annual meeting’s return to in-person format, while wishing for great fortune and success for the society as a whole.

The opening addresses were addressed by the Organising Chairman of 15th APHRS, Professor Ching Chi-Keong, the APHRS President, Professor Wataru Shimizu, the Heart Rhythm Association of Singapore President, Dr Teo Wee-Siong, and the Guest of Honour, Minister Tan See-Leng, Minister of Manpower and 2nd Minister for Trade and Industry.

A Convocation for the APHRS Fellows also took place. Six fellows were recognised for their outstanding contributions to every aspect of clinical practice for patient care, research, scientific work and organizational activity in APHRS. The ceremony was wrapped up by the Plenary Lecture on the management of complex atrial fibrillation patients, delivered by Professor Gregory Lip.

Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception was hosted in the APHRS 2022 Exhibition Hall, on 18th November evening. It was a great opportunity for all the delegates, faculty members and exhibitors to come together and engage in “in-person” conversations. Local delights and cultural performances were also prepared specifically for this occasion.

Faculty Night

The Faculty Night was held on 19th November evening, at The S.E.A. Aquarium. Welcomed by the divers, the delicious and authentic Chinese food, served in this fascinating venue with amazing company, certainly made it a memorable night for our invited faculty.

Fun Run

A morning run around the Marina Bay precinct was organized on the 20th November morning. Over 30 participants, both local and international, gathered together for a scenic run across some of Singapore's most popular attractions, such as Helix Bridge, Merlion, ArtScience Museum.

Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony was held on the 20th November evening. The Young Investigator Award winners were awarded. The APHRS Fellowship Grants were then given out to awardees. The APHRS flag was then handed over to the next host country, Hong Kong.

SPONSORS

The APHRS 2022 would not have been possible without the generous support from our industry partners.

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WEBINAR SUMMARY: EP JOURNAL CLUB 2022

On July 28, 2022, the third session of EP Journal Club (EPJC) 2022 was hosted by the electrophysiology team led by Professor Minglong Chen, Deputy Director of the Department of Cardiology, People's Hospital of Jiangsu Province, China. EPJC is a professional education event initiated by Biosense Webster, Johnson & Johnson, with Electrophysiological experts from China, Australia, Japan and Southeast Asia (Thailand). The experts from different countries share electrophysiology literature on a rotating basis, categorized by different topics, they are responsible for one topic each and lead the audience through the literature progress and share the hands-on experience. This Course is aimed at beginners in electrophysiology in the Asia-Pacific region and has been endorsed by APHRS this year.

The theme of this event was "Accessory Pathway". Besides Prof. Minglong Chen, Prof. Weizhu Ju, Prof. Hongwu Chen, Prof. Gang Yang, Prof. Hailei Liu, and Prof. Zidun Wang, from People's Hospital of Jiangsu Province, also gave an in-depth knowledge and practical experience sharing on the anatomy of Accessory Pathway, Differential diagnosis of Accessory Pathway, challenges of Accessory Pathway ablation, how to prevent and manage the His Bundle injury, and how to deal with Coronary Sinus related Accessory Pathway. The presentation showed the solid electrophysiological knowledge and clinical practice experience of Prof. Minglong Chen's team.

In addition to the excellent lectures and sharing by Prof. Minglong Chen's team, Prof. Raymond Sy from Australia, Dr. Akira Mizukami from Japan, and Prof. Koonlawee Nademanee from Thailand also shared their valuable experiences during the discussion session.

Through the wonderful lectures, various interactions, polling, case reviews, and Q&A discussions lectures, the audience of more than 80 people who attended this event expressed that they had a deeper understanding about Accessory Pathway now and had gained a lot on how to deal with different kinds of Accessory Pathway.

The COVID-19 at the moment has prevented us from f2f training courses, but our attempts to do online training have never stopped. With the pandemic becoming the new normal, how to efficiently train young fellows and make them better master the skills has always been an issue we need to think about, and the EPJC format has certainly given us a new way to approach to try and solve it.

APHRS 2023

HONG KONG

16TH ASIA PACIFIC HEART RHYTHM SOCIETY SCIENTIFIC SESSION

In conjunction with CardioRhythm

1-3 September 2023

Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Call for Abstracts

Embracing the Breakthroughs

Themes:

1. Ablation Technology
2. Atrial Fibrillation
   - Rate Control
   - Rhythm Control
   - Anticoagulation
3. Basic Science
4. Cardiovascular Implantable Electronic Devices
   - Bradycardia Pacing
   - Conduction System Pacing
   - Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy
   - Implantable Cardiac Defibrillator
5. General Electrophysiology / Prevention / Screening / Imaging / ECG
6. Heart Failure
7. Pediatrics and Grown-up Congenital Heart Disease
8. Syncope and Sudden Cardiac Death
9. Supraventricular Tachycardia
10. Ventricular Tachycardia
11. Miscellaneous

Deadline for abstract submission:
31 May 2023

Enquiry:
Tel: (852) 2559 9973
Email: info@aphrs-cardiorhythm2023hk.com

Co-organizers:

APHRS Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society

Hong Kong College of Cardiology

Chinese Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology

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45 centers

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312 patients
25 centers

Medtronic CareLink™[1]
14,933 patients
887 centers

Evaluated with real-world evidence

Approval was granted based on the 3830 LBBAP real-world evidence evaluation, a robust data compendium encompassing > 20,000 patients.

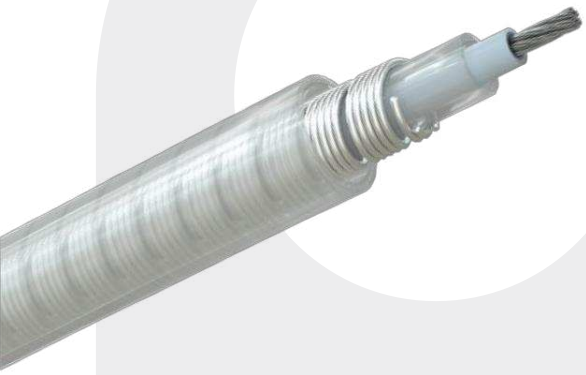
Proven safe and effective

High implant success rate[1]
92.7% average implant success rate among bradycardia-indicated patients

Low procedural adverse event rate[1]
2.5% total procedural adverse event rate at implant

1.6% total procedural septal perforation rate at implant yet none with clinical sequela

Low and stable pacing thresholds[1]
The average pacing threshold remained < 1.0V after 18 months of follow-up



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3830 is now the only left bundle branch area lead approved for use with MR Conditional systems.†‡

†Model 3830 leads are indicated for left bundle branch area pacing in bradycardia patients only, as an alternative to right ventricular pacing in a single or dual chamber pacing system
‡Medtronic MRI SureScan™ systems.

Reference
[1] SelectSecure 3830 Left Bundle Branch Area Pacing Safety and Efficacy Utilizing RWE. Data on file.