

## The 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Internal Medicine

**Nusa Dua, Indonesia, August 22–25, 2016**

The main scientific and educational event of the International Society of Internal Medicine (ISIM) is the biannual congress. The 33<sup>rd</sup> ISIM Congress i.e. the World Congress of Internal Medicine 2016 was organized by the ISIM and Perhimpunan Dokter Spesialis Penyakit Dalam Indonesia (Indonesian Society of Internal Medicine) and took place in the modern Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center on the 22<sup>nd</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> of August, 2016.

The Opening Ceremony was attended by Dr. Nila Djuwita F. Moeloek, Ministry of Health of the Indonesian Republic. The participants from a number of countries were welcomed by Professor Idrus Alwi, president of the Indonesian Society of Internal Medicine and chairman of the Indonesian Society of Internal Medicine, chairman of the Congress Scientific Committee, Professor Aru Wisaksono Sudoyo, chairman of the Organizing Committee (and a president-elect of the ISIM) and Professor Yasuo Ikeda, president of the ISIM (2014–2016). The official opening of the Congress was performed by the ministry of health by triple striking the gong. All opening addresses indicated the position of internist in modern health service, especially visible in developing countries. The Opening Ceremony was finished with an artistic performance of four traditional Indonesian dances.

The first day of the meeting was devoted to workshops. They were focused on various topics, including fibroscan as a non-invasive method in assessing the liver, interventional pulmonology, electrolyte and acid-base disorders, holistic approach of diabetic foot ulcer, managing drug resistant tuberculosis and others. The only rheumatological workshop was led by Indonesian physicians (Nyoman Kertia, Bagus Putu Putra Suryana, Laniyati Hamijoyo and Rudy Hidayat) and its topic was “Intra-articular injection”.

The scientific program of the Congress consisted of keynote lectures, seminars and sessions. Some of the keynote lecture reviewed general internal medicine problems, e.g. “Challenge to the aging society – the role of internal medicine (Yasuo Ikeda), “Managing patients with multimorbidity – the role of internists” (Hans Peter Köhler), “Health and global climate change” (Nitin Damle), “Leadership in the event of catastrophe” (Rolf A. Streuli), “Essentials in internal medicine” (Rudolfo Bado), “Implementation of quality standards in internal medicine” (L. Harry Van Hulsteijn).



Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, August 22, 2016: Anna Koutlska and Eugeniusz J. Kucharz, the representatives of the Polish Society of Internal Medicine accompanied by colleague from the Netherlands (L. Harry van Hulsteijn and his wife, Mirjam van Hulsteijn (second and third from left), and Australia (Leslie E. Bolitho, president of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, second)

Rheumatological topics were limited to a few sessions as well as some oral and poster presentations. Development in osteoporosis management was a subject of the symposium moderated and introduced by Julie Li Yu (Philippines). Lectures were presented by Indonesian colleagues only (Em Yunir, and Laniyati Hamijoyo). The symposium on gout (“Old disease with a big problem”) was moderated by Bagus Putu Putra Suryana (Indonesia) and lectures were delivered by Elsa van Duuren (South Africa) and Faridin HP (Indonesia). Kong Kok Ooi (Singapore) was a moderator and lecturer at the symposium on systemic lupus erythematosus. Other lecturers in this symposium were Joewono Soerosa (Indonesia) and Sandra V. Navarra (Philippines).

An industry sponsored symposium on rheumatoid arthritis was organized by Roche and lectures were delivered by Tjokarda Raka Putra, Handono Kalim and Harry Isbagio (all from Indonesia) and Ernest Choy (United Kingdom).

About 20 poster presentations were related to rheumatology. All by four were from Indonesia. The only study from Poland was presented by Anna Kotulska and co-workers (“Satisfaction and dissatisfaction of patients with rheumatic diseases receiving biologics”). In general, most of the presentation were focused on clinical practical aspects of certain medical problems. Most of the papers originated from Asian countries and their topics reflected problems of internal medicine of this region. It was visible in the emphasized role of infection in the musculo-skeletal disorders as well as rheumatic manifestations of tropical diseases.

During the Congress, the General Assembly of the ISIM took place. The presidency of the term 2016–2018 will be in the hands of Aru Wisaksono Sudoyo. Adri Kok was elected a new president-elect. The next two congresses will take place in South Africa (2018) and Mexico (2020). Two cities were the candidates for the ISIM Congress 2022, i.e. Moscow and Prague. The General Assembly and the ISIM Executive Board decided to locate the 2022 Congress in Moscow. The new society (Sri Lankan Society of Internal Medicine) was admitted to the ISIM as the 63<sup>rd</sup> member of this federation. The Polish Society of Internal Medicine was represented at the General Assembly by Anna Kotulska and Eugeniusz J. Kucharz. It should be mentioned that Eugeniusz J. Kucharz has been an honorary member of the ISIM since 2000.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Internal Medicine was organized under the topic “Internal medicine redefined: new challenges and opportunities”. The meeting was well organized and took place in a nice and friendly place. Rheumatological topics were relatively a small portion of the whole scientific program. The congress was mostly educational and was attended mostly by internists of the region, and evidenced that despite several transformations in medical sciences and health systems, the holistic position of internist remains important for the efficacy of diagnostics and management.

*Eugeniusz J. Kucharz*



Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, August 25, 2016: Aru Wisaksono Sudoyo, president of the International Society of Internal Medicine (wearing ta traditional Indonesian cap) and Eugeniusz J. Kucharz during the closing ceremony of the Congress