

Report on



ACCP 2010

The 10th Asian Conference on Clinical Pharmacy
July 9 – 12, 2010 Singapore
Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel



The 10th Asian conference on clinical pharmacy took place in Singapore from the 9th to 12th of July 2010. It was a large event gathering pharmacists from the whole Asia Pacific region to share their work in the clinical practice. We are so delighted to join this great event to share the energy of forging the development of our profession!



The conference was started with several pre-conference workshops and we have chosen to attend the workshop on antimicrobial stewardship. The workshop actually structured with 4 presentations with small group discussion after each presentation. So, representatives from all countries could have a chance to share their work in antimicrobial stewardship program. Not surprising, not many countries in Asia have antimicrobial stewardship program but Singapore is now actually working to expand the antimicrobial stewardship program and it was adopted by the government to be one of the must-have system in a hospital. The reason for having funding to expand the service was actually not cost saving; but cutting down resistance. In local Singapore data, they actually found

that the cost on antibiotics would actually go up, but just the increment got smaller and smaller after starting the program. Of course, money could actually be saved by having less resistant cases. Of course, preventing resistance by pharmacists would have an even larger impact on our patients and the health care system.

The conference then started with strong beats by local band. They led the drum roll and created the ACCP beat with the delegates. After the exciting drum roll, it followed with speeches from remarkable speakers. They invited Dr. Joseph T. DiPiro to be the keynote speaker. Yes, the author of the book we called DiPiro – the Pharmacotherapy – pathophysiological approach! He gave us a charming speech talking about

development, switching of pharmacists' work from dispensing to taking care of patients to achieving better patient outcomes and how we can do it. We were indeed so delighted by the speech and brought home with lighted up heart for our future work.

The conference was then proceed to the two-day program which packed with lectures that I believe all participants could actually find something they will be interested to attend. The program was nicely constructed with 3 concurrent blocks which covered clinical pharmacy symposium, pharmacy practice symposium and practice and research symposium. Speakers from all over the Asia Pacific region were invited to share their work and views on the topic set in different blocks. We actually enjoy the interactive part very much and the works from other countries were very impressive. The symposium actually provided a precious platform for us to discuss with our colleagues from different countries which they are actually facing the same sort of problems we are facing.



The program was also scheduled with short oral presentations for delegates to share their work. A lot of local studies from different countries were presented. Some preliminary studies had looked into the possible use of pharmacogenetic technology. The studies were forward-looking though the application of pharmacogenetics was still in the very early stage. There were also some presentations about the benefit of incorporating the medication reconciliation in the dispensing procedures and their results were promising. Of course, poster presentation was also a must-have item in a conference. More than 100 posters were received! Posters were actually again received

from the whole Asia Pacific region.



International conferences are always the best place to meet old pharmacist friends and making new friends. We met Dr. Alan Lau of UIC and he is actually a board member of ACCP. He told us a lot about the history and the vision of this conference which actually stimulated our thoughts a lot. The conference also offered us chance to make new pharmacist friend in our area. During tea breaks, there were some "Meeting Points" set aside the coffee table labeled with different areas of interest like "Automation", "Ambulatory care" and "Infectious Diseases". Delegates could then meet friends of their area of interest and chat about the related issue over a cup of coffee.

The cultural dinner is the tradition of the ACCP. During the dinner, delegates from all countries were invited to give a short performance. Representatives from all countries tried very hard to give us an entertaining performance which could show the special culture of their countries. And our representatives from China gave a special dance in a creative Chinese style. The dinner was then ended with 3 long toasts and a lot of laughter.

This piece of report was written on the flight back with complicated smashing feeling condensed in my brain. I really hope that we could have a lot of pharmacists to attend this eye-opening and stimulating event. Or, we should seriously consider to hosting this event in Hong Kong!

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