

NASG 2017 along with Launching of Nepal Chapter of IHPBA and Inauguration of IHPBA foundation funded Skill Centre in Nepal

First International Conference of Nepalese Association of Surgical Gastroenterology (NASG 2017) was held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 13th and 14th October 2017. NASG is an official, professional and non-profitable organization of surgeons involved in Surgical Gastroenterology in Nepal. It was established in April 2013 for the professional and academic development of gastrointestinal surgeons in order to provide quality, standard, scientific, evidence based and state of art gastrointestinal services in Nepal. NASG also aims to promote educational and research activity in Surgical Gastroenterology. Therefore, the conference (NASG 2017) was a great milestone in the history of NASG.

It was a two day of academic feast including one keynote lecture by Prof Thoams Van Gulik from Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands and 33 didactic lectures on Oesophagogastric, Colorectal, Hepatobiliary, Pancreatic and Liver transplant surgery by International and National faculties. Also, there were 8 oral free paper presentations by GI & HPB fellows and young surgeons, and 8 video presentations by expert International faculties. The congress was attended by 138 delegates including 18 International faculties from Australia, India, Korea, Netherlands, Philippines and Sweden. Nepalese surgeons, residents and fellows from all over Nepal also attended the congress.

Under the leadership and initiative of Professor P Jagannath, faculties from IHPBA and Indian Chapter of IHPBA volunteered to make the congress a grand success. This congress consolidated the fact that Surgical Gastroenterology has now established as a separate specialty with gastrointestinal and hepatopancreatobiliary surgery under it. It was also very rewarding to see the great interaction between the surgeons, residents and fellows from Nepal with the International faculties for the mutual benefit. We had the first IHPBA outreach program in Kathmandu in October 2014.

During this congress, the other two milestones were achieved in the development of Surgical Gastroenterology:

1. In Prof P Jagannath's inaugural speech, he called the Nepalese surgeons to join IHPBA and we were able to launch the Nepal Chapter of IHPBA on 13th October 2017. Now, we will formally establish Nepal Chapter of IHPBA which will be within NASG.
2. IHPBA foundation funded skill centre was inaugurated by Prof P Jagannath along with the Dean of Institute of Medicine, Prof J P Aggrawal, Prof Thomas Van Gulik and other international members of IHPBA on 15th October 2017. The skill centre will be run by National Centre for Health Professions Education (NCPHE) which is under Institute of Medicine, Kathmandu, Nepal. Surgeons from all specialties from all over Nepal will benefit from the skill centre.

On behalf of the Organizing Chairman Prof Sunil Shrestha and Organizing Secretary Dr Ramesh Singh Bhandari, myself as the Scientific Chair would like to thank IHPBA for

reaching out to Nepal to uplift HPB surgery. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Prof P Jagannath, Past President of IHPBA, Prof TM van Gulik from Netherland, Prof Jin-Young Jang and Prof JS Park from Korea, Dr Catherine Teh from Philippines, Dr Graham Starkey and Dr Laurence Weinberg from Australia and Dr Goran Kulberg from Sweden. We would also like to appreciate the great contribution by Indian Chapter of IHPBA. We would like to express our special thanks to Honorary Secretary of Indian Chapter of IHPBA, Prof TD Yadav along with his team members Prof Chetan Kantharia, Dr Prasad Wagle, Prof Rajneesh Singh, Prof Vikas Gupta and Dr Ashwini Kudari.

On this note, our first international conference of NASG was a tremendous accomplishment and we look forwards for future collaboration as well.

Prof Paleswan Joshi Lakhey,
Scientific Committee Chairman,
Nepalese Association of Surgical Gastroenterology (NASG),
19th October 2017, Kathmandu, Nepal.



Inauguration by lighting the panas by Prof Mahesh Kkakurel, Prof CL Bhattachan, Prof P Jagannath, Prof Sunil Shrestha and Prof Paleswan Joshi Lakhey.



Launching of Nepal Chapter of IHPBA by Prof P Jagannath



International Faculties with the organizing committee members of Nepalese Association of Surgical Gastroenterology



IHPBA foundation funded skill centre at Institute of Medicine, Kathmandu, Nepal.