

8th Penang Respiratory Summit

Date: 11th to 12th June 2026

Venue : Ascott Hotel Penang

Organiser: Penang Respiratory Interest Group in collaboration with the Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS)

Theme: ABC of Airways: Contemporary Updates in Airway Diseases

Executive Summary

The 8th Penang Respiratory Summit 2026 was successfully held on 11–12 June 2026 at Ascott Gurney Penang. The summit brought together respiratory physicians, internal medicine specialists, trainees, medical officers, allied healthcare professionals, and industry partners from across Malaysia for two days of scientific exchange and professional development.

The meeting focused on contemporary updates in airway diseases, including asthma, bronchiectasis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), with particular emphasis on recent guideline updates, emerging therapies, and practical approaches to patient management.

A total of **100 delegates** attended the summit, supported by **15 pharmaceutical and healthcare industry sponsors**, reflecting strong engagement from both the medical and industry communities.

Introduction

The Penang Respiratory Summit has established itself as an important regional educational meeting dedicated to advancing respiratory medicine through evidence-based learning and multidisciplinary collaboration.

The 2026 summit continued this tradition by delivering a focused programme centred on airway diseases, one of the most common and challenging areas encountered in respiratory practice. Through expert lectures, case-based discussions, and interactive sessions, participants were provided with practical insights applicable to daily clinical practice.

Objectives

The objectives of the summit were:

1. To provide up-to-date evidence-based education in respiratory medicine.
2. To disseminate current guideline recommendations and emerging treatment strategies.
3. To enhance the clinical knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals managing respiratory diseases.
4. To encourage networking and collaboration among respiratory healthcare providers across Malaysia.
5. To facilitate engagement between healthcare professionals and industry partners in advancing respiratory care.

Scientific Programme Highlights

The scientific programme featured presentations by experienced respiratory physicians and subject matter experts from Malaysia.

Asthma

Key topics included:

The Deceptive Wheeze: When It Is Not Asthma

Severe Asthma or Just Difficult? Cracking the Code

Severe Asthma 2026: What's New, What Works

These sessions highlighted advances in severe asthma management, biomarker-guided treatment strategies, and the evolving role of biologic therapies.

Bronchiectasis

Key topics included:

Bronchiectasis: From Suspicion to Diagnosis

Taming the Airways: Bronchiectasis Management

The discussions focused on diagnostic pathways, airway clearance strategies, infection management,

and long-term patient care.

COPD

Key topics included:

GOLD 2026: What Just Changed?

COPD Pharmacotherapy: What's in Our Arsenal?

COPD Without Limits: Care Beyond Inhalers

These sessions provided updates on the latest GOLD recommendations and explored comprehensive approaches to COPD management beyond pharmacological treatment.

Industry Symposia

Industry-sponsored symposia complemented the scientific programme by providing updates on emerging therapies, novel treatment approaches, and innovations in respiratory care.

Attendance

The summit achieved a total attendance of ****100 delegates**** from various healthcare institutions throughout Malaysia.

Delegates included:

- Respiratory physicians
- General physicians and internists
- Respiratory trainees
- Medical officers
- Primary care practitioners
- Allied healthcare professionals

The participation of delegates from different regions of the country fostered meaningful professional interaction and knowledge exchange.

Industry Participation

The summit received strong support from the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry.

A total of 15 sponsors participated through educational grants, exhibition booths, and sponsored scientific sessions. Their contribution played a significant role in supporting the educational objectives of the meeting and facilitating engagement between delegates and industry partners.

The exhibition area provided delegates with opportunities to learn about recent developments in respiratory therapeutics, medical technologies, and patient-support initiatives.

Outcomes and Feedback

Feedback obtained from delegates indicated a high level of satisfaction with the scientific content and overall organisation of the meeting.

Areas most frequently highlighted by participants included:

- Practical and clinically relevant presentations.
- Updates on severe asthma and COPD management.
- Expert-led discussions and interactive question-and-answer sessions.
- Opportunities for networking and professional collaboration.

The summit successfully enhanced participants' understanding of contemporary respiratory practice and encouraged the adoption of evidence-based approaches in patient care.

Conclusion

The 8th Penang Respiratory Summit 2026 was successfully conducted and achieved its intended educational objectives. With the participation of 100 delegates and support from 15 industry sponsors, the summit provided a valuable platform for continuing medical education, professional networking, and dissemination of current respiratory knowledge.

The organising committee extends its sincere appreciation to the Malaysian Thoracic Society, faculty members, delegates, sponsors, exhibitors, and all individuals involved in making the event a success. The continued growth and support for the Penang Respiratory Summit underscore its importance as a key educational meeting within the Malaysian respiratory community.

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