

Report on Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS) Annual Congress 2019
18th – 21st July 2019
Royale Chulan Hotel

The 2019 edition of MTS Annual Congress was held at the Royale Chulan Hotel from 18th to 21st July 2019 in the centre of Kuala Lumpur with the attendance of 504 delegates from all over Malaysia as well as overseas. The organising chair was Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Izuanuddin Ismail, and the Scientific Committee was co-chaired by Dr. Hilmi Lockman (adult programme), and Dr. Asiah Kassim, Dr. Hafizah Zainuddin, and Dr. Noor Ain Noor Affendi (paediatric programme).

The congress started off with the workshops on 18th July, which were well attended by over 150 participants. The workshop topics were Lung Cancer, Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program (PRP) in Adults, and Empyema Thoracis in Children.

The main congress comprised of 2 plenary lectures and 22 symposia covering a wide spectrum of respiratory diseases in adults and children. For the first time this year, we introduced 4 symposia tracks to cater for the needs of all participants ranging from general physician to subspecialist level. The faculty of speakers consisted of eminent local and overseas experts. Another 12 symposia were sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry. In addition, there were Multidisciplinary Case Discussions for paediatric and adult respiratory medicine, lively Debate, MTS Research Grant Investigators' Update, sunrise session, as well as a session on Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Action.

There were 4 oral paper presentations, 44 poster presentations on scientific papers and 82 poster presentation on case reports. The presentations were done on the second day of the congress. All 4 oral presenters were awarded prizes while the best 6 posters for scientific papers and best 6 case reports were also awarded prizes which were announced during the Gala Dinner. The Lung Foundation of Malaysia provided cash prizes for the scientific paper awards and best-case report poster award.

The Annual General Meeting of the MTS was held on Friday evening 19th July 2019. The pharmaceutical and equipment companies were invited to become platinum, gold, silver, and pewter partners. A total of 31 companies provided sponsorship. Altogether there were 48 exhibition booths, and 3 display tables.

The Gala Dinner was held on Saturday evening. It was attended by Organising Committee members, past presidents, speakers, sponsors and delegates. The highlight of the night was performances (songs, dance and music) by talented MTS members. The President of MTS gave the welcome speech.