

MSO Express

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Dear MSO Members,

As we enter the last quarter of 2020, one cannot help but to look back and wonder how things have changed over such a short period of time. A new norm is in place, with numerous changes to battle against the common enemy - Covid-19. The Ophthalmology fraternity has also proven that we will always strive to overcome adversity; to continue doing what we do best: Save sight. With the need to implement social distancing, most of us have turned to the virtual platform to continue to share and receive knowledge. Numerous young minds had to put a brief halt to their training and career but are now getting prepared to begin again. From tele-consultations to slit lamp and surgical microscope shields, we have been doing everything we can to keep our practice going. Let's take a moment to celebrate this perseverance that we are blessed with.

Here at MSO, we too had to make the necessary changes to carry on with our duties. Our first ever fully virtual annual general meeting was held on 18th July 2020. We would like to thank members who took the time to attend this meeting.

In this issue, we have an article that gives us an insight into Ophthalmology based research in Malaysia in which three experts have shared their thoughts. How do we overcome the obstacles that prevent us from producing more world-class research projects and articles? We hope this article may shed some light. Next up, is a thought-provoking article on Water Drinking Test. We take a closer look at a simple and feasible clinic-based method which could help in understanding the intraocular pressure fluctuations and peaks in our glaucoma patients, and thus help us better manage them. Many of us may not have heard of a record-breaking event held at Hospital Temerloh where 108 cataract surgeries were performed over 48 hours, in order to reduce the backlog waiting time. In this Covid-19 era, we hope that news like this would continue to motivate and inspire us to soldier on.

In July this year, the ophthalmology family lost one of its treasured members, Dato' Dr Ahmad Mt Saad, who had been a consultant glaucoma specialist and head of national glaucoma services. MSO would like to convey our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Dato' Dr Ahmad. We truly appreciate his invaluable contributions to the field, spanning over 3 decades. There is a heartfelt tribute written by a protégé of the late Dato' Dr Ahmad in section 4.

**MALAYSIAN SOCIETY
OF OPHTHALMOLOGY**

Unit #UG33 PJ Midtown
Jalan Kemajuan, Seksyen 13
46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

03-7931 8728 / 012-240 3318
admin@mso.org.my
msophth@gmail.com

Martin Luther King Jr. correctly pointed out that, “only in the darkness, can you see the stars”. And stars are born every day, in the likes of, Nick Vujicic - born with tetra-amelia syndrome, a rare disorder characterized by the absence of all four limbs. Instead of looking at everything he lacked, he decided to look at everything he could have. Now a famous author and international speaker, Nick inspires the world every day to live a life without limits. Let’s focus on what we have been achieving despite the adversities we have been facing this year and look ahead towards a better tomorrow.

DR SUDHASHINI CHANDRASEKARAN

Co-Editor, MSO Express
Ophthalmologist
Hospital Ampang, Selangor



DR. MANO SHUNMUGAM

Editor, MSO Express
Honorary Secretary, MSO

