



## APSS DEPUY SYNTHES SPINE CLINICAL AND TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP 2016 14 March 2016 – 1 April 2016

On behalf of APSS, I am pleased to present the report of the APSS DePuy Synthes Spine Clinical and Travelling Fellowship 2016. This fellowship is organized on a yearly basis with the support from DePuy Synthes. Both fellowship programmes were held successfully between 14 March and 1 April 2016.

To be able to qualify for this fellowship programme, an applicant must comply with the list of criteria as listed in the programme. One of the pre-requisites is that the applicant must be a member of APOA and APSS and practicing in spine surgery. Economy air travel, hotel accommodation and allowance arrangements were provided to these successful candidates. Upon the completion of the programme, the fellows were required to submit a report and a feedback form before they were allowed to claim their allowance.

For the year of 2016, there were 11 successful applicants who were given the opportunity to visit the APSS Spine Centres of Excellence in these two programmes. Three (3) applicants were successfully chosen for APSS DePuy Synthes Clinical Fellowship and eight (8) were selected for APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellowship. One of the selected Travelling Fellows is an exchange fellow from APOA-SICOT Fellowship collaboration. Each of the clinical fellows was attached to each of their hosts in their respective institution for a duration of two and a half weeks. On the other hand, the APSS DePuy Synthes Travelling Fellows were divided into two groups. Each group consisted of four travelling fellows and they visited two centres of excellence for spine surgery in two countries in the Asia Pacific region. Each group of travelling fellows spent a week in each centre.

Below are the details of the names of the successful fellows, their hosts, the countries and period of the fellowship.

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP		
Host	Fellow	Period
<b>DR KUNIYOSHI ABUMI</b> Sapporo Orthopaedic Hospital - Center for Spinal Disorders <b>JAPAN</b>	Dr Abdul Satar (PAKISTAN)	14 – 28 March 2016
<b>DR ORSO OSTI</b> Dr Orso L Osti's Practice, Adelaide, <b>AUSTRALIA</b>	Dr Shah Waliullah (INDIA)	14 – 28 March 2016
<b>DR S RAJASEKARAN</b> Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, <b>INDIA</b>	Dr Truc Tam Vu VIETNAM	14 – 28 March 2016

<b>TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP</b>			
<b>Period</b>	<b>14- 20 Mar 2016</b>	<b>21 - 28 Mar 2016</b>	<b>Fellow</b>
<b>Group</b>	<b>Host 1</b>	<b>Host 2</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>DR KIM KI TACK</b> Kyung Hee University <b>KOREA</b>	<b>DR GABRIEL LIU</b> National University Hospital of Singapore (NUHS) <b>SINGAPORE</b>	Dr Hiroyuki Yasuda (JAPAN) Dr Prakash Sitoula (NEPAL) Dr Shih-Hsiang Chou (TAIWAN) Dr Kestutis Valancius (SICOT FELLOW-DENMARK)
<b>2</b>	<b>DR ROHIT POKHAREL</b> Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital (TUTH) <b>NEPAL</b>	<b>DR MICHAEL JOHNSON</b> The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne <b>AUSTRALIA</b>	Dr Ho Jin Lee (KOREA) Dr Qianyu Zhuang (CHINA) Dr Md Yousuf Ali (BANGLADESH) Dr Nur Aida Faruk Senan (MALAYSIA)

The clinical & travelling fellowship programmes have been successfully completed at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> APOA Congress in Melbourne, Australia from 29 March to 1 April 2016. On top of the clinical exposure at the spine centres, the fellows were invited to attend an international congress in order to learn from the experts around the region through scientific discourse and to encourage them to contribute to the research of spine after the fellowship. During the congress, the fellows were given a slot to present their fellowship experience to all the industry leaders, speakers, researchers, surgeons and participants. The fellows also received their fellowship certificates in the congress closing ceremony to mark the end of the fellowship programmes.

The fellows have benefited tremendously from these programmes and the scientific meeting. These successful programmes would not be possible without the cooperation and contributions by DePuy Synthes, dedicated hosts, fellows, APSS fellowship committee, APOA Congress Committee and APSS administrative staff. We would like to express our gratitude to all parties who have contributed to the successful fellowship programmes in 2016.



**Dr Abdul Satar with host, Prof Kuniyoshi Abumi**



**Dr Truc Tam Vu with host, Prof S Rajasekaran**



**Dr Shah Waliullah with host, Dr Orso L Osti**



**Group 1 fellows with their hosts, Prof Kim Ki Tack and Assoc Prof Gabriel Liu**



**Group 2 fellows with their hosts, Prof Rohit K Pokharel and Dr Michael Johnson**



**Clinical and Travelling Fellows at the 19<sup>th</sup> APOA Congress in Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre**

*Prepared by,  
Associate Professor Chris Chan Yin Wei  
Education Committee Chairman  
Asia Pacific Spine Society (APSS)*

*Reviewed by,  
Professor Kwan Mun-Keong  
Hon. Secretary  
Asia Pacific Spine Society (APSS)*