
Urology Residents' Course 2010

1 – 5 October 2010

Singapore

Post Course Report



SINGAPORE
UROLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION



An educational body of the Urological Association of Asia

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About URC 2010

The Urology Residents' course is organised by the Singapore Urological Association in conjunction with the Asian School of Urology under the auspices of Urological Association of Asia, with support from the Chapter of Urology, Academy of Medicine, Singapore. It is an intensive course covering a spectrum of urological diseases for the purpose of teaching urological trainees the foundations of urological science as well as contemporary updates on recent advances.

Organising Committee

The Executive Committee of the Singapore Urological Association appointed Dr Chong Yew Lam as Organising Chairman for the Urology Residents' Course. Dr Chong selected the members of the URC 2010 committee while Prof Foo Keong Tatt and Dr Michael Wong served as mentors.

Role	Name	Organisation
Organising Chairman	Dr CHONG Yew Lam	Tan Tock Seng Hospital
Hands-On Workshop	Dr TIONG Ho Yee	National University Hospital
Residents' Discussions	Dr TAN Yung Khan	Tan Tock Seng Hospital
OSSE	Dr Gerald TAN	Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Faculty

Speakers and moderators are invited from local and overseas institutions to provide a more balanced view reflecting differences in opinion between experts.

Overseas

- 1) Dr Andrew BROOKS, Westmead Hospital, Australia
- 2) Dr Makarand V KHOCHIKAR, Siddhi Vinayak Ganapati Cancer Hospital, India
- 3) Dr LOH Chit Sin, Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre, Malaysia
- 4) Prof Urs E. Studer, University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland

Local

- 1)** Dr Martin CHIO, National Skin Centre
- 2)** Dr Akhil CHOPRA, Medical Oncology, Johns Hopkins IMC
- 3)** Dr. ENG Chee Way, Radiology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- 4)** Prof FOO Keong Tatt, Singapore General Hospital
- 5)** Dr Danilo M GIRON, Pathology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- 6)** Dr Henry HO, Singapore General Hospital
- 7)** Dr Michelle Jong, Endocrinology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- 8)** Dr NG Foo Cheong, Changi General Hospital
- 9)** Dr NG Kok Kit, Changi General Hospital
- 10)** Dr NG Lay Guat, Singapore General Hospital
- 11)** Dr SIM Hong Gee, Singapore General Hospital
- 12)** Dr Michael WONG, Singapore Urology and Fertility Centre
- 13)** Dr John YUEN, Singapore General Hospital

Events Organiser

Globewerks International Pte Ltd, the SUA Secretariat, supported the URC 2010 committee in organizing the course. As PCO (Professional Conference Organizer), Globewerks offer clients a full suite of services ranging from secretariat, registration, faculty management, financial management, logistics fulfillment and sponsorship acquisition.

Programme

This year's programme was longer than the traditional two-day course. Based on previous courses' feedback, this year's organizing committee was faced with the challenge of trying to meet the trainees' expectations and ideals.

Consequently, an elaborate five-day programme was developed that incorporated:

- a) Interactive learning models
 - a. Interactive lectures
 - b. Presentations by trainees
 - c. Case discussions, and
 - d. Hands-on wet laboratory experience
- b) Various Assessment methods
 - a. OSSEs,
 - b. Viva practice

The 3-year cycle of topics had been previously drawn up since the previous URC in 2009, and served as a guide for the choice of focus topics for 2010: Prostate disease, LUTS, Bladder Cancer, GU/STD Infections and Adrenal diseases.

Lecturers were carefully chosen for their wealth of knowledge and teaching experience, and were given specific guidelines to make their lectures interactive, not didactic. To encourage pre-reading before the course and to develop critical thinking, participants were also assigned topics to prepare 5-minute debates or presentations. Lecturers then served as moderators for such debates and brought each topic to a conclusion with a summary.

Clinical problem-based learning opportunities were also created through 2 sessions of OSSE and a full day of case discussions. Courtesy of the Singapore Urology Specialist Training Committee, course participants were also permitted to sit for the same OSSE exam which is administered for the annual assessment of Singapore urology trainees. Many participants enjoyed the authentic examination environment and 'exam standard' questions, and thus benefited from the experience.

Many participants looked forward to the mock viva voce exam with great anticipation. It provided the participants an excellent opportunity to experience the exit exam scenarios, so that they could appreciate their weaknesses and strengths in preparation for their own exit examinations in the future.

In addition, webcam video recordings of each participant during the viva were returned to the individual participant, so that they could return home to review their 'performance' and improve.

A full-day wet lab experience at the NUH ASTC Centre provided participants with unprecedented hands-on training opportunities during an Urology Residents' Course. Wet tissue models using animal ileum, arteries and ureters were used for practical teaching of Studer's ileal neobladder creation, vascular anastomoses and ureteric anastomoses. Full range of equipment was also available for endourologic and laparoscopic training.

Programme – at – glance

Date	Venue	Activity
1-Oct-10	Tan Tock Seng Hospital - Annex Block, Level 4 Seminar Room	Lecture and Presentations and OSSE
2-Oct-10	Tan Tock Seng Hospital - Annex Block, Level 4 Seminar Room	Lecture and Presentations and OSSE
3-Oct-10	Singapore General Hospital - Urology Centre	Mock Viva Voce, Exit Exam and Annual Assessment
4-Oct-10	National University Hospital – Advanced Surgery Training Centre (ASTC)	Hands-on Wet Lab Experience
5-Oct-10	Singapore General Hospital - Urology Centre	Case Discussions

Lectures

The following areas were covered in the lectures:

- Prostate CA
- Bladder CA
- BPH / LUTS
- GU Infections & STD
- Radiology of prostate and adrenal

Hands – On Workshop

Workshops on the following areas were held :

- PCNL / Laparoscopy
- Endourology
- TURP
- Flexible Ureteroscopy
- Laparoscopic suturing of kidney
- Ureteric Repair
- Vascular Repair
- Studer Neobladder

Case Discussions

The following areas were covered :

- Endourology and Stones
- Renal Cancer
- Reconstruction/Trauma
- Female Urology
- Testicular Cancer
- Male Aging & Andrology
- Robotic Biopsy/HIFU

Assessments

Objective structured slide examination (OSSE)

Two (2) OSSE were done during the course:

- 1) Conducted by the Specialist Training Committee (1 October) in conjunction with Singapore's Annual Assessment and Exit Exam
- 2) Conducted by Dr Gerald Tan and Dr Chong Yew Lam (2 October) where delegates scored an average of 57.1 out of 100 marks

Mock Viva Voce Exam

The Mock Viva Voce Exam was conducted in conjunction with Urology Annual Assessment and Exit Exam.

Video recordings of each participant's performance during the viva were returned to the individual participants for their study and review.

The examiners were :

- 1) Dr Simon CHONG, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- 2) Dr CHUA Wei Jin, National University Hospital
- 3) Dr Henry HO, Singapore General Hospital
- 4) Dr NG Kok Kit, Changi General Hospital
- 5) Dr NG Tze Kiat, Changi General Hospital
- 6) Dr Gerald TAN, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- 7) Dr Colin TEO, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital
- 8) Dr TIONG Ho Yee, National University Hospital

Participants

URC 2010 has the most number of participants since the inception of the course. A total of 67 participants from 17 countries attended. Details are as follows:

	Country	Number of Delegates
1	Australia	2
2	Bangladesh	2
3	Cambodia	2
4	China	2
5	HK SAR	12
6	India	2
7	Indonesia	2
8	Iran	1
9	Malaysia	5
10	Nepal	2
11	New Zealand	1
12	Philippines	1
13	Singapore	25
14	Sri Lanka	2
15	Taiwan	2
16	Thailand	2
17	Vietnam	2
	Total	67

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Social / Dinners

The faculty and delegates enjoyed the dinners organised :

- 1) Faculty Dinner (30 September 2010)
 - Local and overseas faculties attended
- 2) Delegates' Dinner (3 October 2010)
 - All of the delegates and most of the faculty attended. The members of the SUA Executive Committee were present as well.

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Supporting Organisations

URC 2010 was supported by :

- Chapter of Urology, Academy of Medicine, Singapore
- National University Hospital
- Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- Singapore General Hospital
- Karl Storz
- Covidien
- Pfizer
- Olympus
- GSK

Feedback

URC 2010 received very good feedback from the delegates.

It is a great experience. You can enjoy teaching, lectures and learn how to prepare for final examination. – Lokesh Sharma, India

Well-organized with coverage of important topics in Urology. Viva exam and OSSE is a very useful form of learning. – Anonymous

Please see details below :

No.	Questions	No. of Respondents	Mean
	<i>For this section 1 is highest, 5 is lowest</i>		
1	Overall , how satisfied are you with this programme	30	1.43
2a	The programme met the stated educational objectives	33	1.70
2b	The pre-course presentation assignments were sufficient and timely	33	2.00
2c	Have I learnt something from this event	33	1.45
2d	Will this event change my practice	33	1.91
2e	The quality of the content was appropriate	33	1.45
2f	The quality of the speakers was appropriate	33	1.42
2g	The event was well organised	33	1.45
2h	The location/venue was appropriate for the event	33	1.55
2i	The programme staff was courteous	33	1.33
3	Yes, I will recommend this programme to a colleague	33	100%
	No, I will not recommend this programme to a colleague	0	0.00%

Delegates recommended the following improvements:

- Provide pre-course readings and pre-printed course materials for better understanding of course content
- Extend the length of course
- Give more time for interaction during lectures
- Provide real cases in mock test; real operation demonstration

Conclusion

URC 2010 was generally very well received by participants and faculty, with most promising to return to their home countries recommending their colleagues to consider attending future URC courses.

However the running cost of a five day course is significantly higher than shorter courses, especially with the inclusion of a wet lab workshop and use of video-recording of viva voce.

Looking forward to 2011, the focus topics are scheduled to be : Transplantation, Stone Disease, Andrology / Fertility, Female Urology and Penile Cancer.

Without a doubt, URC 2011 will certainly continue the commitment of teaching our young Urologists from Asia and beyond.