NHG Annual Scientific Congress (ASC)

Since its inception in 2002, the NHG Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) has grown in stature to become the premier scientific event on the local healthcare calendar. The theme for ASC 2008, “Science, Medicine & Lifestyle – Impact on Tomorrow’s Health”, was chosen to reflect the importance of translating science into clinical practice while managing our lifestyle & environment to optimize health outcomes now and for the future.

This year’s scientific program will feature a broad range of topics, spanning tracks like Lifestyle & Health, Lifestyle Diseases, Lifestyle Medicine, and Career & Medicine, while covering research in many areas including Basic Science, Clinical Science, Medical IT, and Health Services & Outcomes.

Invited Speakers

Keynote Speaker

Dr Raymond N DuBois MD, PhD
President-Elect, American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), USA
Provost & Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs, The University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Centre, USA

Dr DuBois is an internationally respected physician-scientist whose translational research has advanced deeper understanding of the molecular and genetic aspects of colon cancer, in particular the cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) gene. COX-2 selective inhibitors were discovered to block human colon cancer cells from growing in vitro. This breakthrough discovery facilitated the success of the clinical trial involving the drug Celebrex®, and its effectiveness in reducing polyp burden in familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) patient.

NHG Distinguished Visitor (NHG Lecture)

Dr Dennis McCullough MD
Faculty member, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Medical School, New Hampshire, USA

Dr McCullough has been an “in-the-trenches” family physician and geriatrician for 30 years. He is the author of My Mother, Your Mother: embracing “slow medicine” — the compassionate approach to caring for your aging loved ones, a bestseller that has caught the attention of the medical community and touched the hearts of many care-givers.

Plenary Speaker 1

Dr Michael Meaney, PhD, CQ, FRSC
Director, Program for the Study of Behavior, Genes and Environment, McGill University, Canada

Dr Meaney is the Associate Director of the Research Centre and Researcher at the Douglas Institute, and the James McGill Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology and Neurosurgery at the McGill University. He was one of the first researchers to identify the importance of maternal care in modifying the expression of genes that regulate behavioral and neuroendocrine responses to stress, as well as hippocampal synaptic development.
Dr Philippe Kourilsky, PhD  
Chairman, Singapore Immunology Network (SIgN), A*STAR, Singapore  
Chair of Molecular Immunology, College de France, France

Dr Kourilsky is a member of the Singapore Biomedical Sciences International Advisory Council BMS IAC since 2000 and in Jan 2006, he took on the position as the Chairman of the Singapore Immunology Network (SIgN), A*STAR. Dr Kourilsky’s work provided both a basic contribution to the understanding of immunity to tumors including the involvement of self-peptides in tumor immunity, analysis of T cell receptor heterogeneity in tumor-infiltrating T cells, as well as to translational applications such as in the use of transfected tumor cells in cancer vaccines.

Dr Duane J Gubler, ScD  
Director, Program on Emerging Infectious Diseases, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School, Singapore  
Professor, Director, Asia-Pacific Institute Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases, John A Burns School of Medicine, Honolulu, Hawaii

Dr Gubler, an internationally recognized expert on dengue fever, took on the post of Director, Emerging Infectious Diseases research program at the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School since November 2007. He has extensive field experience in Asia, the Pacific, tropical America and Africa, and has published extensively in the areas of dengue and other vector-borne infectious diseases.

Dr John H Kelly, MD, MPH  
President & Executive-Medical Director, Lifestyle Health Education Inc, USA  
Founding President, American College of Lifestyle Medicine (ACLM), USA

Dr Kelly is the President and Executive-Medical Director for Lifestyle Health Education, Inc, a non-profit organization providing physician-led lifestyle interventions for the treatment and management of chronic disease. He is also the Founding President of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine (ACLM), the medical speciality society for clinicians emphasizing therapeutic lifestyle interventions in the treatment of disease. Dr. Kelly’s research interests focus on the therapeutic application of lifestyle interventions in the treatment of disease, with special emphasis on cardiovascular disease, type-2 diabetes, hypertension, insulin resistance and obesity.

Dr Garret A FitzGerald MD  
Director, Institute for Translational Medicine & Therapeutics, UPENN, USA

Dr FitzGerald is the Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, and the McNeil Professor in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics in the School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. His areas of research interests include the studies of pharmacology of COX and mPGES-1 inhibition; the potent vasodilator and platelet inhibitory properties of prostacyclin; and the regulatory and communication mechanisms of peripheral molecular clocks. Dr FitzGerald is also actively involved in the editorial boards of several renowned journals including Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and Trends in Cardiovascular Medicine.
[General News]

6th Singapore AIDS Conference

Keynote Speakers

Mr JVR Prasada Rao
Director, Regional Support Team, UNAIDS, Asia Pacific

Former Union Health Secretary, Prasada Rao, is the Regional Director for the UNAIDS Regional Support Team based in Bangkok, Thailand. From 1997 to 2002, he was the Director of the Indian National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and was instrumental in successfully negotiating a large donor assistance for the National Programme from World Bank and bilateral agencies like USAID, DFID, AusAID. He devised and put into operation a national-level sentinel surveillance system for tracking the epidemic which was the first of its kind in Asia and the Pacific. As Secretary for Health and Family Welfare Departments, he has made immense contribution to the health sector development and was instrumental in drafting the National AIDS Prevention and Control Policy and the National Blood Transfusion Policy of India.

Professor Andrew Grulich
Head of HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Programme, National Centre in HIV Prevention and Clinical Research, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Andrew Grulich is a past President of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine and sits on the editorial board of several peer-reviewed journals including AIDS and Sexual Health. He is Chair of the ministerial advisory committee on AIDS in New South Wales, and has sat on the Australian Federal Health minister’s HIV advisory committee for more than 5 years. Andrew’s research interests include the transmission and prevention of HIV infection, the role of male circumcision, exposure prophylaxis, interventions targeted against sexually transmissible infections, and HIV-associated cancers.

Event Details

Date: 7–8 November 2007
Venue: Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre
Website: http://www.asc.nhg.com.sg
Email: nhgasc@nhg.com.sg
Closing Date for Online Registration: 1 November 2008