Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine

(Persatuan Kajiparasit dan Perubatan Tropika Malaysia)

NEWSLETTER

híghlights



Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine c/o Institute for Medical Research Jalan Pahang 50588 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. www.msptm.org

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(for members only)

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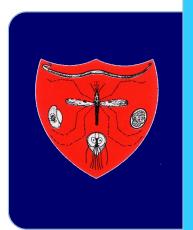
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Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (MSPTM)

Mid-Year Seminar 2014

The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (MSPTM) Mid-Year seminar was held successfully on the 25th of June 2014 at the Veterinary Research Institute (VRI), Ipoh. It was jointly organized with the Department of Parasitology, Veterinary Research Institute (VRI), Ipoh. The seminar was well-attended, over 80 attendees from various veterinary diagnostic laboratories and non-government agencies such as Bukit Merah Orang Utan Island Foundation and Sunway Lost World of Tambun, research institutes (Institute of Medical Research, Malaysia) and universities (Universiti Sains Malaysia, University of Malaya, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, QUEST International University, Universiti Teknologi Mara and University of Kuala Lumpur).



The seminar was chaired by Dr. P. Chandrawathani, Deputy Director of VRI, who welcomed the speakers and participants to the seminar followed by the welcoming speech by Dr. Ramlan Mohamed, Director of VRI who expressed his gratitude to the speakers for taking the time to share their knowledge and thanked all the participants for their strong support. There were four presentations by local experts covering on zoonotic diseases, veterinary medicine and bacteriology.



A token of appreciation delivered by the 2014 MSPTM president, Prof. Yvonne



The plenary session speakers include: 1) Associate Prof. Dr. S. Vellayan, from Universiti Teknologi Mara, who presented a plenary paper on 'Emerging Zoonotic Diseases in Malaysian Zoos'; 2) Associate Prof. Dr. Cheah Tong Soon, from University of Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine Perak who presented on 'Bacterial Contamination on Objects Commonly Touched by hands and Its Preventive Measures'; 3) Dr. Sabapathy, Chief Exercutive Officer from Bukit Merah Orang Utan Island Foundation who presented on 'Seizures and Meningitis in Infant Orang Utan – Case Study';

4) Madam Suriani Binti Mohd Omar, Research Officer from Veterinary Research Institute who presented on 'VRI Products – Taking Veterinary Healthcare Info the Next Generation'; and 5) Mr. Wan Jinn Boon, Product Manager from Life Technologies who gave demonstration and interpretation on Motic Microscope and Camera.

Prof. Yvonne Lim then delivered a token of appreciation to the speakers and a few words about MSPTM as well as encouraged new members to join the society. Last but not least, Dr. P. Chandrawathani thanked the speakers and participants for making the event a success. The seminar ended with a lunch reception, providing a great opportunity for participants to catch-up and for prospective members to get to know more about the activities of the society.



Associate Prof. Dr. Vellayan giving his overview on the zoonotic diseases among zoo animals in Malaysia



A very impressive talked by Madam Suriani regarding VRI products on the market



The backbone of the 2014
MSPTM Mid-Year Seminar



Parasitology and Haematology Expert Group Annual Meeting



The Parasitology and Haematology Expert Group Annual Meeting was held successfully from 24th to 25th of June 2014 at the Veterinary Research Institute (VRI) Ipoh. A total of 42 participants from various regional veterinary diagnostic laboratories and non-government agencies such as Bukit Merah Orang Utan Island Foundation, Rhone Ma (M) Sdn.Bhd and Sunway Lost World of Tambun, and universities (Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, QUEST International University) attended this meeting.

The annual meeting
was chaired by the
Deputy Director of VRI
Ipoh,
Dr.P.Chandrawathani



The annual
meeting was
officiated by
the Director of
VRI Ipoh,
Dr.Ramlan
Mohamed



This meeting was chaired by Dr. P. Chandrawathani, Deputy Director of VRI, who welcomed the speakers and participants to the meeting followed by an opening remark by Dr. Ramlan Mohamed, Director of VRI who then officiated the meeting. The Director appreciated the entire Parasitology and Haematology Expert Group for their dedication and commitment in attending this meeting annually without fail to share their knowledge and findings throughout the year which indirectly helps to upgrade the skill and expertise in the field of Parasitology. He also highlighted on four important issues that need to be taken into consideration in order to reduce the impact of disease outbreak on public health. These include lack of expertise in the veterinary field, lack of knowledge on parasitic diseases among the public, incomplete database of parasite epidemiology and lack of awareness among farmers on the services provided by DVS. Finally, the Director suggested on two effective approaches called "visible technique" and "before and after technique" which is intended to create awareness among the community on the parasitic diseases and ways to overcome them.









After a short ice breaking session, there were six annual report presentations by all regional government laboratories highlighting on their findings throughout last year. The presenters include: 1.) Mr. Jamal Abdul Nasir, from Regional Laboratory Bukit Tengah Penang; 2.) Madam Marliah Anuar, from Veterinary Institute of Malaysia, Kluang, Johor; 3.) Mr. Kho Chuan Kiew, Regional Laboratory Sarawak; 4.) Madam Mazatonazyar from Regional Laboratory Salak Tinggi; 5.) Dr. Norhamizah from Regional Laboratory Johor Bharu; and 6.) Madam B. Premaalatha from Veterinary Research Institute Ipoh. Following a brief coffee break, Prof. Dr. Mohd. Mokhtar from Universiti Malaysia Kelantan presented a full report of his final year undergraduate students' projects related to parasitic diseases. Dr. Qaes Talb Shukur from Universiti Malaysia Kelantan delivered the second presentation entitled "Equine Piroplasmosis among the local horses in the Kelantan State". Prof. Madya Dr. Than Kya from Universiti Malaysia Kelantan then presented the research proposal of his upcoming project related to parasitic diseases and invited other research institutes for collaboration. The final presentation was by Madam Kalaiwany from Rhone Ma Sdn. Bhd. who presented on their companies newly innovated products.





This was followed by a brief demonstration on the "Modified Geimsa Stain" technique by Madam B.Premaalatha, an experienced technical staff at the Parasitology and Haematology section. All the participants were excited when they were given the opportunity to gain hands on experience. After a lunch reception, Dr. P. Chandrawathani shared her vast knowledge on the parasitic diseases and highlighted on the occurrence of recent outbreaks. She then delivered her concluding remarks and thanked the speakers and participants for making the 1st day event a success. The meeting ended with a tea break, providing an excellent opportunity for networking and building relationship with skilled researchers.

What they said about URI



Prof. Dr. Yvonne Lim Ai Lian Lecturer University of Malaya

"VRI IS EXCELLENT".



Associate Prof. Dr. S.Vellayan Lecturer MARA University of Technology

"I worked with the seniors from VRI way back in 1982 and I hope the younger generation today will follow their footsteps and will continue doing excellent work in collaboration with the scientists and researchers from the medical, veterinary and exotic zoo animals fields. I appreciated VRI for having good tools of examination and new methodology for faster diagnosis. Finally, I like to thank Dr. P. Chandrawathani and her entire team for organising the "Parasitology and Haematology Expert Group Meeting" which provides great opportunities for participants to share their knowledge which indirectly helped the MSPTM organisation. I hope more participants particularly from VRI will attend this annual meeting in the future"

Parasitology and Haematology Expert Group Memorandum

A memorandum was prepared following the Veterinary Parasitology Expert group meeting held in VRI from 24-25 June 2014. The main aim of the memorandum is to highlight major issues that need attention so as to improve the current state of diagnosis, treatment or services related to Veterinary Parasitology. Members of this meeting made up of scientists, technicians and vets from private and governmental organisations, including universities and a wide array of suggestions were made.

- Many private and governmental Parasitology labs are facing a shortage of parasitologists with expertise in identification (taxonomy) and diagnosis of re-emerging diseases. There is a need to collaborate and utilize all available resources in the universities and commercial labs to solve disease issues in the fastest possible time. (Eg. Sarcocystis etc)
- Need to upgrade expertise in parasitic diseases in general especially for zoonotic and veterinary parasitology . (Eg. Piroplasmosis, vector borne diseases)
- There is a need for parasitological information, especially latest studies and research to be made known to public to show the importance and increase public awareness. (Eg. Mange, helminthiasis)
- There is a need for current epidemiological data for parasitic diseases in the form of mapping at district level or any other form, as existing data is outdated. (Eg. Veterinary coccidiosis surveillance information in Malaysia was last done in the 1980's)
- There is a need to show the role of parasitologists and the need for this group of scientists by revealing 'before' and 'after' cases especially in treatments for parasitic diseases. (Eg. Mange, protozoan infections)
- Diagnostic cases should be reported with pictures / photos of parasites identified as a form of education to the client thus there is a need to upgrade facilities in labs such as high resolution photography, microscopes, facilities for maintainance of directories for parasites etc.
- Knowledge dissemination at all levels, to students, farmers, scientists and fellow parasitologists should be done aggressively in different ways such as Youtube, videos, pamphlets, research papers, journals, news papers, magazines and the presentation styles must differ to cater for all levels of our society.
- New trends in diseases should be recorded such as fascioliasis, which is at a low prevalence now due to modernization and industrialization.
- Reference lab status should be given recognition as Malaysia as a nation is becoming a scientific hub for research and referrels.
- Due recognition be given to expert staff and continuous training encouraged to upgrade and maintain high quality of work.





Dr. Chandra



Farah Haziqah UM

With this, it is hoped the authorities may take into consideration these factors to formulate policies and programmes to help our nation gain international recognistion.



4th Asia Pacific Dengue Workshop in Singapore

Dengue has become a world threat especially to the tropical countries. Therefore, Singapore Cooperation Programme of the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), World Health Organisation (WHO) and the National Environmental Agency of Singapore (NEA) under the Singapore-WHO Joint Training Programme have jointly organized the Asia-Pacific Dengue Workshop. It is also supported by Nanyang Polytechnic and Tan Tock Seng Hospital.



This workshop, first started in 2009, focusses on the capability building programmes for knowledge sharing and exchange among the Asia-Pacific countries to support the Dengue Strategic Plan for Asia-Pacific Region. This year the 4th Asia Pacific Dengue Workshop was held from 26th August – 4th Sept 2014 with a total of 70 participants.





Visiting National Environmental Agency (NEA) Laboratory



Practical class in managing the disease outbreak using a board

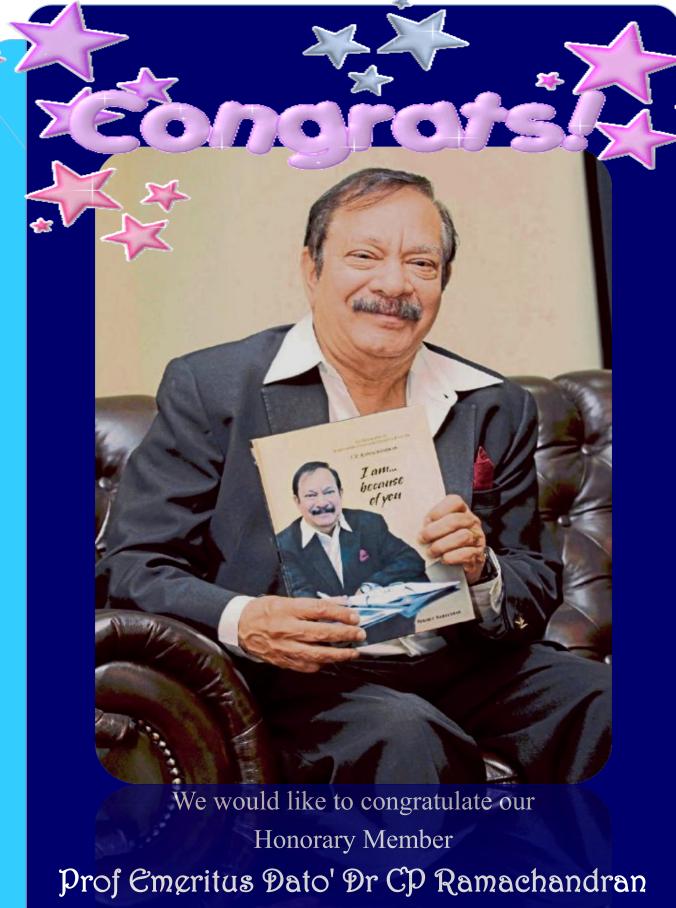


sentatives from Malaysia, Ms Nor Hayati Ismail (Kota Bharu Public Health Laboratory), Ms Nor Farah Dina (Sungai Buloh Public Health Laboratory), Dr Noel Thomas Ross (Hospital Kuala Lumpur) and Dr Nurulhusna Ab Hamid (Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur). It is a useful workshop especially for those who are involved in the dengue control and management programme.

The participants were divided into 3 different groups; laboratory surveillance, field surveillance and control and clinical management. The workshop provided the participants the opportunity to share their experience in handling the dengue situation in their respective countries. The participants were exposed to the theoretical and practical technique in managing the dengue outbreak. The organizer also introduced conflict management in managing the disease outbreak by using a board game. There are 4 repre-



Opening ceremony officiated by Mr Khoo Seow Poh, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, National Environment Agency



Prof Emeritus Dato' Dr CP Ramachandran on the successful publication of his biography entitled *I am.. Because of you*.

Workshop / Training on Diagnosis and Control of Human and

Animal Trypanosomes and their Vectors in Asia;

from Field to Laboratory.





Malaysian Participants with the lecturers

Training on "Diagnosis and Control of Human and Animal Trypanosomes and their Vectors in Asia; from Field to Laboratory" from 19th to 25th of May 2014. This workshop was held in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Gadjah Mada University and a total of 160 participants took part in this workshop. The participants were from various countries such as Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam and France. The first day consisted of lectures and open discussions on 'One Health Open Workshop' which was held under the umbrella of GREASE network, BioZoonoSEA platform and the NAHIAT network in order to strengthen cross-sectorial and multidisciplinary exchanges about trypanosomosis management among professionals from different sectors (Animal health, human health, environment, rural development).



Participants at the Workshop from various countries and lecturers

The second to the sixth day, consisted of field work, practical sessions, laboratory activities and some lectures on Diagnosis and Control of Human and Animal Trypanosomes and their Vectors in Asia. The main speakers were Dr Jumnongjit Phasuk (FVM/KU), Dr Wayan Artama, Dr Wisnu Nurcahyo (GMU, Indonesia), Dr Chandrawathani Panchadcharam (VRI,Malaysia), Dr Alan Dargantes (CMU, Philippines), Dr Stéphane Herder (IRD/UMR InterTryp/FMV KU) and Dr Marc Desquesnes (CIRAD, UMR InterTry/FVM KU). This workshop / training overviewed trypanosomes both in humans and animal reservoir in Asia, diagnosis methods and potential control methods, and their transmission mechanisms and vectors, including trapping, identification and control of biting flies. It included 15 lectures, 5 practical sessions in laboratory and 3 field practical sessions in local farms.



Lecture during practical session in lab, UGM Jogjakarta



Setting up Nzi trap in local cattle farm to trap biting flies

A total of 6 participants from Malaysia attended this programme. This training session was very valuable to expose new diagnostic techniques and identification to technical staff in order to enable us to carry out our work effectively and network with other technicians from other countries.





Appreciation for lecturers Dr. Chandrawathani (Malaysia) and Dr. Alan Dargantes (Philippines) by UGM Senior Parasitologist Dr. Wisnu Nurcahayo

Information

Young Adult

Egg Laying Female

3rd Stage

2nd Stage Larva

1st Stage

Larva China

MAGGOT WOUND IN THE EAR



VRI also makes neem based cream for Can you guess how many worms are in this picture?





List of new membership starting 2014



Membership No.	Name	Affiliation	Institution	Membership
0526	Tan Zi Ning	Dr	Allianze University College of Medical Sciences, Pulau Pinang	Ordinary Member
0527	B.A Venmathi Maran	Dr	KIOST, 787, Haeanlo, Sangkok-Gu, Ansan 426-744, Seoul, Korea	Associate Member
0528	Kenny Voon Gah Leong	Dr	International Medical Univerisity, 126, Jalan Jalil Perkasa, 57000, Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0529	Thong Kwai Lin	Prof Dr	Microbiology Unit, Institute of Biological Science, Faculty of Science, Universiti Malaya, 50603, Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0530	Zul Faizuddin Osman	Mr	Sekolah Kebangsaan Permatang Pauh, 13500 Permatang Pauh, Pulau Pinang	Ordinary Member
0531	Deny Susanti	Dr	Kulliyah of Science, UIAM, Jln Sultan Ahmad Shah, Bdr Indera Mahkota, 25200 Kuantan Pahang	Associate Member
0532	Mohd Iswadi	Mr	Veterinary Research Institute, 59, Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 31400, Ipoh Perak	Ordinary Member
0533	Erwanas Asmar Is- mail	Mr	Veterinary Research Institute, 59, Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 31400, Ipoh Perak	Ordinary Member
0534	Loeki Enggar Fitri	Dr	Faculty of Medicine, Department of Parasitology, University of Brawijaya, Indonesia	Associate Member
0535	Hassini Benneheke	Dr	International Medical University, No 126, Jalan Jalil Per- kasa 19, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Associate Member
0536	Atiporn Saeung	Dr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai Thailand	Associate Member
0537	Erni J Nelwan	Dr	Division of Tropical & Infectious Disease, Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia, Jalan Diponegoro, No 71, Jakarta 10430	Associate Member
0538	Narong Jaturas	Mr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur	Associate Member
0539	Amirah Amir	Dr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0540	Yahya Jirjees Sal- man	Assoc Prof	College of Medicine, Kirkuk University. Iraq	Associate Member
0541	Salwa Shehu Dawaki	Mdm	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur	Associate Member
0542	Farah Haziqah Meor Tarmizi	Mdm	Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0543	Sayu Putu Yuni Pary- ati	Ms	Jl. Jenderal Sudirman, Cimahi, West Java, Indonesia	Associate Member
0544	Ernieenor Faraliana Che Lah	Mdm	Acarology Unit, Infectious Diseases Research Centre, Institute for Medical Research, 50588 Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0545	Sunna Vyatra Hutagulung	Ms	Parasitology Department, Universiti of Sumatera Utara, Jl Dr Mansur, No 5, Medan, Indonesia	Associate Member
0546	Lia Faridah	Mdm	Universitas Nadjadjakaran, Indonesia	Associate Member
0547	R. Heru Prasetyo	Dr	Department of Parasitology, Air Langga University, Faculty of Medicine, Jl. Prof Dr Mustopo 47, Surabaya Indonesia	Associate Member
0548	Francis K Njonge	Dr	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, PO Box 62000-00200 Nairobi Kenya	Associate Member
0549	Fadya Abdullah Al- Kitani	Dr	Animal Health Research Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	Associate Member

List of new membership starting 2014

Membership No.	Name	Affiliation	Institution	Membership
0550	Nur Izati Mustapa	Dr	Unit Virologi, Institut Penyelidikan Perubatan, Jalan Pahang 50588 Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0551	Siti Asma Bt Hassan	Dr	Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology, School of Medical Sciences, PPSP Health Campus 16150, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan	Ordinary Member
0552	Kumarappan Chidambaram	Dr	No 1, Jalan Taylor's, Taylor's University (Lakeside Campus) School of Pharmacy, Selangor, Subang Jaya 46150 Malaysia	Associate Member
0553	Emad Ibrahim M Khater	Assoc Prof	Plant Protection Department, College of Food & Agricultural Sciences, King Saud University P.O. Box 2460, Riyadh 11451, Saudi Arabia	Associate Member
0555	Khaw Loke Tim	Dr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member
0556	Leslie Than Thian Lung	Dr	Deparment of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Universiti Putra Malaysia 43400 UPM Serdang Selangor Malaysia	Ordinary Member
0557	Hany Sady Shokry	Mr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur	Associate Member
0558	Lau Mei Hong	Dr	Department of Plant Protection, Faculty of Agriculture, University Putra Malaysia	Ordinary Member
0559	S. Janarthanan	Assoc Prof	Department of Entomology, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India, 600025	Associate Member
0560	Abdul Karim Russ	Prof	University Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine Perak, No. 3 Jalan Greentown, 30450 Ipoh, Perak	Ordinary Member
0561	Vinne Siow Wei Yin	Ms	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur	Ordinary Member

ENTRANCE FEE: RM 20.00

Annual Membership Fees:

• Ordinary Membership: RM 50.00 (for members residing in Malaysia)

• Associate Membership: RM 100.00

• Life Membership : RM 100.00 (for members residing in Malaysia)

• Corporate Membership: RM 500.00



Upcoming MSPTM Conference 2015.



51th Annual Scientific Conference of the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine

Tropical Diseases in Malaysia: Innovative
Approaches for Emerging Issues

3rd & 4th March 2015 Grand Seasons Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

Call for Papers

The 51ST MSPTM Annual Scientific Conference intends to bring together researches, practitioners and industry partners in the fields of parasitology, tropical medicine and zoonotic diseases. This multidisciplinary forum aims at addressing issues related to the dynamic interactions between animals, vectors and humans, with regards to epidemiology, disease transmission and diagnosis.

Registration Fee

	EARLY BIRD	REGULAR
	(By 31st Dec 2014)	(After 31st Dec 2014)
Members	RM 550	RM 650
Non-members	RM 650	RM 750

HIGHLIGHTS!!

- 3-minute oral presentation competition
- Updates on emerging parasitic diseases in Malaysian hospitals
- Symposium on Sarcocystosis

Deadline for abstract submission: 31st December 2014

For further information, please contact Ms. Adela Ida Jiram (adelamsptm@gmail.com) or visit www.msptm.org/conference



"Photos from VRI archives"

Opcoming Parasitology and Tropical Medicine Conference 2015 6th Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference of the CVA & the 27th Congress of the Veterinary Association of Malaysia PCVC6 & 27VAN The Royale Chulan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



We would like to thank everyone who has contributed articles to this issue. The MSPTM Newsletter thrives on the support of its members. Everyone is invited to contribute articles, photographs, comments and vacancy advents which may be of interest to the Society. We also encourage researchers to submit updates on research projects and publications, so that this newsletter may serve as a portal for disseminating current information on Parasitology and Tropical Medicine in Malaysia.

25th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology



MSPTM Website

Visit the MSPTM website for updates and online access to current issues of Tropical Biomedicine www.msptm.org/