

Epilepsy Society of Thailand

2021-2022 Report

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Charcrin Nabangchang, President
Kamornwan Katanyuwong, Secretary General
Anannit Vistudtibhan, Past President
Chusak Limotai, Scientific Chair
Sattawut Wongwiangjunt, Website Director



Officer Election Date: June 2023

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Educational Activities
 - 2021: A 2-day epilepsy educational course, free-of-charge, was conducted for pediatric neurology fellows and senior neurology residents on 13-14 November. The activity was arranged via webinar system.
 - 2022: Owing to the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic being under-control, the epilepsy educational course for the residents and fellows was shifted back to a face-to-face meeting on 26-27 November at Sriracha, Chonburi province. Again, this educational activity was open for the trainees without any fee.
- The inter-hospital Epilepsy Conference focusing on interesting epileptic cases, either pharmacological or surgical issues, was held twice as virtual meetings in 2022 (11 March and 16 September). This program in 2021 was postponed due to COVID-19 precautions.
- In 2021, the Epilepsy Society of Thailand celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the society during the COVID-19 era with a special video presentation in the virtual annual meeting. Special messages of greeting from outside the country, especially from the past and present President of ILAE, were included in the video as well as greetings from the past and present President of The Epilepsy Society of Thailand. We promise to continue to work hard to bring more epilepsy care throughout Thailand and distribute knowledge on epilepsy treatment to all regions in the country.
- Activities in Relation to the Epilepsy Association of Thailand (EAT)
 - Face to face meetings were not feasible in 2021-2022 due to the COVID-19 virus.
 - Social media i.e., Facebook, YouTube, broadcast communication and news were utilized to increase awareness of epilepsy especially during COVID-19 infection.
 - The charity fund for epileptic patients was initiated by one family, who wanted to donate their money for general epilepsy care in patient who lack support. The responsible parties are in the process of deciding on the criteria for patient selection and indications for money usage.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 AND 2022

Challenges lead to success:

- In the year 2020, The Thai Government legalized the use of cannabidiol products as a medical treatment. From 2021, collaborations between the Epilepsy Society of Thailand's committees, pediatric neurologists, the neurological institute of Thailand and Government Pharmaceutical Organization (GPO) were initiated. The groups studied the efficacy of CBD-GPO products in a multi-center clinical research trial. The research is ongoing as of the end of year 2022.
- The Epilepsy Society of Thailand's executive members work with The Neurological Institute of Thailand and have launched the 4th edition (2021) of Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) for epilepsy.



Group picture during onsite 26th EST Annual Meeting in Bangkok Thailand, July 2022

FUTURE PLANS FOR 2023

- To encourage the Thai government to consider integrating epilepsy into the Government-Support Service Plan.
- The Epilepsy Society of Thailand in co-operation with ASEPA-ILAE, is planning a Thailand-ASEPA workshop for epilepsy surgery on 13-15 July 2023. This workshop is targeting participants throughout Southeast-Asia who are interested in bringing epilepsy surgery to their patient care.



Clinical Practice Guideline for Epilepsy

RESEARCH AND PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Epilepsy Digest-Thai Official Educational Bulletin: This bulletin can be accessed via the [Epilepsy Society of Thailand's official website](#)

- 2021: Epilepsy and associated conditions part 1 and part 2
- 2022: Interesting issues in epilepsy.

MEETINGS

- 2021: With the pandemic COVID-19 infection, the Epilepsy Society of Thailand held the 25th annual meeting as a 2-day-virtual meeting with the theme of "Directions & Trends in Epilepsy Management" on 5-6 August 2022. The Epilepsy Society of Thailand had the

honor of having international speaker, Professor Matthew Walker from UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, share his experience in 2 lectures via the webinar system.

- 2022: The situation of COVID-19 infection was improved, and the Epilepsy Society of Thailand provided a 2-day-hybrid meeting as the 26th annual meeting on 21-22 July opening 120 seats onsite and including unlimited participants online. The theme was “Update caring, Curing and Challenging in Epilepsy”. The International invited speakers, Assist. Professor Christina Go from Canada and Professor Kristl Vonck from Belgium, presented via online webinar system. Thai speakers mostly joined in-person lectures.
- 2022: Due to feedback that virtual meetings bring the convenience of academic catch up, the Epilepsy Society of Thailand developed an EEG course as a one-day virtual course by Zoom on 18 September. This was followed by 4-small group-EEG practice sessions arranged by Zoom, which was completed 2 months later.



Group picture during onsite epilepsy course for neurology residents and pediatric fellows at Chonburi province, November 2022

Report submitted by Kamornwan Katanyuwong M.D.