

## **2018 Annual Report - ILAE-Asia and Oceania**

### **Chair**

Akio Ikeda (Japan)

### **Members**

Seung Bong Hong (South Korea), Treasurer

Derrick Chan Wei Shi (Singapore), Information Officer

John W. Dunne (Australia), Secretary General

Suryani Guandharma (Indonesia), Information Officer

Byung-In Lee (South Korea), Past Chair

Man Mohan Mehndiratta (India)

Jiong Qin (China)

Ananit Visudtibhan (Thailand)

### **MC Liaison**

Edward Bertram (USA)

### **Aims of ILAE-Asia Oceania**

To develop, stimulate, and coordinate epileptology initiatives in the Asian and Oceanian regions.

### **Mission of ILAE-Asia Oceania & ASEPA**

1. To advance and disseminate knowledge concerning the epilepsies throughout the Asian and Oceanian region.
2. To improve education and training in the field of the epilepsies in Asia via the activities of the Asian Epilepsy Academy (ASEPA).
3. To organize the Asian Oceanian Epilepsy Congresses, together with the International Director of Meetings (IDM) and IBE's Regional Executive Committees.
4. To facilitate clinically relevant epilepsy research in Asia.
5. To serve as a link between the ILAE, IBE, WHO, and regional medical organizations to promote prevention, diagnosis, treatment, advocacy, and care for all persons suffering from these disorders in the Asian and Oceanian region.
6. To promote the activities of local chapters, coordinate policies and administrative structures, and facilitate their involvement within the global ILAE agenda.
7. To review epilepsy services and the size of the treatment gap in each country, and aim to improve the former and reduce the latter.

## **Newly introduced activities**

### **(1) Epilepsy Surgery Task Force**

Chaired by Kensuke Kawai (Japan), Sarat Chandra (India)

- 1) To promote the development of epilepsy surgery in our region, since epilepsy surgery remains markedly underutilized:
  - Educational course of basic skills in epilepsy surgery for young epilepsy surgeons. Primarily use operation videos. Also include interactive live surgery (remote demonstration and interactive discussion).
  - Educational lectures or symposium(s) on indication decision and referral to surgical treatment. Mainly for physicians. 1) and 2) are performed as activities of ASEPA.
  - Research to clarify the treatment gap and barrier to surgical treatment for epilepsy in Asia.
- 2) A strong collaboration with the Asian Epilepsy Surgery Congress (AESC) was discussed on Oct 24, 2018 at AESC, and 'epilepsy surgery center' will be jointly defined by ILAE-AO and AESC.
- 3) Input from epileptologists is essential.

### **(2) Research Task Force**

Chaired by Kheng-Seang Lim (Malaysia)

- 1) Stigma and AED hypersensitivity (Kheng-Seang Lim).
- 2) International study of effects of perampanel on cortical myoclonus (progressive myoclonus epilepsy) has been prepared over the last two years.
- 3) Mentor-mentee program to pair established research teams (such as in Japan, Australia, and Singapore) to new research teams (such as Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam), done online.
- 4) Training and disease burden.

## **Continuous activity**

1. Teaching the various aspects of epilepsy by means of ASEPA, chaired by John Dunne (Australia):

In 2018, teaching courses (diagnosis, EEG, epilepsy surgery, drug treatment, treatment, etc., usually as a comprehensive course for 1-2 days) were held in many cities and chapters such as India, Mongolia, Taiwan, Singapore, China, and Indonesia. They were successfully conducted with the strong support by the local chapter and its representatives.

2. EEG Certification Exam (led by Shih Hui Lim since 2006):

This was primarily a teaching course followed by an exam, and held not only for medical doctors, but EEG technologists were also eligible and competent. More than 400 passed Part I and II examinations over the last ten years. It is co-certified by ASEP and regional medical associations such as ASNA (the ASEAN Neurological Association), i.e., ASEPA- ASNA EEG Certification. Some chapters initially introduced ASEPA EEG Certification, and they later established their own EEG Certification.

3. The Global Campaign Task Force chaired by Ernest Somerville (Australia) and the Training Taskforce, chaired by Chon Tin Tan (Malaysia), have been closely working together.

4. The Pediatric Task Force, chaired by Ananit Visudtibhan (Thailand), is continuing its work.

### **Recommendations for Future Work**

At the time of 12AOEC in Bali, a strategic planning meeting was held on June 27, 2018, and the priority of activities was discussed. In addition to the active, continuous teaching activity in ILAE-Asia Oceania, international collaboration of research activity (combined or compared study among chapters), and clinical interaction and support (genetic diagnosis, MEG examination, etc.) was discussed.

In 2019-2029 “A Decade of EEG & Epilepsy Education” in ILAE-Asia Oceania was announced prior to the centennial anniversary of the first human EEG reported in 1929 by Hans Berger.

Akio Ikeda

Chair, ILAE-Asia and Oceania