Dear Friends

Greetings from Asia! We hope everyone is rejuvenated by the summer vacations and the welcome rains, as the seasons go.

Early this year we had the annual SIOP-Asia meeting, held in Abu Dhabi at the ADNEC Convention Center from 4-6th April 2019, under the leadership of Dr Eman Al Hashmi & Dr Muhammad Saghir Khan. A well-attended and well-organised meeting, it started with two successful workshops on Research Methodology & Solid tumors. The Main meeting had a mix of state-of-art sessions along with, topical symposia on ‘Adapted-treatment Protocols’ and ‘Cooperative Groups and Trials in Asia’. The CCI-Asia and Nursing Groups also convened fruitfully alongside.

The highly active ‘PODC-Nutrition’ group has partnered with SIOP Asia to develop Nutrition Assessment & Intervention Guidelines, under the leadership of Dr Elena Ladas and Dr Amita Trehan. These are in process, to be applied initially in India, and then across other Asian countries.
The year began with a workshopCONFERENCE on Nutrition in Pediatric Oncology held at Chennai India by Dr Venkatraman, with over 200 physicians & dieticians participating; including from Nepal, Myanmar, Srilanka, Philippines, Bangladesh.

The Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer, which underwent its planning stage in 2018, will be very important for Asia with its higher proportion of LMICs; Myanmar and Philippines are among Asian countries where the initiative is being piloted. SIOP Asia is a stakeholder with Rare Cancers Asia group – ESMO, any members wishing to contribute or participate are welcome
Asia 2020
Preparations are on for the next SIOP Asia 2020 meeting to be held in Mumbai from 26-29th March 2020.

We have two bids for SIOP Asia 2021 meeting, from Armenia and Guangzhou, China; these will be presented, & discussed during the SIOP-Asia annual general meeting to be held on October 24, from 12- 13.100 hrs at Auditorium Lumiere during the SIOP 2019 Lyon congress.

This month, September is the Childhood Cancer Awareness month, and we are sure you will advocate at individual, fund-resourcing and governmental, national and regional levels to promote the cause. We again invite suggestions from SIOP members for any new activities or issues that they would like to address.

À bientôt à la conference de SIOP 2019 à Lyon!

Rashmi Dalvi
Continental President – SIOP Asia