

Official Letter of South Asian Federation of Obstetrics & Gyanaecology

Vol. 1 Issue 1

SAF www.safog.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President.

South Asian Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology MD, FRCOG

Prof Rubina Sohail Congratulations to the SAFOG family for participating in huge numbers in the FIGO XXII World Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology being held at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. South Asian representation at FIGO is extremely important as the delegation represents around 1.5 billion people or one quarter of world's population. South Asia is the attention of world focus not only due to sheer numbers but also because of higher maternal and neonatal mortality, lack of effective contraception and gender inequality. SAFOGs main body of work is to advance women's health, however our endeavor is also to focus on improvement of quality of care, competency based learning, patient safety and prevention of infections.

> We are also acutely aware of the need for collaborative efforts on the same lines. The recently concluded South Asia day was also one of these endeavors. The theme of the South Asia Day "Joining Hands to Achieve SDGs 3 & 5" was decided, aligning with the current needs. The South Asia Day comprised of panel discussions on leading health issues of South Asia, providing a unique opportunity to develop an understanding of the health issues of South Asian women and pave the way forward for more collaborative work between RCOG and SAFOG.

> I am pleased to announce that in this FIGO Congress, the SAFOG members have participated actively and are members of scientific committee. Senior members have been invited to give talks on important issues and there are two SAFOG sessions providing us a platform to debate and discuss on topics of our choice moderated by experts.

> I hope and wish that with our commitment and collaborative work, we are able to inch forward towards our major goal of achieving SDG 3 & 5 by 2030.

Keep working hard and enjoy your time in Rio.

Please don't forget to mark the date of the next SAFOG conference in your calendrers. This will be held in Dhaka from 4th to 6th April 2019.

Wishing you all the best,

(Prof Rubina Sohail)



It's my proud privilege to welcome all delegates, faculty & esteemed SAFOG Members at Rio, Brazil.

We SAFOG countries have pledged to work together for the cause of women's health by our motto ACT & IMPACT through SAFOG. Our efforts have made a difference in the women's health care in south Asian region. We have been working tirelessly to reduce Maternal Mortality through various projects. We have organized many seminars, workshops & other educational activities in which both experts & the aspiring young gynecologists are brought together in the SAFOG region.

As the editor in chief of SAFOG Journal (indexed in 5 copies & many prestigious indexing agencies), SAFOMS Journal (South Asian Federation of Menopause Societies) & editorial board member of many other journals, I have the privilege to bring out the best of research papers from round the globe. JHPIEGO, UNICEF, WHO & many international organization have provided financial supports but more help is required. We need to increase public private partnership to improve health facilities throughout the province. We need technical help from developed countries to conduct CMEs, drills for the healthcare professionals and midlevel care providers in the part of the world.

We have seen remarkable improvement in the health of South Asian region in the last years. Let us join hands together & have active collaboration & partnerships of governments of the constituent countries along with private sector, UN Agencies, NGO & donor groups.

A lot has been done --- but there is a lot more to do and we have miles to go.

Let us step forward with a mission to complete the unfinished agenda of establishing centres of excellence in women's healthcare. Let us strive to make our dreams a reality and achieve the S.D.G.

Prof. Jaideep Malhotra)

Wie

Prof. Jaideep Malhotra MD. FRCOG. FRCPI. FICMCH. FICOG, FICS, FMAS, FIAJAGO



SAFOG COUNTRIES



AFGHANISTAN

President: Dr Shafiqa Babaq

Secretary General : Dr Najia Alimi Genera



BANGLADESH

President: Dr Laila Arjuman Bano

Secretary General : Dr Firoza Begum



BHUTAN

President: Dr. Poorabh Doorji



INDIA

President: Dr. Jaideep Malhotra

Secretary General : Dr. Jaydeep Tank



MALDIVES



NEPAL

President: Dr Kusum Thappa

Secretary General : Dr Saroja Pande



PAKISTAN

President: Dr Fareed Zafar

Secretary General : Dr. Nusrat



SRILANKA

President: Dr PS Wijhesinghe

Secretary General: Dr Sanath Ianorelle



HISTORY OF SAFOG

Prof. Rashid Latif Khan

The idea of a joint body of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Societies of the South Asian region was conceived in mid November 1994, during the annual conference of Sri Lankan College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists in Colombo. Amongst the people who attended the meeting were, senior Gynecologists of the region. In October 1995, at the AOFOG conference at Bali, the concept gained further impetus, when I offered to host the first conference of this organization at Lahore.

The conference was organized and hosted by Society of Obstetricians & Gynecologists of Pakistan (SOGP) in November 1996 and was held in Lahore. This was a unique conference as ten delegates each from Bangladesh, India, Srilanka and UK were sponsored by the hosts. During the conference, on 29.11.1996, the constitution for this regional body was presented and adopted. The objectives of the organization were to bring together the Obstetricians & Gynaecologists within the region for closer cooperation and social understanding, to use and develop reproductive health as an instrument towards social and health development, to strengthen & produce uniformity in Post graduate training and to facilitate CME.

Initially itwas planned that the organization would be called "SAARC" i.e South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation. This was taken after the name given to an organization formed by the seven South Asian countries namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The name however could not be adopted due to official and diplomatic red tapism and instead it was decided to name the organization SAFOG i.e. South Asian Organization of Obstetrics & Gynaecology.

I was the first president of the organization. Prof T. A. Chowdry, Bangladesh was the president elect. The other office bearers were nominated from the other participating countries. It was decided that a conference would be held every two years by rotation.

Dear SAFOGIANS and Obs Gyn specialists of the world

Greetings from the 8 SAFOG countires,

We have great pleasure in inviting you to the biannual SAFOG congress to be held in Dhakka from 4-6 april 2019.

SAFOG is a unique federation with member countries of this region facing similar problems

We have srilanka on one hand which has got control over the MMR due to the strenghthening of the midlevel providers and midwives

We have diverse geopraphically difficult terrain countries like Nepal and afganistan , wher the main problem is of reaching out and transport of patient to a well equipped facility to handle deliveries and c sections and have full time anaesthetists and arrangements of blood

We have india Pakistan and Bangladesh where the main struggle is of population and acceptance of contraception

SAFOG has played a significant role in bringing together the OB/GYN professionals of the region to a common platform. This has resulted in exchange of ideas & knowledge, better understanding and greater collaboration. SAFOG has been instrumental in holding workshops, seminars, conferences in addition to collaboration with other bodies as AOFOG and UN agencies. Two years back a joint statement of SAFOG & AOFOG was issued concerning unsafe abortion. Conference has also been held jointly with AICC/RCOG-SAFOG in Kolkata, during 2007.

From 2004 onwards, SAFOG has entered into an arrangement. With UNICEF ROSA, SAFOG created a network for reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality in the region through meetings of regional & UNbodies with the stake holders. At each SAFOG conference, the status of maternal health gets special attention through dedicated sessions. Each of the country societies during their annual conferences also has to reserve a SAFOG session for participants from within the region.

Suggesting future plans for SAFOG

- Initiating joint & collaborative research.
- More CME activities in the region.
- Increased collaboration with RCOG, AOFOG, and FIGO
- Assist and support inwork related towomen's health.



EMOC has worked in these countries and results are now visible in the decline of MMR, but we still need to do more

India's new health care model of AYUSHMAN BHARAT and the I pledge for ninie with FOGSI adbhut martutva is expected to bring drastic improvement in the near future

We all need a lot of support from FIGO, RCOG and the WHO and the world to propagate EDUCATION in our region and to get the midlevel sector strengthened.

In this biannual congress we welcome all to come and discuss the unique probels of our countries to maintain the SDG and we look forwards to an active participation from FIGO, AOFOG,RCOG,IAN DONALD SCHOOL,WHO,JIPHEGO and other organidsations

Looking forward to seeing all of you in DHAKKA in april 2019

Prof Narendra Malhotra
Sec. General, SAFOG

REPORTS

INDIA (FOGSI)



All country representatives their country experiences at AICOG 2018 Bhubaneswar on Ca cervix & bread carcinoma. SAIDIP Bengaluru on gestational diabetes was attended by Nepal & Indian mentors. Surviving sepsis campaign & update on bundle 6 was discussed at critical care FOGSI conference 2018 session on Morbid adherent placenta is planned at All India Congress Obs & Gynae, 2018 Bengaluru.

Dr. Sadhna Gupta

SOGP REPORT PAKISTAN

SOGP Conference 23-25 Feb Karachi was attended by Sir Sabarathana Arul Kumaran (UK), Prof. R Goldenberg (USA), Prof. Tobias De Villiers (South Africa), Prof Linda Cardozo (UK), Prof. Lobna Pal (USA), Dr. Elizabeth (USA) & many luminaries. Asian Oceania Federation of Obs & Gyn session was held over 100 pre & post conference workshops were held all our Pakistan.

FIGO SOGP Joint session highlighted Child Sexual Abuse & Rape.





ENDOMETRIOSIS COMMITTEE



Conducted many CMEs & talks all over India like Ahmedabad AICOG 2017, Panel Discussion at SEUD, Singapore.

London - 5th July 2018

Chapter on Endometriosis in Jeffcott's Principle of Gynecology.

Dr. Kanthi Bansal (Co Chairperson)

BANGLADESH REPORT





Obstetric Emergency skill course was highly appreciated. International Fistula day was celebrated on 13th May 2017.

EmONC protocol, GDM, AUB, Onassis Malignancy were discussed at Dhaka, 2017. Laparoscopy workshop Basic Ultrasound in Obs &

Prof. Laila Arjumand Banu Prof. Firoza Begum

IMAGING SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Gyane were conducted at many places.



Imaging scince committee has been active in Nepal & India. Many CME's have been done with local socities and Ian Donald School.

Recently a big congress of south Asia was organized at agra where faculty & delegate of SAFOG took part

Dr. P. K. Shah (Chairperson)

CLINICAL RESEARCH & GOOD PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Activities: Three trials have been registered prospectively with ctri.gov.in for multicentric study in South East Asian Continental. Evaluation of Ulipristal in medical management of symptomatic uterine leiomyoma - CTRI/2017/06/008942. Comparison between intravenous hydralazine versus labetalol in managing severe pregnancy induced hypertension – a Tertiary care study – CTRI/2017/06/008943

Correlation between maternal and cell free fetal DNA to predict the adverse pregnancy outcomes CTRI/2017/08/009341

Future Plan: Development of Standard Good Practice Protocol for South-East Asian countries in the following areas—(i) Antenatal Care, (ii) Safe Caesarean Section (including Dr Mri Ganka Mouli Saha Indication doing caesarean, reduce rate etc.) (iii) Post-Partum Hemorrhage (management and prevention), (iv) Hypertensive disorders in Pregnancy, (v) Contraception (emphasis on PPIUCD), (vi) Screening of Cervical Carcinoma, (vii) Prevention of Cervical cancer -HPV Vaccine, (viii) Urinary incontinence (Classification, Diagnosis and prevention)



(Co-Chairperson)

MATERNAL & PRENATAL HEALTH COMMITTEE



Maternal and prenatal committee has organized many survey's and formulated strategics for S. D. G. in SAFOG region.

Dr. Lubna Hasan (Chairperson)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Medical education committee has proposed webinars on obstetrics and gyn. drills and operations.

A book on protocols is also being planned.



GYNAE ENDOSCOPY COMMITTEE



Gynae Endoscopy Committee is organizing a big hystersophy conference in New Delhi on 1-2 Dec. 2018.

Dr. Yousaf Latif (Chairperson)

GYNAE ONCOLOGY COMMITTEE

Gynae oncology needs a protocol based look for women of SAFOG region Cancer cervix screeing and breast cancer are two which we need to target in SAFOG.



Dr. Kanishka Karunaratne (Chairperson)

WSSR COMMITTEE



Prof. Atul Munshi (Chairperson)

SAFOG — Brief Report on Women's Sexual and Reproductive Rights (WSRR)

We at SAFOG, are concerned about Women's conditions at South Asian Countries. Various studies at India (Shriya Sharma), Nepal (www.worecnepal.org), Pakistan (TA Choudhary), and Bangladesh (Feroza Begum) has come out with various eye opener findings.

Future planning:

- a. To plan a pilot study for various problems of Women's Sexual and Reproductive Rights. This will be a multicentric study involving all member countries in SAFOG for duration of 1 year. The questionnaire and inclusion/exclusion criteria will be circulated soon.
- b. To prepare core committee recommendation in line with FIGO "Women's Health and Human Rights Committee". Where many of our SAFOG members are holding senior positions in FIGO.

INTERNATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Many International tours by I. R. C. have been planned. Tour to Bhutan was a well planned event.



N C D COMMITTEE



A survey of mid life problems and N. C. D. is being carried out in the SAFOG region.

Dr. Kusum Thapa (Chairperson)

JOURNAL REPORT



Prof. Jaideep Malhotra **Editor**



Dr. Ruchika Garg **Co-Editor**



Dr. Alokdendu Chatterjee Chairman



Dr. Narendra Malhotra **Founder Editor**

SAFOG is indexed in

Journal SAFOG is a double blind peer reviewed journal.

It is published quaterly.

Dr Jaideep Malhotra is the editor in chief since 2015.

Journal is being digitally preserved in Portico which is a mandatory condition for Medline and other premium databases and will appear soon.

JSAFOG has associated with various international partners as promotional partners in Middle East, North African countries and other countries around the alobe.

Articles from Indonesia, South Africa, Egypt, Nepal, Pakistan & others are published in year 2017.

Two awards "Dr R M Malhotra Award" and "Laila Arjumund Banu Award" will be presented for the best articles at Annual SAFOG Conference.

Authors will also get an opportunity to present the paper at the conference.

2018-19 Plan: To increase & promote inclusion of the citations in research around the globe.

The Journal is indexed in SCOPUS, Index Copernicus, ProQuest, Embase, EBSCO, Genamics Journal Seek, Google Scholar, HINARI, EMcare, J Gate, Ulrich, Cite Factor, SIS, SJIF, OAJI, COSMOS, SIF, ESJI, SJR, IIJIF, MIAR, DRJI

Six issues will be available from the year 2019 onwards.

To facilitate the Open Access arrangement and making the research available to the medical community, a very small Article processing fee (APC) has been introduced as USD 75 only.

It will also enable the journal to invest in global promotion and recognition efforts.

PAST PRESIDENTS SAFOG



Dr. Rashid Latif Khan



Late Dr. D K Tank







Dr. Sudha Sharma



Dr. Farrukh Zaman



Dr. A B Bhuiyan



Dr. Harshalal Seneviratne Dr. Alokdendu Chatterjee



SAFOG DAY AT R.C.O.G. LONDON





CONFERENCE DHAKA 2019

Professionalism matters

April 4-6, 2019

1ST ANNOUNCEMENT



Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC)

Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Organized by:



South Asian Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (**SAFOG**) and

Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB)



This Newsletter is official communication for SAFOG member. Edited & Compiled by Dr. Narendra Malhotra & Dr Ruchika Garg Designed Printed & Published by: Dinkar Textographics, AGRA, Only for private circulation.