APHOG Annual Report 2022

Summary

After a long history since 2012, APHOG has finally been founded in March, 2021. The Executive Council has had a monthly virtual meeting to establish the structure of APHOG as well as to start its practical activities in collaboration with SIOP, SIOP Asia, WHO and other global societies like St. Jude Global. In the APHOG Advisory Board, the leaders of main collaborative children’s cancer clinical study groups in Asia (InPOG, ThaiPOG, TPOG, CCCG, KPHOG, JCCG and RSPOH) have already joined. The number of members would be increased to include as many Asian countries as possible in the near future.

In 2022, we had a great progress to hold the 1st APHOG Annual Meeting with the AGM in collaboration with SIOP Asia in July (virtual), 2nd WHO GICC in Tokyo 2022 in September (hybrid), 2nd APHOG/SIOP Asia Joint Scientific Symposium in November (virtual), and 1st APHOG Global Seminar in December (virtual).

The completion of the APHOG structure including several committees as well as setting the practical clinical study protocols should be the next step.

Structure

APHOG Executive Council (As of October 1, 2022)
Dr. Akira Nakagawara Chairperson, APHOG (2021~); President, SIOP Asia (2021~2015), Japan
Dr. Godfrey C. Chan Secretary, APHOG (2021~); Hong Kong SAR, China
Dr. Purna Kurkure Treasurer, APHOG (2021~); President, SIOP Asia (2007~2010), India
Dr. Bharat Agarwal President, SIOP Asia (2001~2004), India
Dr. Chi-Kong Li President, SIOP Asia (2015~2018), Hong Kong SAR, China
Dr. Rashmi Dalvi President, SIOP Asia (2018~2021), India
Dr. Hiroki Hori President, SIOP Asia (2020~), Japan
Dr. Saghir Khan Chair, PODC, SIOP (2019~), Pakistan
Dr. Alice Yu COG, Pioneer of Cancer Immunotherapy, Taiwan

APHOG Advisory Board (As of October 1, 2022)
Leader members of national clinical study group of childhood cancer:
Japan Dr. Souichi Adachi JCCG (Japan Children’s Cancer Group)
South Korea Dr. Keon Hee Yoo K-PHOG (Korean Pediatric Hematology Oncology Group)
China Dr. Yongmin Tang CCCG (Chinese Children Cancer Group)
India Dr. Shirpad Banavali InPOG (Indian Pediatric Oncology Group)
Thailand  Dr. Panya Seksarn  ThaiPOG (Thai Pediatric Oncology Group)
Taiwan  Dr. Bow Wen Chen  TPOG (Taiwan Pediatric Oncology Group)
Russia  Dr. Varfolomeeva  RSPOH (Russian Society of Pediatric Oncologists and Hematologists)

Individual members:
Japan  Dr. Yoshiyuki Takahashi  Nagoya University, Nagoya
       Dr. Kimikazu Matsumoto  National Center for Child Health and Development, Tokyo
China  Dr. Huanmin Wang  Beijing Children’s Hospital, Beijing
       Dr. Xiaojun Yuan  Xin Hua Hospital, Shanghai
India  Dr. Amita Trehan  PGIMER, Chandigarh
       Dr. Ramandeep Arora  Max Super Speciality Hospital, New Delhi
Singapore  Dr. Allen Yeoh  National University Hospital, Singapore,

The chairperson, secretary and treasurer of the APHOG Executive Council were elected among the EC members (founding members) according to the By-laws on March 11, 2021. Most of the members of the Advisory Board were also nominated and officially accepted. The current working group is discussing about the expansion of the membership to include more members from other Asian countries in addition to International Advisors and Honorary Members.

Agreement between APHOG and NGO-MOCC
May 20, 2021  APHOG EC only Meeting  MOCC contributes to raise the fund for APHOG.
June 22, 2022  APHOG EC only Meeting  MOCC as APHOG’s fund raiser and bank account holder
       How to use the fund? --- discussed.
August 10, 2020  APHOG EC only Meeting  The “Service Agreement” between APHOG and MOCC was defined and signed.

# The draft of “Service Agreement” was consulted and made by both certified public accountant and international lawyer in Tokyo.

NGO-MOCC has become an official partner of APHOG to manage the office works and fundraising. The agreement should be updated every year. The additional APHOG partner NGOs could be increased in other Asian countries or cities.

APHOG Homepage and Newsletter
The APHOG homepage was originally created by the members of NGO-Magokoro Organization for Childhood Cancer (MOCC) using a charge-free site on internet. Now, it is under discussion with the professional team to improve it. One of the points is to set up the site only for members. “APHOG Newsletter” has been one of the main issues discussed. Dr. Rashmi Dalvi suggested that it had better be made together with the SIOP Asia Newsletter. Dr. Godfrey Chan was nominated to be the Chief Editor. The MOCC team is planning to supportively make it.

Review of the current By-laws
The first APHOG By-laws was made in 2013 which was changed in 2019. The start of the official APHOG including elections was done according to it. This year, the Executive Council discussed about the need to further change the current By-laws to establish the whole structure of APHOG. That is under review to make its draft.
**Activities**

**Regular Core Meetings (Online)**

APHOG Executive Council Meeting
- April 17, 2022 (Minutes)
- June 22, 2022 (Minutes)
- July 20, 2022 (Minutes)
- August 10, 2022 (Minutes)
- October 19, 2022 (Minutes)

APHOG Executive Council and Advisory Board Meeting
- January 12, 2022 (Minutes)
- February 16, 2022 (Minutes)
- March 16, 2022 (Minutes)
- May 18, 2022 (Minutes)
- June 22, 2022 (Minutes)
- September 21, 2022 (Minutes)
- November 23, 2022 (Minutes)

**Main Events**

February 13, 2022

"ICCD 2022 in SAGA" (Virtual); Program in separate sheet.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was performed virtually.

Dances of the Teens Musical SAGA: ICCD 2022 (Feb. 13, 2022)

# Open video URL: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcXnTjQdEJw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcXnTjQdEJw)
July 31, 2022

“1st APHOG Annual Meeting with its AGM” (Virtual);

We were happy to be able to hold the 1st APHOG Annual Meeting 2022 through online which was held on the last day of the SIOP Asia 2022 by courtesy of Prof. Yizhuo Zhang, SIOP Asia 2022 Local Organizing Committee, Guangzhou, China. Because of COVID-19 pandemic, the whole meeting was held virtually.

The 1st APHOG Annual Meeting 2022 was set up in the afternoon on the last day of SIOP Asia 2022. Session 1: “APHOG therapeutic strategy for hematological malignancies in Asia”. Session 2: “APHOG challenge against solid tumors in Asia”. Please see the attached program. The meeting was very successful and fruitful.

We had an “APHOG Annual General Meeting 2022” just after the “1st APHOG Annual Meeting 2022”.

# Open video at the APHOG homepage: https://aphog.org -> See “Latest News”

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"APHOG AGM 2022"

1. Opening
2. Report of APHOG activities during 2021-2022
3. A report from Secretary
4. Manuscripts preparation ongoing
5. A big scale questionnaires survey
6. Direction of clinical study and drug discovery in APHOG
7. Plans for 2022-2023
8. Discussion
9. Closing

Akira Nakagawara
Akira Nakagawara
Godfrey C. Chan
Chi-Kong Li, et al.
Muhammad Saghir Khan
Godfrey C. Chan
Akira Nakagawara
Purna Kurkure
September 25, 2022

“2nd WHO GICC in Tokyo 2022” (Hybrid)

Opening addresses were given by Ms. Hanako Jimi (Member of the House of Councilors, Japan), Mr. Yasuyuki Sahara (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan), Dr. Kathy Pritchard-Jones (President, SIOP), Dr. Carlos Rodriguez-Galindo (St. Jude Global), Dr. Tezer Kutluk (Former President, UICC) and Dr. Hiroki Hori (Continental President of Asia, SIOP).

Special Report on SIOP CEDAR Project was given by Dr. Muhammad Saghir Khan.

Donation Presentation Ceremony: Amazon Japan G. K.

“Your Smile and Our Dream” --Messages from Asian countries--

From Vietnam by Ms. Kazuyo Watanabe
From Cambodia by Dr. Mariko Kakazu
From India by Dr. Rashmi Dalvi
From Japan by Dr. Kimikazu Matsumoto
From China by Dr. Yongmin Tang

The event was global and very impressive as well as successful.

Language: Simultaneous translation for English and Japanese.

# Open video at the APHOG homepage: https://aphog.org -> See “Latest News”
November 16, 2022

“2nd APHOG/SIOP Asia Joint Scientific Symposium” (Virtual)

~ Asian Challenges to Conquer Wilms Tumor ~

Keynote lectures were given by Dr. Norbert Graf (Germany) and Dr. Masayuki Haruta (Japan). In the session of Sharing on Local Experiences, Dr. Xiaofei Sun (China) and Dr. Siddharth Laskar (India) presented. We missed presentation by Dr. Sajid Qureshi (India) because of his medical emergency. It was a very fantastic meeting!

Following the symposium, there was the “SIOP Asia Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022” hosted by Dr. Hiroki Hori, continental president of SIOP Asia.

# Open video at the APHOG homepage: [https://aphog.org](https://aphog.org) – See “Latest News”
"1st APHOG Global Seminar" (Virtual)
~ Recent Advances in the Treatment of Osteosarcoma ~

This event was the first trial for APHOG. Keynote Lectures were given by Dr. Robbie Majzner (USA), Dr. Ching Lau (USA) and Dr. Hiroyuki Tsuchiya (Japan). As a “Sharing Local Experiences”, Dr. Chalinee Monsereenusorn (Thailand) and Dr. Ajay Puri (India) did very nice presentations. Overview on the osteosarcoma from basic research to the clinic as well as from high-income to middle- and low-income countries in Asia was clearly presented.

Manuscripts
Published papers so far:


Papers in preparation:
1. “Challenges of Asian National Children’s Cancer Study Groups” (in preparation)
   Corresponding authors: Li Chi-Kong & Purna Kurkure
2. “Experience sharing on conducting investigator initiated clinical trials, the Asian perspective” (in preparation)
   Corresponding authors: Godfrey C. Chan & Alice Yu
3. “Global Collaboration of APHOG with regional or international professional bodies” (in preparation)
   Corresponding authors: Hiroki Hori and Muhammad Saghir
4. “APHOG Survey 2022 (tentative)” (in preparation)
   Corresponding author: Muhammad Saghir

Projects on-going
1. Drug discovery: “Smash Childhood Cancer (SCC)”
   Leader: Dr. Godfrey Chan
2. Clinical study: “GD2 vaccination therapy against neuroblastoma”
   Leader: Dr. Alice Yu
3. “APHOG large scale survey”
   Leader Dr. Muhammad Saghir

APHOG Global collaboration
- SIOP/SIOP Asia
- PCDC, INRG (PCDC-NB)
- WHO GICC
- InPOG
- St. Jude Global
- Amazon

Several activities, events and campaigns. CEDAR.
The University of Chicago’s Pediatric Cancer Data Commons linked to NCI and WHO, etc.
“WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer”: Increasing the survival rate at least by 60% by 2030 while reducing suffering and improving quality of life for children with cancer globally
Online discussion with Dr. Ramandeep Arora and Dr. Rashmi Dalivi.
Global Transversal Program for Palliative Care (Assessing Doctors’ Attitude on Palliative Treatment-Asian Pacific, ADAPT-AP)
Campaign for the WHO GICC and children’s cancer survivorship

Budget and Fundraising
Thanks Amazon Japan G. K. for a big donation in 2022.
Currently, NGO-MOCC has a bank account to accept global donation to APHOG from all over the world (see APHOG and MOCC homepages). Your donation is very welcome. In the near future, APHOG wants to expand similar systems of the relevant NGOs globally. APHOG and NGO-MOCC has made a “Service Agreement”.
**Plan for 2023**

1. Completion of the APHOG structure.
   Committees, appointment of their chairpersons
3. Starting the research projects. Request applications.
4. Systems for registry, tissue bank and diagnostics.
5. Holding the regular events in 2023.
   - February 5th: “ICCD 2023 in SAGA” (Hybrid)
   - May 21st: “2nd APHOG Annual Meeting and the AGM” with SIOP Asia 2023 (Yerevan, Armenia)
   - September 23rd: “3rd WHO GICC in Tokyo 2023” (Hybrid)
   - October ??: “3rd APHOG/SIOP Asia Joint Scientific Symposium”: Theme?
   - (Ottawa, Canada)
   - December ??: “2nd APHOG Global Seminar” (Virtual): Theme?
6. Publication of the papers at least 5 in 2023.
7. Establish the membership system and increase the number.
   Covers more than 40 Asian countries.
8. Networking the Asian childhood cancer NGOs by collaborating with CCI Asia.
9. Public relations: HP, Newsletter, etc.

Drafted by Akira Nakagawara, MD, PhD (Chairperson, APHOG)

(January 2nd, 2023)