

# Report of the 20<sup>th</sup> International Academy of Periodontology and the 9<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Society of Periodontology Joint Biennial Scientific Conference 2025

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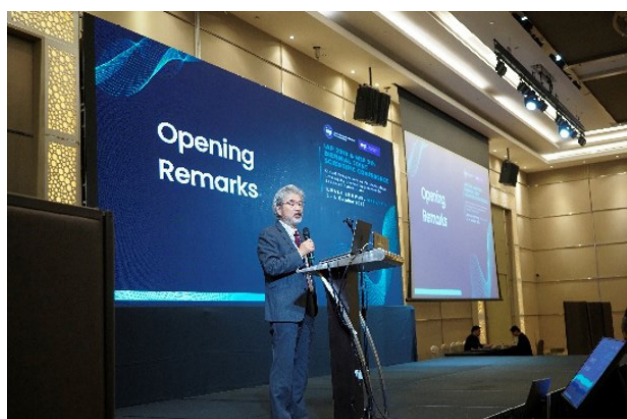
The 20<sup>th</sup> IAP Biennial Joint Scientific Conference, jointly organised by the International Academy of Periodontology (IAP) and the Malaysian Society of Periodontology (MSP), was successfully held on 3-4<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at The Vertical, Connexion Conference and Event Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The conference brought together periodontists, dental specialists, academicians, researchers, postgraduate students, and industry partners from various regions. The theme of the conference was “*Global Perspectives on Periodontology: Leveraging Diverse Approaches for Enhanced Patient Care*” and it was participated by 404 participants from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei, Egypt, Japan, and Australia, among other countries, underscoring the international reach and scientific significance of the meeting.

The conference aimed to provide a comprehensive platform for the dissemination of contemporary scientific knowledge, exchange of clinical expertise, and discussion of emerging trends in periodontology. In line with the missions of IAP and MSP, the meeting also sought to promote international collaboration and strengthen professional networks among periodontal clinicians and researchers.

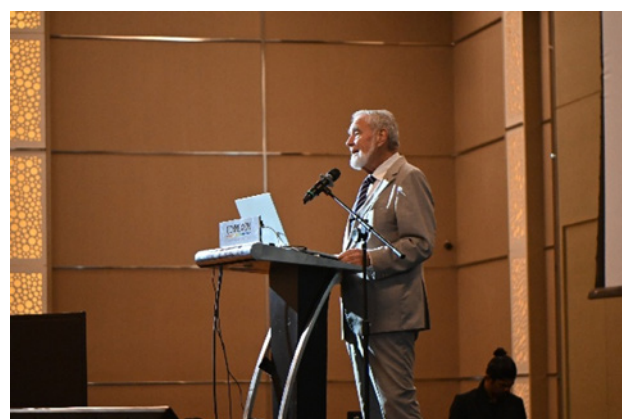
The scientific program was extensive and well-structured, featuring keynote lectures by the esteemed Professor

Niklaus Lang, alongside plenary sessions and poster presentations. Distinguished international and regional speakers addressed a broad spectrum of topics essential to contemporary periodontal practice and research. Over six sessions, experts provided updates on periodontal medicine, surgical and non-surgical therapies, regeneration, peri-implant diseases, host modulation, and digital integration. Each session concluded with an interactive forum discussion.

Poster sessions provided an interactive forum for researchers and postgraduate students to present their findings and engage in scholarly discussion with senior academicians and clinicians. These sessions encouraged critical appraisal and knowledge exchange, contributing positively to academic development and research capacity building. The Clinical Research category was won by Dr Fazleiha Kamaruddin with the study titled *Radiographic Dimensional Changes Following Alveolar Ridge Preservation with A Combination of Autologous Dentine, PRF, and Collagen Plug: A Randomized Controlled Trial*; while the Basic Science Research category was won by Dr Nicholas Sim Choo Wee with the study titled *Metagenomic Analysis of Implant and Adjacent Tooth Microbiome in Patients with Periodontitis History*. Both winners are from Malaysia and received a prize of USD 1,000 each. Congratulations!



**Figure 1.** President of the IAP, Professor Dr Shogo Takashiba, giving his opening remarks.



**Figure 2.** Professor Dr Niklaus Lang presenting the plenary lecture.



**Figure 3.** Some of the conference participants during the scientific session.



**Figure 4.** Representatives of the sponsoring organizations were invited to the stage in recognition and appreciation of their generous contributions to the conference.



**Figure 5.** Forum session held on the first day of the conference, moderated by Professor Dr Jorge Meyle and Professor Dr Rathna Vaithilingam.



**Figure 6.** The forum on Reconstructive Advancements in Periodontal Therapy, moderated by Professor Dr Raluca Cosgarea and Dr Nazurah.



**Figure 7.** Professor Dr Wim Teughels delivering one of the lectures during the conference. The audience were also treated to Belgian chocolates.



**Figure 8.** The keynote speaker together with the Chairperson and Co-Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee. From left to right: Professor Dr Rathna Vaithilingam, Professor Dr Niklaus Lang, and Dr Yuhaniz Ahmad Yaziz.



**Figure 9.** The Local Organising Committee (Malaysian Society of Periodontology) with the speakers from the International Academy of Periodontology during the conference.



**Figure 10.** Panel members of Session 4 with the moderators. From left to right: Associate Professor Dr Masfueh Razali, Professor Dr Ahmed Gamal, Professor Dr Thomas Van Dyke, Professor Dr Purnima Kumar, and Professor Dr Alpdogan Kantarci.



Prior to the conference, a GC-sponsored scientific symposium with the theme “Novel Strategies in Periodontal and Bone Regeneration”, held on 2 October, formed an integral part of the conference programme. The symposium highlighted recent scientific developments and clinical applications related

to new biomaterials and technologies in periodontal therapy. The presentations and forum with panel discussions at the end of the session were well received and aligned with the conference’s educational objectives, with a strong emphasis on scientific evidence and clinical relevance.



*Figure 11. Discussion during the pre-conference symposium.*



*Figure 12. Forum discussion during the pre-conference symposium moderated by Professor Dr Ahmed Gamal.*



*Figure 13. Professor Anton Sculean presenting during the pre-conference symposium.*

In addition, three parallel sessions of pre-conference hands-on workshops were conducted on 2 October, sponsored by GC and Straumann. These workshops were designed to enhance participants' practical skills and provided focused training in advanced periodontal and implant-related procedures. The sessions attracted strong participation and were particularly beneficial for clinicians seeking to refine their clinical techniques and familiarise themselves with current surgical techniques of root coverage, bone regeneration and management of peri-implantitis. The participants were privileged to learn from renowned speakers who conducted the three workshops, including Professor Dr. Alpdogan Kantarci, Professor Dr. Raluca Cosgarea, Professor Dr. Anton Sculean, and Professor Dr. Andreas

Stavropoulos. These workshops complemented the scientific sessions by reinforcing the translation of theoretical knowledge into clinical practice.

The conference was primarily sponsored by GC Asia Dental Pte. Ltd, with additional support from 18 other dental and healthcare companies. The industrial exhibition showcased a wide range of products, materials, and technological innovations relevant to periodontal practice. Participants had the opportunity to interact with industry representatives, explore new products, and gain insights into recent advances that may improve clinical outcomes. Industry-sponsored sessions further enriched the programme while maintaining a strong focus on scientific integrity and clinical applicability.



**Figure 14.** Professor Alpdogan Kantarci guiding participants during the GC-sponsored Workshop 1.



**Figure 15.** Hands-on training on guided bone regeneration: Participants during the practical component of Workshop 1.



**Figure 16.** Professor Anton Sculean: Step-by-step demonstration of the tunneling procedure (Workshop 2).



**Figure 17.** Professor Andreas Stavropoulos presenting on surgical and regenerative approaches to peri-implantitis (Workshop 3).



Beyond the academic programme, the conference provided valuable opportunities for professional networking and social interaction. A Gala Dinner, held on the evening of 3 October 2025, served as a highlight of the conference. The dinner offered a relaxed setting for delegates, speakers, and organisers to engage informally, fostering camaraderie and strengthening professional relationships. The highlight of the dinner was the uniquely Malaysian experience, with guests enjoying vibrant cultural performances, tasting durians, and taking part in traditional games together. The Gala dinner proved to be a memorable night for those who attended!

The joint organisation of the conference by IAP and MSP reflected the shared commitment of both organisations to advancing periodontal education, research, and clinical excellence. The successful execution of the conference also highlighted Malaysia's growing role as a regional centre for high-quality international scientific meetings in periodontology.

Overall, the IAP 20<sup>th</sup> Biennial Joint Scientific Conference was a highly successful event that

achieved its objectives of scientific exchange, professional development, and international collaboration. The comprehensive scientific programme, strong international participation, well-structured workshops, and robust industry support contributed to a meaningful and enriching conference experience. The meeting reaffirmed the importance of continuous professional education, research innovation, and global cooperation in addressing current and future challenges in periodontology.

The local organizing committee lead by Professor Dr Rathna Vaithilingam and Malaysian Society of Periodontology, together with the organising committee from the IAP, are to be congratulated for delivering a well-coordinated and impactful conference. The shared knowledge and professional connections established during the meeting are expected to have a lasting influence on participants' clinical practice and research activities, thereby contributing positively to the advancement of periodontal science at both regional and international levels



**Figure 18.** Speakers and delegates gathered for the conference Gala Dinner, featuring a celebration of local cultural heritage and professional networking.



**Figure 19.** Professor Alpdogan sampling durian during the cultural session organized by the Malaysian Society of Periodontology.



**Figure 20.** International speakers and delegates actively participated in traditional Malaysian games, a key cultural highlight of the symposium's social itinerary.



**Figure 21.** Members of the Malaysian Society of Periodontology (MSP) hosting a cultural appreciation session for international speakers, featuring a sampling of the local durian fruit.