The Rajakumar Movement
Asia Pacific region

The Philippine Academy of Family Physicians celebrated its 58th anniversary and annual convention last March 7 to 9, 2019. In one with the celebration, the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians Residents’ Organization held its annual general assembly and election of officers. Dr Fatima Liboon, a senior resident from Mindanao, was elected as the new president. Priority projects of the organization are: to help in strengthening the practice-based family medicine training program in the Philippines, to organize and collaborate with regional young doctors’ movement in the country, and to engage with the Rajakumar movement, the WONCA Asia-Pacific Young Doctors’ Movement.

Celebrating the Chinese New Year, the Hong Kong young doctors’ movement, co-chaired by Dr Edmond Chi Wai Chan and Dr Wing Yan Chan, organized a hiking activity, “Hiking in Year of the Pig” with the objective of connecting junior and senior members of the organization. Other activities of the organization for this year include: career talk for medical students and liaising with public education committee for the World Family Doctor Day.

In Australia, the General Practice Registrars Australia (GPRA Ltd) has recently released a new position statement on general practice registrars providing care to practice staff. A useful document citing the conflict of interest around treating staff members and their family. We are looking forward to numerous national conferences in 2019 to update and improve our skills and hear the latest research.

The 6th Cross-Straits General Practice conference organised by The Cross-Straits Medicine Exchange Association Committee of General Practice (SMEA-GP) was held in Zhengzhou, China from March 29 - 31, 2019. The first Asia Pacific Young Doctors Forum was held the day before the main conference with more than 200 participants attending. Dr Donald Li, President of WONCA and Prof Shanzhu Zhu, Member-at-Large of the executive WONCA Asia Pacific region (APR) delivered opening remarks at the Young Doctors’ forum. Young doctors in Asia-Pacific Region presented and delivered lectures: Dr Loretta Chan from HKCFP represented The Rajakumar Movement (TRM) and presented the update of Young Doctors’ Movements in the APR; Dr Yang Hua from SMEA-GP, delivered a talk on the development of general practice in China; Dr Pinghsun Chang from TAFM, made a presentation on the role of family physicians in palliative care services; and Dr Victor Loh from NUHS, gave a talk introducing the primary health care system in Singapore. The forum was well conducted and had received positive responses from the participants.

In Malaysia young doctors participated in the 5th Asean Regional Primary Care Conference in March 2019 with the theme: “The challenges in ASEAN in Caring for Individuals, Families and Communities”.

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In Henan Province, China, the Academic Conference of General Practice was hosted by Cross-Straits Medicine Exchange Association-Committee of General Practice (CSMEA).

Truly, young doctors are actively engaging and collaborating in shaping the field of family medicine across the Asia-Pacific region.

Dr Mel Anthony E. Acuavera
Honorary Secretary TRM