

The Rajakumar Movement

Asia Pacific region

The Rajakumar Movement actively participated in the WONCA Asia Pacific regional conference held from May 15-18, 2019, in Kyoto, Japan. About 30 young doctors from the various parts of the world attended the preconference. Dr Meng-Chih Lee, the president of the WONCA Asia Pacific Region delivered welcome remarks, and encouraged the young doctors “the future of medical community” to “become the leaders of primary care.” Thereafter, representatives of the national organisations presented the updates on their respective young doctors’ organisations. Dr Erfen Suwangto, the chair of the Rajakumar Movement discussed briefly the future directions of the Rajakumar Movement: entrepreneurship skills for young doctors, research and journal track, and case discussion and sharing among young doctors in the Asia Pacific Region.



Two sessions were conducted during the preconference: the preparedness of young doctors in the fourth industrial revolution and the need for entrepreneurship among young doctors. Dr Emily Kirkpatrick, the vice-chair of the Rajakumar Movement for Oceania, gave an amazing and eye opening talk about the fourth industrial revolution. She mentioned the need for young doctors to adapt and utilise the technologies available in managing patients. Participants were then divided into smaller groups and a workshop was conducted where each group answered the following questions on interests, role models, use of technology in medical practice in their respective countries, and progress of the fourth revolution in patient care.

The second session was entitled, “The need for entrepreneurship among young doctors” was spearheaded by Dr Tesshu Kusaba, the president of Japan Primary Care Association. He said that, “entrepreneurship is like medicine, wherein you get to meet new people and listen to them.” He mentioned that like a doctor, an entrepreneur is “a learner, an educator and a manager.” He further mentioned three challenges of being both a doctor and an entrepreneur and possible solutions for each: tackle negative spiral decline in consultations by adapting and focusing on the needs of the community; manage human resources by labor and motivational management skills; and the need for further education and research by collaborating and engaging with other professions. Afterwards, four participants: Dr Siti Shuhaizam, Dr Naoko Kobayashi, Dr Kentaro Asakura, and Dr Masahiro Nishimura shared their experiences as both doctors and entrepreneurs. The participants were then divided into smaller groups for a workshop and answered questions on entrepreneurship, skills of an entrepreneur, advantages and disadvantages of being an entrepreneur. After the preconference, the young doctors enjoyed a sumptuous meal and had a great time bonding. The young doctors from Japan prepared a game “primary care quiz contest” in which everyone actively participated.



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For the main conference, the Rajakumar Movement further enhanced the entrepreneurship skills of young doctors by conducting a session-workshop on “Getting started with entrepreneurship.” This was part of the series of sessions that the Rajakumar Movement will be conducting for the WONCA conferences as follows: making a general business idea, marketing and sales, budgeting and finance, and human resources development.

The Rajakumar Movement is looking forward in WONCA Asia Pacific region Conference in 2020 in Auckland.

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