

Joint Press Release

Singapore To Host Asia's First Joint International Liver and Bone Marrow Transplant Symposium in November

About 100 doctors from Asia and world-renowned UPMC will attend two-day conclave organised by Singapore's AAMG

Singapore, 16 November, 2013 – About 100 medical experts will gather for the first combined international symposium on blood and bone marrow and liver treatment and transplantation to be held in Singapore on 23 and 24 November. The two-day symposium is jointly organised by the Asian American Medical Group (“AAMG”), Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore, and the world-renowned healthcare enterprise UPMC based in Pittsburgh, USA, Chapter of Haematologists, College of Physicians, Singapore and Singapore Society of Haematology.

The event at Gleneagles Hospital will be inaugurated by Singapore-based and Australia-listed AAMG's Executive Chairman and leading liver surgeon, *Dr Tan Kai Chah*, together with *Dr Kok Mun Foong*, CEO of Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore and *Mr Charles E. Bogosta*, Executive Vice President of UPMC, a US\$10-billion global healthcare enterprise that integrates more than 20 hospitals, 400 outpatient sites with about 3,400 physicians and a health insurance services division.

Doctors specialising in Haematology, Bone Marrow Transplant, Oncology, Gastroenterology, Hepatobiliary/Liver and transplantation from Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Russia, the Indian sub-continent, and Middle East will hear experts expound on:

- molecular genetics techniques available for acute myeloid leukaemia
- the first successful cellular therapy options – bone marrow transplantation
- iron overload, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment
- pushing the boundaries in liver transplantation for Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) through resection of the malignant tumour
- new robotic surgical techniques for transplantation
- cardiac complications following liver transplantation

Apart from presentations on medical techniques, case studies and panel discussions, the specialists will also discuss issues facing the practice of these two medical specialisations.

The panel from UPMC participating in the symposium includes: *Mounzer Agha, M.D.*, Director, Mario Lemieux Center for Blood Cancers at the UPMC Cancer Centers; *David L. Bartlett, M.D.*, Vice Chairman for Surgical Oncology and GI Surgical Services Director, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute; *Dr Bruno Gridelli*, Director, ISMETT, and Medical and Scientific Director, UPMC International and Commercial Services Division; and *Dr Giovan B. Vizzini*, Director, Department of Medicine, ISMETT, Palermo, Italy.

AAMG, previously known as Asian Centre for Liver Diseases and Transplantation, had hosted a regional liver symposium but this is the first time to combine with presentations on blood and bone marrow.

“The upcoming symposium is notable for the first-time participation of UPMC, which has a track record of excellent clinical outcomes and research innovation in various transplant specialisations. UPMC’s experience and expertise will greatly benefit the participants and contribute to the advance of medical science in the region,” said Dr Tan.

“We are extremely excited to be taking part in such a specialised conference with the skilled team at AAMG, along with other specialists from the region. This global sharing of knowledge will benefit all of our patients and strengthens the international network of physicians and researchers associated with UPMC,” said Mr Bogosta.

“The collaboration between UPMC and AAMG is truly one of a kind. For a global healthcare provider to team up with AAMG as its partner in the region says a lot about the work of Dr Tan and his team. We at Gleneagles are honoured to organise the symposium that has attracted such specialists from around the region to Singapore,” said Dr Kok Mun Foong, CEO of Gleneagles Hospital Singapore.

“We are honoured to be able to co-host such an event of highly-specialised doctors from all over the world. This will increase awareness to our specialised doctors here in Singapore as well as in the region, as specialists from UPMC and other guest speakers impart their knowledge in the field of Haematology,” said Dr Ng Heng Joo, Chairman, Chapter of Haematologists, College of Physicians, Singapore. “These speakers will share with us details of advanced technologies and clinical trials that will help healthcare professionals tremendously in their battle against blood cancers and disorders,” Dr William Hwang, President, Singapore Society of Haematology added.

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About Asian American Medical Group

Asian American Medical Group (“AAMG”) is based on Singapore and has been listed on the Australian Securities Exchange since September 2009. The Group’s operations include the Asian American Liver Centre Pte Ltd (“AALC”), formerly known as Asian Centre for Liver Diseases and Transplantation (“ACLDT”), established in 1994 in Singapore, and the Asian Centre for Blood and Bone Marrow Transplantation (“ACBBMT”), now called Asian American Blood & Marrow Transplant Pte Ltd (“AABMTC”).

AALC, one of Asia’s foremost liver centres, is led by renowned hepatobiliary expert and liver transplant surgeon, Dr Tan Kai Chah (Dr K C Tan), who helped start the Liver Transplant Programme at the King’s College Hospital London, the UK and pioneered the highly successful Living Donor Liver Transplantation (LDLT) Programme in Singapore.

AABMTC was established in 2013 as an extension to AAMG’s medical capabilities. It is spearheaded by Dr Yvonne Loh, a Haematologist who specialises in haematopoietic cell transplantation and who has performed close to 100 transplants. Dr Loh also has had specific training in transplant for immunological diseases.

In 2012, AAMG entered into a strategic collaboration with UPMC, one of the top 10 medical institutions in the United States. This has enhanced AAMG’s clinical capabilities through shared protocols, rigorous quality standards and technology leading to the establishment of the Comprehensive Transplant Centre – a first-of-its-kind one-stop medical hub for treatment of liver, gastrointestinal and haematological diseases and transplantation in Asia.

Other strategic collaborations of AAMG in Asia include a satellite liver centre in Ho Chi Minh City since 2010, and the Vietnamese-American Liver Center located at Vinmec International Hospital JSC, in Hanoi, both joint ventures in Vietnam.

For further information, please visit www.aamg.co.

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Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore

Gleneagles Hospital is a private, tertiary acute care hospital with a capacity of 272 beds located in the heart of Singapore’s Embassy district and next to the lush greenery of the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Established since 1959, Gleneagles Hospital provides a wide range of medical and surgical services with over 300 on-site specialists from over 30 specialities and sub-specialities. It is highly regarded for its clinical expertise in Hepatology and Liver Transplant, Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Injury Management, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, General Surgery, Thoracic and Congenital Heart Surgery. It also houses three Centres of Excellence - Parkway Gynaecology, Screening and Treatment Centre, Parkway Cancer Centre and Parkway Eye Centre.

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About UPMC

A world-renowned healthcare provider and insurer, Pittsburgh-based UPMC is inventing new models of accountable, cost-effective, patient-centered care. It provides more than US\$622 million a year in benefits to its communities, including more care to the region’s most vulnerable citizens than any other health care institution. The largest non-governmental employer in Pennsylvania, UPMC integrates more than 60,000 employees, 20 hospitals, 400 doctors’ offices and outpatient sites, a 2.2-million-member health insurance division, and international and commercial operations. Affiliated with the University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Sciences, UPMC ranks No. 10 in the prestigious U.S. News & World Report annual Honor Roll of America’s Best Hospitals — and No. 1 in Pennsylvania. For more information, go to UPMC.com.

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