

NATCON IASO 2015

A REPORT FROM ORGANIZING SECRETARY DR. PADMALAYA DEVI.

The 29th Annual National Conference of Indian Association of Surgical Oncology was held at Hotel Swosti Premium in the Temple city of Bhubaneswar, Odisha from 17th to 20th Sept. 2015. It was hosted by A. H. Regional Cancer Centre Cuttack in collaboration with Panda Curie Cancer Hospital. All the Oncologists of Odisha joined in to make the conference a successful one. The Organizing Chairman was Dr. Krupasindhu Panda and Organizing Secretary Dr. Padmalaya Devi.

A preconference video CME was held on the 17th September in which exclusive videos were presented by eminent Oncologists. It was well attended by a large number of post graduates and faculty from all are the country. The video CME was a great success with active participation from the floor. There were interesting videos and discussions covering topics on head & neck, breast, thoracic, hepatobiliary, colorectal, uro-gynae and musculo-skeletal. An added attraction was a hands on training on endosurgery which was held for the first time in the history of IASO.

The conference had about 450 registered delegates from all over the country and abroad. Eminent Oncologists from premium cancer institutes and foreign faculty, like Donald Weaver and Edson Pontis from Detroit, Chandrakant Are made us proud.

The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik along with the Hon'ble Health Minister and Health Secretary. The inaugural speech was given by the Chief Minister who appreciated the presence of such eminent guests in our state whose views and ideas would go a long way in the better treatment of cancer patients in the state. The inauguration was followed by a rich cultural programme of various dances of Odisha like Odishi, Sambalpuri, Gotipua, Ghodanacha. The evening ended with a delicious dinner.

The academics of the conference lasted for 2 and half days which was a generous mix of orations, invited lectures, symposia, panel discussion, debates, case capsules, free papers and posters. In addition there was a competitive video session for youngsters under 40 years of age.

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Young oncologists participated in many competitions for Detroit fellowship, Baroda travels fellowships Panda Gopinath Quiz, competitive videos for youngster's free papers and posters Radhadevi oration was delivered by Dr. Rajaraman past president IASO who spoke on treatment strategies for locally advanced cancer cervix Motibhai oration was delivered by Dr. Mayilvahanam Natrajan, R. S. Rao endowment lecture was delivered by Dr. Anita Borges who spoke on why I am a surgical pathologist – reflections on 40 years in pathology. Dr. S H Advani spoke on targeted therapy on breast cancer for the dinner symposium.

The evenings were full of entertainment with light music and dance followed by Banquet dinner, Delegates also found time to visit the famous temples of Bhubaneswar and Puri as well as go back with souvenirs of handcrafts of Odisha.

2015 being the year of Nabakalabar of lord Jagannath and NATCON IASO 2015 at Bhubaneswar was an auspicious combination of science and culture where participation of many oncologists exchange of ideas and experience in the field of cancer would go a long way in improving cancer care in the state of Odisha. Our heartfelt gratitude to all the participants whose presence made the conference the huge success that it was.