Interview: "The participants can share the up-to-date knowledge about the subjects in the field of Conservative Dentistry."

By Dental Tribune MEA

SHARJAH, UAE: The University of Sharjah organised the first regional ConsAsia 2018 conference of the Asian Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry last December. The event was under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council, Ruler of Sharjah, and President of the University of Sharjah.

The University inaugurated the first regional ConsAsia 2018 International Conference as part of the annual meeting of the Asian and Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry (AOFCD). The conference comes under the theme ‘Contemporary Conservative Dentistry. Innovations for Today and Practice’ The University’s College of Dentistry organized the Conference in collaboration with the AOFCD and the Dental Division of the Emirates Medical Association (EMA), and with the participation of over 300 dentists.

Amongst the list of VIP attendees included Prof. Kiyohisa Ahmed El-Mustafa El-Shahawy, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, attended the ConsAsia along with Prof. Qaziya Hamid Al Healy, Vice Chancellor for Medical Colleges and Health Sciences and Dean of College of Dental Medicine, Dr. Majid Al Jarwan, Vice Chancellor for Public Relations, Prof. Byeong-Hoon Cho, President of the AOFCD and ConsAsia 2019, Prof. Hien Chi Ngo, Dean of the College of Dental Medicine, Dr. Aisha Sultan, President of the Dental Division of the EMA, and a number of faculty and students members at the University.

Dental Tribune had the pleasure to interview Prof. Byeong-Hoon Cho, President of the AOFCD and ConsAsia 2019 to get his view on the Conference in the Middle East and beyond.

Could you please share with us an introduction about yourself and your experience as president of the AOFCD.

I am Byeong-Hoon Cho, Professor of Conservative Dentistry, Seoul National University School of Dentistry, Seoul, Korea. I am also the Founding President of the Asian-Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry (AOFCD), the President of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for its inaugural scientific meeting, ConsAsia 2019, Seoul, Korea, the immediate past president of Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry (KACD), and an Editor-in-Chief of the Restorative Dentistry & Endodontology. I am establishing the AOFCD and organizing its biennial scientific meeting, ConsAsia.

When the ConsAsia initiative was proposed by the KACD, 16 scholars from 9 countries joined the first preparatory meeting and showed interests in founding an international organization in the field of Conservative Dentistry. Although the Conservative Dentistry is a very dynamic discipline, there had been no international organization, except ConsIndia, which is hosted by European Federation of Conservative Dentistry (EFC). I felt they were eager for a platform where they could collaborate and communicate with each other in education, research, and practice in the field of Conservative Dentistry.

Considering the dynamic features of Conservative Dentistry; we all needed to have a platform where we can meet and communicate with each other and collaborate for the innovation and the future of Conservative Dentistry, so it was possible to establish AOFCD and hold ConsAsia.

The International ConsAsia scientific conference will promote academic pride and clinical excellence for scholars, researchers, students, and clinicians in the field of Conservative Dentistry, ultimately contributing to the quality of care and improving oral health in the region.

For our MEA audience, could you please provide more information about the AOFCD and ConsAsia?

It is established to contribute to the promotion of oral health in the public interest and to facilitate communication and cooperation amongst the members in the Asian and Oceanian regions by encouraging excellence in the clinical practice, teaching and research to meet the needs of populations in these areas. Hence, the KACD proposed to establish AOFCD and to hold biennial ConsAsia scientific meetings.

At first, scholars from 9 countries (Australia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Taiwan) agreed with the initiative and met first in Seoul, Korea, on October 21, 2016 (First preparatory meeting). This marking the decision of the first preparatory meeting, the LOC for the first ConsAsia scientific meeting was concluded.

The use of a proper protocol for finishing and polishing helped achieve a glazed-like composite surface similar to ceramic or natural teeth as seen in the extreme close up clinical photographs.
ZirCAD MT Multi
The most esthetic high-strength, multi-translucent\(^1\) zirconia

\(^1\) Composed of different material classes
Ciencia, Preventive Dentistry, Minimal invasive treatment, Vital pulp therapy, Endodontology, Adhesives, Resin-based composites, Ceramic, Zirconia, CAD/CAM, Novel biomaterials, and New technologies. The LOC figured out 14 world-widely most-attracted subjects in the field of Conservative Dentistry and organization of regional societies, the Middle East Regional Conference, ConsAsia 2018, and Sharjah Regional Conference and successfully held as an international meeting on December 6-7, 2018 by Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo and Professor Hatem El Damanhoury from University of Sharjah. As the inaugura- tion, Professor Hatem El Damanhoury as Secretary General established the AOFCD and Guidelines for ConsAsia Scientific meeting. As mentioned above, in order to promote the interests in Conservative Dentistry and organization of regional societies, Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo proposed the Middle East Regional Conference: The purpose, we should organize local and global academic meetings and conferences related to preserve teeth, which have a special interest in the object of the AOFCD. Any national or regional Association, or other organization in the field of Conservative Dentistry and related disciplines in Asia and Oceania shall be eligible to apply for Full Member- ship of the AOFCD. Other organiza- tions and institutions which have a special interest in the object of the AOFCD, Individual with interests in the field of Conservative Dentistry, will be also of the AOFCD.

As mentioned in the answer to the question 4, the main theme of the ConsAsia 2019 is ‘Conservative Den- tistry: the Path from Research to High-quality Care’. Since the scope of the ConsAsia includes all the dis- criminate members that aim to preserve teeth, which have a special interest in the object of the AOFCD. The initiative started by the Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry (KACD), the organization of regional societies, Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo proposed the Middle East Regional Conference: The purpose, we should organize local and global academic meetings and conferences related to preserve teeth, which have a special interest in the object of the AOFCD. Any national or regional Association, or other organization in the field of Conservative Dentistry and related disciplines in Asia and Oceania shall be eligible to apply for Full Member- ship of the AOFCD. Other organiza- tions and institutions which have a special interest in the object of the AOFCD, Individual with interests in the field of Conservative Dentistry, will be also of the AOFCD.

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