

RADIOLOGY NEWS

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In this issue....

Editorial	Page	01
President's message	Page	02
College Dinner 2024	Page	03
Annual General Meeting 2025	Page	04 -05
CME	Page	06-08
Feature article	Page	09-11
Radiology News	Page	12-13
Announcements	Page	14

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EDITORIAL

Dear Members of SLCR,

Welcome to the latest edition of Radiology News!

This issue brings you an exciting overview of our recent academic and professional milestones. Our President's message outlines the College's vision and aspirations for the coming year, setting a purposeful tone for radiology in Sri Lanka.

We share highlights from the College Dinner 2024 and AGM 2025, celebrating camaraderie and the induction of the new council for 2025/2026. Continuing Medical Education remains a cornerstone of our mission, and this issue features updates from our recent CME sessions, including fruitful collaborations with the Indian Society of Paediatric Radiology and the Anuradhapura Medical Association.

Our feature article offers an insightful reflection on the AOSOR Youth Club 2024 held in Japan, showcasing emerging trends in radiology and advocating for a progressive, sustainable, and globally connected radiology community.

We are also proud to highlight the special achievements of our members at both national and international levels.

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Annual Academic Sessions in October. Until then, we hope this newsletter continues to inform, inspire, and foster a shared vision for excellence.

Warm regards,
Udari Liyanage & Jeevani Udupihille
Co-Editors, Radiology News

Udari Liyanage, Jeevani Udupihille
Co- Editors/Radiology News

SLCR



President's Message

It is my pleasure to pen this message for the Newsletter of the Sri Lanka College of Radiologists as the President of the College.

Radiology being one of the fastest growing fields in medicine has become an essential part of every speciality, and subspecialty. With the rapid development of radiological techniques in the various specialties, and the rapid increase in their niche requirements it has become a challenge for the general radiologist to meet all these needs.

These requirements would be best served by strengthening the concept of subspecialties in the field of Radiology. This process has begun with Interventional radiology, Neuroradiology and Paediatric Radiology which have already been established. The College is involved in discussions with the Ministry of Health and Postgraduate Institute of Medicine to establish Cardiothoracic imaging, Musculoskeletal imaging, Women's imaging, Oncologic imaging and Nuclear Medicine.

Until these subspecialties are fully established the task to provide the services required by the various fields falls upon the General Radiologist. Due to the rapid developments in Radiology it is essential that we are up to date with the latest techniques and also develop special interests in areas which we encounter often and are interested in.

It is with this intent that the College of Radiologists organizes Continuous Medical Education programmes monthly and we are encouraged by the participation of our members. I take this opportunity to thank all the resource persons and participants of these events.

I wish to acknowledge the work done by our co-editors, Udari Liyanage and Jeevani Udupihille and the editorial committee in putting together this newsletter which further promotes the CME activities of the Sri Lanka College of Radiologists.

I look forward to your active participation at the future CME programmes in the coming months and at the Annual Academic Sessions of the SLCR scheduled in October.

Thank you.

Shehan Waas

President

Sri Lanka College of Radiologists

Annual College Dinner 2024

The Annual College Dinner of the Sri Lanka College of Radiologists was held on 19th of December 2024 at the Nelum Hall, Waters Edge, Battaramulla. Both Life Members and Associate Members actively participated in the college dinner, contributing to the warm and colourful atmosphere that made the evening a resounding successful. Special guest lecture was delivered by Dr R Hyland (Consultant Radiologist) who was the external examiner for the MD Part II examination in Radiology



The Annual general meeting of Sri Lanka College of Radiologists



The Annual General Meeting of SLCR was held on the 05th of January 2025 at Barnes hall, Jetwing ,Colombo 7. The Council of SLCR was appointed at the AGM for 2025/2026.

NEW COLLEGE COUNCIL 2025/2026

President

Dr Shehan Waas

President Elect

Dr Nayana Samarasinghe

Hon. Secretary

Dr. Sashika Alahakoon

Asst. Secretary (Academic)

Dr K M R Kannangara

Asst. Secretary (Social)

Dr Induni Douglas

Hon. Treasurer

Dr Wasantha Sathkoralala

Asst. Treasurer

Dr.W Meegoda

Council Members

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Dr Udaya Wanigasiri

Dr R K J S Rajapakse

Dr Udaya Jayakody

Dr Nalini Rajendra

Dr Pavithra Rubasinghe

Dr Amali Saratchandra

Dr M C Wettasinghe

Dr Geethika Perera

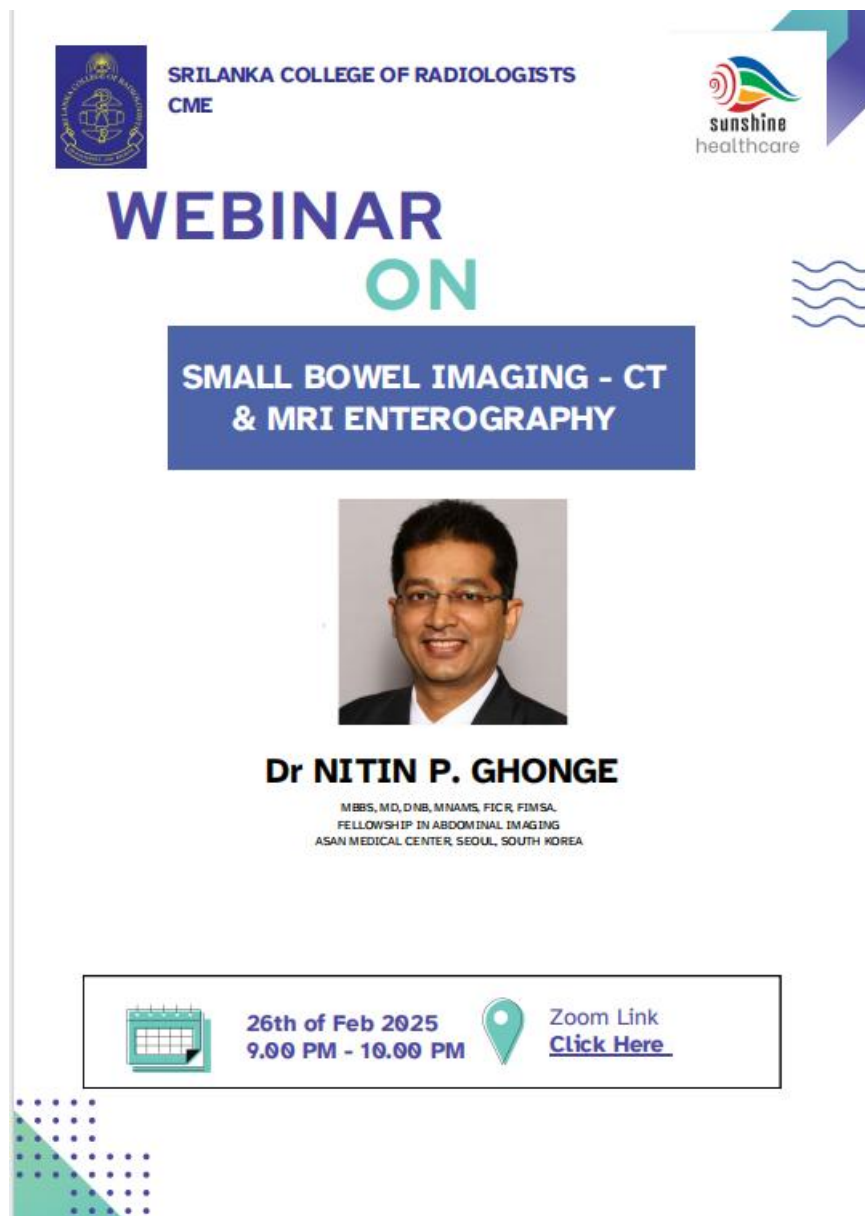
(Immediate past president)

Prof. Harsha Dissanayake



Continuing Medical Education (CME)

The 1st CME for the year 2025 was held on 26th February, 2025,
on Zoom platform on Small Bowel Imaging



The poster features a white background with a blue and green geometric design in the top right and bottom left corners. At the top left is the Sri Lanka College of Radiologists logo, and at the top right is the Sunshine Healthcare logo. The main title 'WEBINAR ON' is in large blue and green letters. Below it, a blue box contains the text 'SMALL BOWEL IMAGING - CT & MRI ENTEROGRAPHY'. A portrait of Dr. Nitin P. Ghonge is centered below the title. Underneath the portrait is his name 'Dr NITIN P. GHONGE' and his credentials: 'MBBS, MD, DNB, MNAMS, FICR, FIMSA, FELLOWSHIP IN ABDOMINAL IMAGING, ASAN MEDICAL CENTER, SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA'. At the bottom, a box contains a calendar icon, the date and time '26th of Feb 2025 9.00 PM - 10.00 PM', a location pin icon, and the text 'Zoom Link Click Here'.

SRILANKA COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS
CME

sunshine
healthcare

WEBINAR ON

SMALL BOWEL IMAGING - CT & MRI ENTEROGRAPHY



Dr NITIN P. GHONGE
MBBS, MD, DNB, MNAMS, FICR, FIMSA,
FELLOWSHIP IN ABDOMINAL IMAGING
ASAN MEDICAL CENTER, SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

 **26th of Feb 2025**
9.00 PM - 10.00 PM

 **Zoom Link**
[Click Here](#)

Continuing Medical Education (CME)

The 2nd CME for the year 2025 which was organized by the Sri Lanka College of Radiologists was held on 18th May, 2025, on Paediatric Radiology with the collaboration of the Indian Society of Paediatric Radiology. It was a well-attended and successful event, drawing over 85 participants.

The Sri Lanka College of Radiologists host a dinner gathering for the faculty members and invited delegates from the Indian Society of Paediatric Radiology on 17th May at Jetwing Colombo 7.



Continuing Medical Education (CME)

The 3rd CME for the year 2025 was held in June 27th at Anuradhapura as a joint CME programme with the collaboration of Anuradhapura Medical Association.



FEATURE ARTICLE

Empowering the Next Generation of Radiology Leaders: Experience from Attending Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSOR) – Youth Club (YC)

Mihiri Chami Wettasinghe, Consultant Radiologist, Base Hospital Teldeniya

Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSOR) – Youth Club (YC)

The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSOR) is a prominent regional federation comprising over 24 national radiological societies from the Asia-Oceania region. Its mission is to advance radiology through research, education, and the enhancement of patient care across its member countries. As part of its commitment to nurturing future leaders in the field, one of its key initiatives is the AOSOR Youth Club (YC), which was established in 2015. The AOSOR YC serves as an educational, social, and academic platform aimed at developing leadership skills among young radiologists (1).

I had the privilege of attending the AOSOR YC 2024, which was held in Fukuoka, Japan from October 17th to the 19th 2024. It was an intense two-day programme and it provided a highly enriching experience with valuable insights into developing management and leadership skills for young radiologists. Further, this programme offered an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow radiologists in the region. During this programme a variety of key topics were discussed including academic and society member management, finance management, perspectives and preparation in radiology, trends of radiology in Asia Oceania, risk management and inter-society relationship. Among these important aspects, the 'Trends in Radiology in the Asia-Oceania Region' is a timely topic for discussion and exploring the relevance and implementation strategies in the Sri Lankan setting.

Emerging Trends of Radiology in Asia Oceania

The field of radiology in the Asia-Oceania region is evolving rapidly, keeping pace with global advancements. Key aspects such as technological innovation, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, changing healthcare financing, and shifting demographics are reshaping the landscape of radiological services across the region. Significant developments include the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into diagnostic workflows and the rise of cross-border collaborations that enhance knowledge sharing and resource optimization. The growing role of telemedicine and teleradiology is also expanding access to specialist care, especially in remote and underserved areas.

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Radiology

One of the most significant trends in the region is the use of AI and machine learning in radiology. The AI technologies are revolutionizing the radiology imaging by assisting in more accurate, faster, and efficient image interpretation. AI algorithms, trained on a large number of imaging data, are assisting radiologists in detecting abnormalities earlier and more accurately. This not only reduces the likelihood of human error but also improves workflow efficiency, especially in high-volume healthcare settings. The use of AI technology in the field of radiology range from image interpretation, post processing and workflow prioritization. Recognizing its rapid invasion in the field of radiology, as an many radiologists are becoming proficient in its use, a group of AI users, mainly consisting of clinical radiologists working in the Asia Oceania region formed the working group and published a position statements regarding the application and clinical deployment of AI in radiology (2).

On the other hand, data bias and generalisation with lack of large diverse datasets, lack of transparency, ethical and regulatory concerns and impact on radiologists training and jobs are several concerns regarding the use of AI in radiology

Telemedicine and Teleradiology Expansion

The demand for teleradiology and telemedicine further increased by the recent COVID-19 pandemic. In teleradiology, the image interpretation is done by a radiologist working at a remote workstation without being physically present at the place where the images are generated. This has enabled to extend the radiology services to remote and rural regions. The major advantages of teleradiology includes enhancing the access to specialized radiologists without patients being travelling long distances, cost savings and improving efficiency and proving multidisciplinary management even during the after-hours. This has further provided a flexibility of working and enhancing the work-life balance for the radiologists as well. However, potential disadvantages include lack of on-site communication with the referring clinicians leading to potential miscommunications, concerns regarding the image quality, data security and privacy and technical issues which might affect the smooth workflow.

Shift towards Value-Based Healthcare

There is a global tendency to shift towards value-based care in healthcare moving away from paying providers based on the quantity of services delivered (fee-for-service).

The value-based healthcare concept is aimed at improving the individual healthcare outcomes without increasing health care cost. Radiology is a major contributor to patient and societal healthcare at many levels and can aid in shifting to a value-driven system, where all investigations or interventions contribute positively to patient outcomes. It is important to collaborate with non-radiology peers to ensure that the imaging is effectively used and integrated into clinical pathways based on available evidence. This will reduce the healthcare costs and associated risks like radiation exposure and the risks associated with the contrast agents (3).

Sustainability in Radiology - Waving the Path to a Green Radiology

It is important to understand that radiology does contain environment pollution activities including significant carbon emission via the use of MRI and CT scanners due to high energy consumption and surface water contamination due to disposal of residual unwanted iodinated contrast media into normal wastewater system or clinical waste stream. Thus, it is important to identify the areas where the radiology work can contribute to green and sustainable radiology. The energy consumption of imaging equipment can be reduced by shutting down imaging equipment when not in use, shutting down computers and monitors at the end of the day, turning off heating and ventilation when not in use and using motion-detector lights out of hours. Educating the healthcare staff working in the radiology units on the use of the correct waste disposal streams within the imaging departments and minimize the waste from the consumables can also be done with this regard. Compared to the middle and higher income countries the environmental impact generated from healthcare services would be less from low resources low income countries. However, trends of maintaining a low carbon footprint should not discourage the advances in healthcare that improve overall health in these regions. Furthermore, as access to radiology services are improving in low resources regions across the globe, environmentally sustainable infrastructure should be a mainstay of government and department policy (4,5).

What are the challenges?

Despite its progress, several continuing challenges remain. Widespread shortage of radiologists, is one of the biggest concerns across the region (6,7). The growing demand for imaging examinations has further escalated this problem. Furthermore, developing countries lag behind the developed world when it comes to the acquisition and application of advance medical technologies related to radiology and the ability of acquiring the new knowledge. The climatic changes with global warming secondary to the production of greenhouse gases has become an emerging challenge which has prompted the public awareness on supporting sustainable environment friendly practices, with no exception in the field of radiology.

Way Forward

Countries across the Asia-Oceania region have made, and continue to make, remarkable progress in advancing diagnostic imaging and healthcare technologies. From adopting AI in radiology to expanding telemedicine services, many nations in the region are incorporating innovation to enhance diagnostic accuracy, efficiency, and accessibility. However, Sri Lanka appears to be lagging behind several of its regional counterparts in keeping pace with these developments.

While financial constraints remain a significant barrier, they are not the only reason for this lag. A lack of long-term strategic planning, limited investment in healthcare infrastructure, and gaps in training and research participation also contribute to the issue. It is now crucial that Sri Lanka undertakes comprehensive reforms and strategic investments aimed at modernizing radiological services. This includes upgrading equipment, enhancing radiology education and training, and implementing digital health solutions to streamline diagnostics.

Moreover, fostering international collaboration and becoming active participants in global research networks are essential steps toward bridging this gap. Engaging with regional and international partners not only provides access to the latest innovations and best practices but also creates opportunities for knowledge exchange and capacity building. Using such collaborative and forward-thinking approaches, Sri Lanka can work toward aligning its radiology services with cutting-edge global and regional standards, ultimately improving patient care and outcomes.

Final Thoughts

The AOSOR YC offered more than just professional development - it was an eye-opening experience into the future of radiology in the Asia-Oceania region. It underscored the importance of innovation, sustainability, and global cooperation in shaping a resilient and responsive healthcare system. The insights and connections gained here are invaluable as we navigate the evolving landscape of modern radiology.

Acknowledgements

- ◆ Dr Charles Goh MBBS, MMed (D.Rad), FRCR (UK) who delivered the initial lecture on Trends of Radiology in Asia Oceania at the AOSOR YC 2024.
- ◆ The organising committee of AOSOR YC 2024 and the local host, Japanese Radiological Society for putting together an excellent and a memorable event.
- ◆ Sri Lanka College of Radiologists for giving me the opportunity to represent Sri Lanka at AOSOR YC 2024.

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Radiology News



E M W JAYASURIYA ORATION WAS DELIVERED BY DR DENSIL GUNASEKARA - CONSULTANT RADIOLOGIST, TEACHING HOSPITAL POLONNARUWA

E M W Jayasuriya Oration was delivered by Dr Densil Gunasekara (MBBS, MD) Consultant Radiologist, Teaching Hospital Polonnaruwa. This was held on 28.02.2025 at the SLMA Auditorium and the oration was on Radiopalliation: Enhancing Comfort Through Radiological Interventions.



SRI LANKAN TEAM BECAME 4TH IN THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL RADIOLOGY QUIZ AT ASIAN OCEANIAN CONGRESS OF RADIOLOGY (AOCR 2025)

Dr. Ruwanthi Premarathna and Dr. Marius Suranjan were selected to represent Sri Lanka in the 1st International Radiology Quiz at Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR 2025) - Chennai, India which was organized by the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA). Out of 25 countries and 5 Indian teams, 6 teams were selected to the finals after conducting preliminary rounds. In the finals, United Kingdom team and Sri Lankan team tied for the 3rd place and Sri Lankan team ended up in 4th place in the finals.





A SYMPOSIUM ON ADVANCED BREAST IMAGING WAS HELD AT THE KDU HOSPITAL ON 23RD MARCH 2025





The 4th CME will be held on 27th July on “Liver Sonography” which will be sponsored by GE health care. The details of the event will be shared with the membership in due course



The Annual Academic Sessions of Sri Lanka College of Radiologists will be held in October on 3rd, 4th and 5th at Cinnamon Grand Colombo



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Sri Lanka Journal of Radiology

Sri Lanka Journal of Radiology which is an important milestone in uplifting the scientific publications of Sri Lankan

Radiologists to the international arena is now online.

The journal and articles can be accessed by <http://sljr.sljol.info/>

This is published in Sri Lanka Journals Online which also hosts most of the leading Sri Lankan Scientific e-Journals in collaboration with INASP and Ubiquity Press in UK. It is also available via Facebook and twitter.

We invite all of our members to contribute their high quality research articles, review articles, case series etc to the SLJR online.

The submission procedure and the guidelines are available on the journal itself. This journal publishes new articles after blind peer review process on a continuous cycle throughout the year. The SLCR hopes all its members make it a point to be a part of this greatest academic endeavour by taking into research and publishing.



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