

Fertility Counts Pre-Summit 2024

Advancing ASPIRE's commitment to advocate for family friendly policy reforms across the region

📅 Sunday, 7 Jan 2024

🕒 1300hrs - 1600hrs (GMT+8)

📍 Pan Pacific Singapore- Ocean 6



Ms. Natascha Braumann

Vice President, Head of Global Policy for Fertility and CM&E

Lecture 1: Introduction - Overall Strategy and Message Selection

Natascha Braumann leads the global government and public affairs teams for two of Merck's businesses – Fertility as well as Cardiometabolic & Endocrinology. In this capacity, she is responsible for building relationships with policy makers, patients, and other public stakeholders. For Fertility, she is particularly interested in the drivers and effects of demographic change. She is passionate about identifying and tackling real-life barriers that prevent couples from making the family-building decisions that are best for them. Natascha has held multiple roles within Merck. Prior to this, she worked for a nonpartisan think tank in Washington DC. Natascha holds a Bachelor's degree in History & Politics from Oxford University, a Master's degree in International Relations from Humboldt University Berlin, and a Diploma in Financial Strategy from Oxford University's Said Business School. She lives in Germany with her husband and two young children.



Professor Kamthorn Pruksananonda

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chulalongkorn University Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand.

Lecture 2: Thailand Experience - Launching Fertility Counts in Thailand

Dr. Kamthorn Pruksananonda is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. He previously served as the Chairman of the Reproductive Medicine Subcommittee at the Royal Thai College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and currently serves as a member of the Advisory Board for Reproductive Health Policy at the Ministry of Public Health and the National Committee for Protection of Children Born from Reproductive Medicine in Thailand.

Dr. Pruksananonda received his medical education and postgraduate training from Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand, before completing his fellowship in Reproductive Biology and Infertility at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center in Philadelphia, PA, United States. He is the Past President of the Pacific Society for Reproductive Medicine 2019 Conference and a member of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. Additionally, he leads the IVF Unit, Reproductive Medicine Division, and Human Embryonic Stem Cells Research Center at Chulalongkorn University.

Dr. Pruksananonda has received various awards throughout his career, including the Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship in 1989, the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology's Young Gynecologist Award, the Best Research Paper Award in 1993 and 1995, and the National Research Award 2021 from the National Research Council. He has authored more than 60 medical articles published in various local and international peer-reviewed journals and book chapters, such as the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Fertility and Sterility, and Stem Cell Research. His recent research has focused on epigenetics in human reproduction, assisted reproductive technology, and reproductive health policy.

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Dr. Nasuha Yaacob

Specialist in OB/GYN, and Member of Ministry of Health in National Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Policy, Malaysia

Lecture 3: Malaysia Experience – Situation of Fertility medicine in Malaysia as part of the population equation

An Obstetrician and Gynecologist, who is passionate in reproductive endocrinology, infertility treatments and prevention. Upon completed Masters in O&G(UKM), she further subspecialized in Reproductive Medicine & Infertility and returned to Ireland to train in Rotunda Hospital, Dublin in 2015-2016. She is an IMU, Trinity College Dublin and Harvard alumnus. She is a member of O&G Society of Malaysia (OGSM), European society in Reproductive Endocrinology (ESHRE) and was an Exco member of Malaysian Medical Relief Society (Mercy Malaysia). She is currently the Head of Reproductive Unit, HSNZ



Professor Tey Nai Peng

Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

Lecture 4: Malaysia Experience - Leveraging fertility counts for informed policy decision: The Case of Malaysia

TEY Nai Peng holds a Master Degree in Population Planning from the University of Michigan and a PhD from the University of Malaya. He began his career in 1974 as a statistician and then as research director at the National Population and Family Development Board (NPFDB), Malaysia. He left NPFDB in 1992 to join University of Malaya (UM) as an associate professor of applied statistics, where and he also served as the coordinator of the Population Studies Unit until 2018. Since his retirement in 2005, he has served as senior research fellow, and he is now a specialist at the Faculty of Business and Economics, UM. He is an adjunct professor at the Institute of Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand. He has been a Board member and chairman of the research committee of NPFDB since 2002. He was the project director to 30 national and sub-national demographic surveys. He served as consultant to various government and international agencies and companies. He has published 85 articles in journals and 50 book chapters, in addition to 10 edited books. He has presented papers at 150 local and international conferences. He has also organized many national conferences, seminars and training workshops. He has trained more than 4,000 students including supervising 55 Master theses and 5 PhD theses, He was a founder member of the Asian Population Association, Gerontology Society Malaysia, and Community Support Network. He is an international council member (Asia-Pacific Region) of IPUMS, and associate editors of Frontiers (Aging and Public Health), Institutions and Economies, Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities, and International Journal of Population Issues.

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Dr. Ho Manh Tuong

Secretary General, Ho Chi Minh City Society for Reproductive Medicine (HOSREM).

Lecture 5: Vietnamese Experience – The Fertility situation in Vietnam and launching Fertility Counts in Vietnam

Dr. Tuong M Ho has been working in the field of assisted reproductive technology since 1997, when he joined the first IVF team in Vietnam. He has both laboratory and clinical experience on assisted reproductive technology. He is now Head of IVFMD, My Duc Hospital, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, one of the largest and leading IVF centres in Viet Nam.

He is also the founder of IVFMD Group that is operating 8 IVF centres in Vietnam. Dr. Ho is Director of HOPE Research Centre, at My Duc Hospital, which is a leading research institution in clinical reproductive medicine in Asia. He and his group have had more than 70 publications in international journals including NEJM, The Lancet, Human Reproduction, Fertility and Sterility. His recent interests are frozen embryo transfer, in-vitro maturation of oocyte, PCOS and quality management in IVF.

Dr Ho was board member of the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE) from 2012-2021, and Vice President of ASPIRE (2018-2021). He is Associate Editor of Vietnamese Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. He serves as Secretary General for Ho Chi Minh City Society for Reproductive Medicine (HOSREM). He has been invited speakers in more than 50 international and regional congress, symposium.