

# The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology Newsletter



**AOSR**  
The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology



## *In Memoriam*

**Dr. Hemant Patel (1970 – 2025)**

Honorary Secretary of the AOSR



## President's Desk



**Dr. Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon, MD**

AOSR President

As we reach the midpoint of 2025, I write with both pride and sorrow. It is with deep sadness that we mourn the sudden passing of Dr. Hemant Patel, our esteemed Honorary Secretary. Dr. Patel was a tireless advocate for radiology across Asia and Oceania, serving AOSR with unwavering dedication, integrity, and warmth since joining the Council in 2021. His legacy of leadership and kindness will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all of us.

To honor his memory, we invited contributions for a special "In Memoriam" tribute which you see in this newsletter and the website.

### Catch us on...

(Cont'd on next page...)



## *Highlights*

President's Desk

Editor's corner

Footprints on the Sands of Time:  
In Memory of Dr Hemant Patel,  
AOSR Honorary Secretary

Getting to know your AOSR Councillor  
- Dr. Marc James DC delos Santos

Getting to know your AOSOR Youth Club  
Alumni - Dr Upuli Pahalawatta

The 1<sup>st</sup> AsiaSafe MRI Safety Webinar

Celebrations:  
Dr. Evelyn Ho - ACR Honorary Fellow

Dr. Jeong Min Lee - RSNA Lifetime  
Honored Educator Award

Dr. Kevin Fung - RSNA 2025 International  
Editorial Fellowship

*The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints or official policies of the AOSR.*

Amid this loss, we also celebrate the continued achievements of our community. One such moment of pride is the recent recognition of Dr. Evelyn Ho, AOSR Past President, who was honored as an Honorary Member of the European Society of Radiology (ESR) and an Honorary Fellow of the American College of Radiology (ACR). These accolades reflect her exceptional contributions to radiology and her commitment to global education and cooperation.

We remain focused on empowering future leaders. The AOSOR Youth Club 2025 will be held in Taipei from 10–13 September, offering young radiologists a unique opportunity for mentorship, leadership training, and international collaboration.

Our commitment to sustainability and safety continues through the AsiaSafe Webinar Series 2025, featuring:

- MRI Safety: Call for Action
- Enhancing Optimization Strategies in Radiological Practice

**Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSR) Emerging Trends Committee Webinar**  
(in collaboration with the AOSR Sustainability Working Group- SWG)

**Theme: First Steps Towards Sustainability**  
This webinar features a panel of esteemed experts who will share their knowledge & experiences. Engage in this thought-provoking session and get your pressing questions answered during the Q&A session/panel discussion.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

- 07:00 AM ET USA
- 04:30 PM IST
- 07:00 PM GMT+8

**Sign up now and be prepared to gain valuable insights!**  
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

**Who should attend?**  
Radiologists, Technologists/ Radiographers, Unit Managers, Administrators, Medical Physicists, nurses and assistants (all allied personnel) in radiology departments

**Why attend?**

- Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to enhance your understanding of sustainability in radiology and be part of the movement towards a greener future in healthcare.
- What are environmental sustainability and planetary health?
- Why is sustainability crucial for our profession and healthcare?
- How can sustainability be adopted in both low and high resource regions?
- What actions can individuals, departments, and centers take to start the sustainability journey?

**Speakers:**

- Dr. Evelyn Ho** (Moderator): AOSR Sustainability Working Group, AOSR Past President
- Dr. Reed Omary** (Moderator): Professor of Radiology & Biomedical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Founder & CEO, Greenwell Project, USA
- Dr. Hideki Ota**: Professor, Department of Diagnostic Imaging/Medical Center, Tohoku University Hospital, Japan
- Dr. Lingzhi (Lance) Hu**: Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of United Imaging Research, United Imaging Healthcare
- Dr. Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon**: AOSR President
- Dr. Gaurang Ravai**: Moderator

**ASIASAFE** **AOSR**  
The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology

**Speakers**

**MR Safety - Bridging the Gaps**

**Dr. Rijo Mathew Choorakuttil**  
AOSR MR Safety Ambassador, Anna Scans - Centre for Diagnosis, Kochi, India

**MR Safety - Our journey at Hong Kong Children's Hospital**

**Dr. Elaine Kan**  
AOSR MR Safety Ambassador, Chief of Radiology Services, Hong Kong Children's Hospital

**AsiaSafe MR Safety Call for Action Series**

**29<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2025**  
6:30 PM IST, 8:00 PM Thai time, 9:00 PM GMT +8

**WHY ATTEND?**  
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) safety is a critical concern in the Asia-Oceania region, as it is elsewhere in the world, due to the unique and complex MRI environment that demands attention. AsiaSafe, AOSR published a MR Safety Call for Action paper earlier in 2025. Come to find out more and also hear about the practical implementation of MR safety in the HK Children's Hospital.

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS**

**Dr. Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon**  
President, AOSR

**MODERATORS**

**Dr. Evelyn Ho** (Hon. Advisor & Past President, AOSR)  
**Emeritus Prof. Kwan Hoong Ng** (Chair, AsiaSafe)

[CLICK HERE](https://aosr.vidocto.com/)  
<https://aosr.vidocto.com/>

Additionally, the Emerging Trends Committee, in collaboration with the AOSR Sustainability Working Group, has hosted a special webinar titled “First Steps Towards Sustainability” on Saturday, July 19, 2025, bringing together global experts to explore radiology’s role in planetary health.

These initiatives reflect our shared values of innovation, education, and responsible leadership. I encourage all members to participate, contribute, and help shape a more inclusive and sustainable future for radiology in our region.

## Editor's corner

Dr. Kevin Fung, MBBS FRCR  
Hong Kong College of Radiologists



It brings me great pleasure to share with you our second AOSR Newsletter in 2025.

Our community mourns the loss of Dr Hemant Patel, the AOSR Honorary Secretary, whose sudden passing in July was deeply felt across Asia-Oceania. A tireless advocate for academic radiology and a steadfast bridge-builder, Dr. Patel embodied dedication, warmth and vision. He was a true inspiration for young radiologists. This issue includes a heartfelt tribute compiled by members of the AOSR, capturing the profound impact Hemant made on colleagues, friends, and the radiology community at large.

This edition also celebrates continued excellence by our AOSR councillors. Congratulations to Dr Evelyn Ho, AOSR Past President and Honorary Advisor, who was conferred the ACR Honorary Fellow Award 2025—one of the highest accolades from the American College of Radiology. Her achievements, alongside those of Prof. Jeong Min Lee, recipient of the RSNA Lifetime Honored Educator Award 2025, reflect their unwavering commitment to education, mentorship, and international collaboration.

We spotlight two remarkable individuals in our feature columns. Dr Marc James delos Santos, Co-Chair of the AOSR Education & Training Committee, shares his multifaceted journey in the “Getting to Know Your Councillor” section. From our AOSOR Youth Club alumni series, Dr Upuli Pahalawatta reflects on the leadership lessons and friendships formed during the 2023 Youth Club in Seoul—highlighting how such experiences can empower early-career radiologists to grow beyond the reading room and contribute to the wider radiological community.

As we continue the AsiaSafe webinar series and prepare for upcoming educational initiatives in sustainability, we are reminded of our shared mission to foster a safe, connected, and forward-thinking radiology community.

Thank you to all contributors. I hope this issue brings both inspiration and reflection.



*On a brighter note, I have completed my Pediatric IR Fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto!*

# Footprints on the Sands of Time:

## In Memory of Dr Hemant Patel, AOSR Honorary Secretary (18 Nov 1970– 7 July 2025)

Collated & Curated By Evelyn Ho, AOSR Past President & Gaurang Raval, AOSR Emerging Trends Committee Member on behalf of the AOSR community, 21 July 2025



The AOSR was shocked and sad to hear of Dr Hemant Patel's passing. Hemant was our AOSR Honorary Secretary 2025–2027. On the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025, he had just officiated and provided the welcome address at AsiaSafe's MRI Safety Call For Action Series Part 3 webinar. That was his last public appearance for the AOSR. Hear his message during the webinar at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y\\_skF6dPQQA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_skF6dPQQA).

Hemant was a tireless champion for the advancement of Radiology, a passionate advocate of the AOSR and a highly respected colleague.

A screenshot of a webinar slide titled "Welcome Address for the June 25, 2025, MRI Safety Webinar". The slide features the logos of AsiaSafe and AOSR at the top. Below the title, there are three small video thumbnails showing Dr Hemant Patel speaking. To the right, there is a detailed agenda for the webinar, including the date (25th June 2025, Wednesday), time (7:00PM IST to 8:00PM CAT+8), and the topic (Public Awareness &amp; Multidisciplinary Collaboration). The agenda also lists speakers, a moderator, and a registration link.

He joined the AOSR council in 2021 and was appointed as Chair to the then AOSR Education Committee. From 2023–2025, he held the position of the Honorary Treasurer. He was also the Past President (2019) of the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA) and subsequently the IRIA International Liaison Officer. He believed in building strong connections amongst the radiology community, whether locally (India), within the AOSR or internationally.

## *Hemant Patel in Action in Asia-Oceania and Beyond: Snapshots of Memories*



*Group photo with the AOSR General Assembly Delegates at the Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR) 2025 in Chennai, India. It is without doubt that the very hardworking host organizing committee had Hemant closely working with them to ensure this was an AOCR like no-other, and that all the delegates would take home memories to last a life time.*



*Hemant was soft spoken but always animated when articulating a point. These were captured at the new executive council meeting in January 2025, at the AOCR2025.*



*Then AOSR President, Noriyuki Tomiyama after the Opening Ceremony of the AOCR2025 in Chennai, India with some of the IRIA leadership. Hemant is on the far right.*

*Hemant believed in building bridges and during his time in the AOSR, he strengthened the IRIA-AOSR bond.*





*Hemant delivers a heartfelt message as AOSR Honorary Secretary after the AOSR Presidential handover at the AOCR2025.*

*The many facets of Hemant Patel – here having a quick ‘we-fie’ (group selfie) with delegates of the AOCR2025 during an evening event.*



*At the final AOCR2025 evening extravaganza -Neon Carnival on 25 Jan 2025 - Hemant was ‘rocking it’ with other AOSR officials, reflecting his fun-loving nature.*

### *Tributes to Hemant Sir...*

“Dr Hemant Patel was a deeply respected and beloved member of our radiology community. His tireless dedication to advancing academic radiology, his commitment to education and innovation, and his warm collegial spirit left a lasting impact across the region. His absence will be profoundly felt by all who had the privilege of working with him.”



***Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon, AOSR President 2025-2027***



“I am deeply saddened by the passing of Dr Hemant Patel. He is a remarkable leader, and his vision, strength, and commitment will be remembered with great respect and gratitude. I cannot forget his warm smile.”

***Noriyuki Tomiyama, Immediate Past President, AOSR 2025-2027***



“We have always admired Dr Hemant Patel’s courage and ability to handle anything. He was such an outstanding leader. We will never forget the valuable lessons we learned from him. After working closely with Dr Hemant Patel for the AOSR, we firmly believe he will continue to live on through us and give us unbelievable strength. He is so connected to us that he has become a part of us.”

**Yi-Hong Chou & Chiu Mei Tiu.**

**YH Chou is Director of the AOSOR since 2021, and an AOSR Past President 2016-2018.**

“Hemant Sir was like a dragon. We were like flies sitting on his back. He used to take us for wild adventures!! During the 8-9 years that I have known Sir, he has been a very inspiring figure to all, always.”

**Gaurang Raval, AOSR Emerging Trends Committee Member since 2021, AOSOR Youth Club 2019 Alumnus**



*(L) A treasured photo at the beginnings of Gaurang’s association with Hemant Patel, (centre) Hemant and Gaurang dancing the GARBA, a traditional Gujarati/Indian dance and (R) with Hemant and then Valerie Jackson at the RSNA2019.*



“A group photo with Dr Hemant Patel at the AOCR2023’s Gala Dinner, Bangkok. A reminder of the wonderful moment Dr Patel shared with all of us, and the Radiological Society of Thailand/Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand members. The Indian delegates had won the Best Traditional Costume for the congress dinner.”

**Wiwatana Tanomkiat, AOCR2023 Scientific Chair and AOSR Congress Committee Co-Chair 2025-2027**

“Dr Hemant Patel Sir was a true visionary and an inspiring leader. He carried the broadest of shoulders upon which several younger radiologists stood, allowing them to see further and rise above the ordinary. His loss is immense, shocking beyond belief and deeply heartbreaking. May his soul rest in peace.”



**Mohammed Shakeebuddin Kashif, AOSR PR & Communications Committee member 2025-2027 and AOSOR YC 2023 Alumnus**



“I am grateful for the opportunity to witness Hemant's drive and dedication to our profession through our work in the AOSR. He was bold and visionary and I saw for myself the deep respect that he commanded from the IRIA community during our brief but meaningful interaction at AOCR in Chennai in January this year. I would never have imagined that would have been the last I saw of him; his passing comes as a setback for me just as for everyone in AOSR. May everyone find comfort in the memories that celebrate his life and the legacy that he has left behind.”

**Cher Heng Tan, AOSR Honorary Treasurer 2025-2027**

*Hemant Patel, standing 3<sup>rd</sup> from left, and Murali Krishna, seated on the right at the signing of the agreement between the AOSR and IRLA Organizing Host of AOCR2025.*



“Dr Hemant Patel has been the guiding force of many young radiologists in India and I am one such person. He has been my friend, philosopher and guide - supporting me in every step I take and guiding my entire career. He had this vision of making IRIA the top 5 radiology associations in the world and has been working for the same for the past 10 years. IRIA's international presence over the past few years has been primarily his work and effort. The Shining Light of IRIA is gone, but we promise to fulfil all his dreams and aspirations.”

**L. Murali Krishna, AOCR2025 Organizing Secretary, AOSR PR & Communications Committee Member since 2021, AOSOR YC 2015 Alumnus, Past IRIA Secretary-General 2023**



“My association with Dr Hemant Patel goes a long way. I knew him before he became active in the IRIA. He was very helpful, loving, caring and always warm towards all and always liked to organise events at home and was very popular among all. He always gave due respect and was cordial. We all know his achievements at a personal, professional and association level. We expected many more things from him but God had other plans. We all are still shocked about his tragic demise. He will always be with us and guiding. Ameen”



**Jignesh Thakker, AOCR2018 Organizing Chair, Past President IRIA 2015**



“I first met Dr Hemant Patel when I joined the AOSR a few years ago. What struck me was the larger than human aura around him! He was always jovial, so happy to interact with anyone who greets him, and ever obliging. He had a razor-sharp intellect and wanted AOSR to grow further and was keen to promote the organisation in India and other countries. I will miss working with him on the Council.”

**Sanjay Jeganathan, Chair of the PR & Communications Committee since 2023.**



*The AOSOR Youth Club 2023 group photo with tutors, participants and host represented by Jeong Min Lee, then President of the Korean Society of Radiology and also President, Organizing Committee of KCR2023. Mir Mahin is standing far left.*

“Dr Hemant Patel, knowing me from his neighbouring country (Bangladesh), talked with me at the AOSOR Youth Club program like a family member, discussed on radiology-related issues of my country and gave me valuable advice on my work and career.”

**Mir Mahin Ashraf, AOSOR Youth Club 2023 Alumnus**

"I am very sad. Dr Hemant Patel's demise is a great loss for the IRIA as well as the AOSR. He was an extraordinary, another level type of leader. He would have been a great president for Asia-Oceania."

**Jeong Min Lee, Co-Chair of AOSR Education & Training Committee 2025-2027 (Past Chair 2023-2025), AOCR2022 Organizing Committee President.**



"My association with Dr Hemant Patel began during my radiology residency in Ahmedabad, where his friendliness and enthusiasm for radiology made him a beloved figure.

As a pioneer in MRI and entrepreneurial ventures, he earned recognition within the medical community.



As IRIA President, Dr Patel provided exceptional leadership and mentorship, supporting initiatives like Samrakshan, which I introduced in 2019. His vision for India's and Asia-Oceania's prominence in global radiology was inspiring.

Dr Patel worked tirelessly to promote radiology and elevate its status. His sudden passing has left an indelible void in the world of radiology. His legacy will continue to inspire us, and his dedication, vision, and passion for radiology will be cherished and remembered. I fondly recall our interactions and the bond we shared. Rest in peace, dear Dr Patel. Your impact will never be forgotten. Your leadership and mentorship will continue to guide us in the field of radiology.

**Rijo Mathew Choorakutti, AOSR's AsiaSafe MRI Safety Ambassador, AsiaSafer (AsiaSafe Committee member since 2021), Founder & 1<sup>st</sup> IRIA National Coordinator for Samrakshan, Founder & IRIA National Coordinator of Preventive Radiology.**



**DannyHY Cho,  
AOSR President-Elect  
2025-2027**

"I was deeply saddened to hear of Dr Hemant Patel's passing. Since 2021, I had the privilege of working alongside him on the AOSR Executive Council, where his dedication to the radiology profession shone brightly—both in India and across the Asia-Oceania region. Hemant was a true icon in the Indian radiology community, yet he remained remarkably humble and approachable. His warmth and camaraderie drew friends to him, and his hospitality made our experience at AOCR 2025 truly memorable. We will cherish his legacy as a visionary leader and strive to continue his mission of uniting the radiology community both regionally and globally. May you rest in peace, Dr Hemant Patel."



"I first met Dr Hemant Patel at the Chinese Congress of Radiology in November 2019 and soon after that at the RSNA 2019 where he was leading a large Indian delegation for the India Presents that year. He was often spotted with his signature brooch and had a presence with positive vibes he brought wherever he went, always affable, always ready to help. He built so many bridges amongst the radiology community wherever he went. May his legacy live on and inspire everyone to be better versions of themselves."

**Evelyn LM Ho, AOSR Honorary Advisor, Past President, AOSR e-Archives Project Lead, AsiaSafer**



## Leaving Footprints on the Sands of Time

Oh, Dear Bird! Keep Your Courage Up and Keep Flying  
by Mangal Naseem

परिदे हौसला कायम उड़ान में रखना  
परिदे हौसला कायम उड़ान में रखना  
हर इक निगाह तुझी पर है ध्यान में रखना

बलदियां तेरी हिम्मत को आजमाएगी  
पंरी में जान, नजर आसमान में रखना

हर इम्तिहान पे मंजिल करीब आती है  
हमेशा खुद को किसी इम्तिहान में रखना

तू बोलता है तो मिसरी सी घुलती जाती है  
यही मिठास हमेशा ज़बान में रखना

उड़ान भर के तेरी और आ रहा है ये  
तू इस परिदे को अपनी अमान में रखना

Bird, keep your courage up and keep flying  
Every eye is on you, keep that in mind

The heights will test your courage  
Keep life in your wings, keep your eyes (directed) on the sky

With every test the destination comes closer to you  
Always keep putting yourself to a test (during this lifetime)

When you speak, it seems like sugar dissolves in a drink  
Always keep this sweetness in your tongue (when you interact with others)

(Oh God! This bird:) It is flying towards you  
Keep this bird under your protection

Hemant shared the following poem by Mangal Naseem countless times, during his educational talks in India to inspire all to rise to greater heights through perseverance and resilience. It is reproduced here on a background of navy blue, which was his favourite colour.

The poem gives us a glimpse of this gentleman, a radiologist who was a visionary, mentor, leader and more as evidenced by the outpouring of tributes and messages. It is obvious Hemant Patel had touched and inspired the lives of many in the radiology community in India and abroad. Gone too soon, he will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by the AOSR community.

## Getting to know your AOSR Councillor

**- Dr, Marc James DC delos Santos, MD, FPCR**

*Co-Chair of the AOSR Education and Training Committee (2025-2027)*

James delos Santos is currently on his second term as the President of the Philippine College of Radiology (PCR) as well as his second term as member of the Health Technology Assessment Council of the Philippines. He also served as the Vice-President for External Affairs (2022-23) and for Internal Affairs (2021) and has become a member of the board of trustees of the PCR since 2016. He likewise served as the national chair of the PCR Residency Training Council from 2016 to 2023.



He graduated with the Doctor of Medicine at the University of the Philippines College of Medicine. Eventually he took his residency in diagnostic radiology at the Philippine General Hospital where he also underwent fellowship in CT and MRI body imaging.

As a diagnostic radiologist, he serves as department chair for Healthway Qualimed Hospital (SJDM), head for Healthway Qualimed Manila and is affiliated with Armed Forces of the Philippines Medical Center, Mediscan Diagnostic Center and PMP Diagnostic Center.



As a teacher and speaker, he has given lectures in a lot of national conventions for family medicine, internal medicine, emergency medicine, otorhinolaryngology and surgery as well as in numerous scientific meetings and conferences in the different chapters of the PCR.

James has a 'green thumb' working on different kind of plants during weekends. He is also a singer, being a member of a glee club/ choir from grade school to med school, as well as a painter (oil and pastel). In his free time, he loves to read fiction books by Steve Berry, Dan Brown, Kate Mosse and Amy Tan among his preferred authors. He is also a devout Roman catholic and collector of religious images especially of the Child Jesus.

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## Getting to Know your AOSOR Youth Club Alumni – Dr Upuli Pahalawatta

*The AOSOR Youth Club (YC) aims to provide an educational, social and academic program to foster future core leaders of the AOSR. Continuing this series, for this newsletter, we are delighted to present Dr Upuli Pahalawatta, FRANZCR. She is currently the Women's Imaging Fellow at Monash Health and also works as an honorary lecturer at the Central Coast Medical school, University of Newcastle*

### **When and where did you attend the AOSOR Youth Club?**

I attended the seventh AOSOR Youth Club (the first after COVID-19) in Seoul, in September 2023, meeting many like-minded radiologists keen to contribute to their home societies and AOSR.



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## **What was your biggest takeaway or the learning point or points from the YC?**

While all of us came from a variety of cultural backgrounds and levels of seniority, the issues we faced as radiologists and as members of our college organisations transcend geographic boundaries. Key learning points included differences in the skill and priorities to run a successful radiology department vs a successful society.

Discussing issues facing us as radiologists such as the developing role of AI, the role of the radiologist in modern clinical practice with others allowed for creative brainstorming and provided opportunities to share creative solutions.

## **Are you involved in any society or organization activity outside of your work as a radiologist? Be it locally or in regional or global organizations such as the AOSR?**

At the time I was at AOSOR, I was involved in the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists as a member of the Trainee committee, serving on the transition subcommittee, which explored the potential hurdles presented by changing the entire training program.

I also serve as a reviewer for the RANZCR: Journal of Medical Imaging and Oncology as well as a reviewer for The Clinical Teacher.

## **How has the YC helped prepare you for volunteering to serve in your home society or other related societies?**

The leadership skills taught as part of the AOSOR YC in 2023 were divided into general and society specific skills. Both skills categories have served me well in both my day-to-day work as a senior registrar and now a fellow. A deeper understanding of leadership skills provides insight into organisational processes which are often opaque. Having this insight enables me to explain college and departmental processes to other trainees and allied health colleagues in a clear and understandable manner.

The networking, support and friendship offered to me by my fellow attendees at the 2023 AOSOR YC have been wonderful and invaluable as I progress through my career. If I need any advice or mentorship, I know that help is only a single call or message away, for sage wisdom and unwavering support.



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## What is your message to anyone out there to inspire them to apply for or attend the AOSOR Youth Club?

As radiologists there are a lot of demands on our time, however, for some, participating exclusively in clinical work can lead to burn out. Contributing to a professional society, on any level, provides a sense of engagement with the profession and the global community which can allow you to feel empowered and improve matters for yourself, your trainees and your colleagues.

If you feel any guilt about taking time away from your clinical work, such as you feel like you are letting your patients down by participating in such programs, don't. The time, energy and skill you develop by participating in activities such as the AOSOR YC will empower you to make changes and overall improve outcomes for your department and your patients.



Participating in the AOSOR YC can show you that the issues you face in your work, in your department or in your society are global, and that there can be a way to improve policy and contribute to a better future.



# The 1<sup>st</sup> AsiaSafe MRI Safety Webinar, 29 April 2025

*By Dr Evelyn Ho, AsiaSafer,  
AOSR Honorary Advisor and Past President.*

To kick off the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) safety series from AOSR's AsiaSafe were two of AOSR's MRI Safety Ambassadors, speaking on 'MRI Safety: Bridging the Gap' and 'MRI Safety – Our Journey at Hong Kong Children's Hospital'.

**ASIASAFE** **AOSR**  
The Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology

**Speakers**

**MR Safety - Bridging the Gaps**

**Dr. Rijo Mathew Choorakuttil**  
AOSR MR Safety Ambassador,  
Amma Scans - Centre for Diagnosis,  
Kochi, India

**MR Safety - Our journey at Hong Kong Children's Hospital**

**Dr. Elaine Kan**  
AOSR MR Safety Ambassador,  
Chief of Radiology Services,  
Hong Kong Children's Hospital

**29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2025**  
6.30 PM IST, 8:00 PM Thai time,  
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**WHY ATTEND?**

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) safety is a critical concern in the Asia-Oceania region, as it is elsewhere in the world, due to the unique and complex MRI environment that demands attention. AsiaSafe, AOSR published a MRI Safety Call for Action paper earlier in 2025. Come to find out more and also hear about the practical implementation of MR safety in the HK Children's Hospital.

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS**

**Dr. Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon**  
President, AOSR

**MODERATORS**

**Dr. Evelyn Ho**  
Hon Advisor & Past President, AOSR

**Emeritus Prof. Kwan Hoong Ng**  
Chair, AsiaSafe

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<https://aosr.vidocto.com/>

Dr Rijo Mathew Choorakuttil is Chief Radiologist at Amma Scans – Centre for Diagnosis and Preventive Medicine in Kochi, Kerala. Dr Elaine Yee Ling Kan is Chief of Service, Department of Radiology and Hospital Coordinator, Quality and Safety Office in the Hong Kong Children's Hospital (HKCH). Our AOSR president, Dr Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon gave the inaugural address with a welcome message to the MRI safety series by Professor Kwan Hoong Ng, founder and chair of AsiaSafe since its inception.

AOSR AsiaSafe's 'Magnetic Resonance Imaging Safety in Asia-Oceania: Call for Action" paper was published online in January 2025 in the Japanese Journal of Radiology. It outlined ten critical points to enhance MRI safety practices. Dr Rijo Mathew provided an overview of these key points to help spark discussions on the practical challenges and gaps in implementing MRI safety protocols.

Dr Elaine Kan shared the setting up, installation and commissioning of MRI Equipment in the HKCH, where she was a vital member of the commissioning team of the Department of Radiology of Hong Kong Children's Hospital (HKCH) and has been with the HKCH since service commencement in Dec 2018. She also spoke on how environmentally sustainable practices were also incorporated. The team involved those outside of the radiology department and MRI suite with training provided more than once a year. In addition, there was a "dedicated" cleaner/cleaning service for the MRI suite. This practice allowed the "cleaner" to be trained in MRI safety and regularly updated.



A robust question and answer session for the panel of speakers and moderators ensued which extended beyond time, but the questions and comments were insightful. MRI safety is important, and MRI incidents are blind to whether the MRI is sited in a high, middle or low resource region. Just a week prior to the webinar, media reported that in Finland, a floor scrubber was sucked into the MRI – fortunately no one was injured but the costs of repair to the MRI machine is at the time of this writing, estimated to hit 7 figures (Euro). More recently, a man who was wearing weight-training type of metal chain entered MR zone 4 and was pulled into a MRI machine, resulting in critical injuries and death.

The webinar lasted 1.5 hours and began at 6.30pm Indian Standard Time (9pm GMT+8). There were 150 attendees from 16 countries, 2 of whom were from outside Asia-Oceania. (322 had registered from 22 different countries, who would have been able to view the webinar for 2 weeks on the private platform.) Sixty-nine (69) answered the online feedback form at the end of the webinar. There was overwhelmingly positive feedback with 97% finding the webinar useful. More than 90% agreed that the speakers were clear, easy to understand and the content of their presentations were applicable to their practice.



## About the AsiaSafe MRI Safety Call for Action Webinar Series

The MRI Safety webinar series aims to highlight the importance of MRI safety and sharing of best practices, promote a culture of safety and excellence in radiology departments and imaging facilities.

AsiaSafe appeals to everyone to work together and respond to the call to action to improve MRI safety and reduce risks for patients and personnel.

The time to act is NOW.

Put Patients First, Be (Asia)Safe!

*For more information:*

*Websites:*

*AOSR MR Safety <https://www.theaosr.org/safety/mr-safety>*

*AsiaSafe <https://asiasafe.org/>*

*MRI Safety videos at <https://www.youtube.com/@aosr>*

# Magnetic Resonance Imaging Safety: Call for Action

**Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) safety** is a critical concern in the Asia-Oceania region, as it is elsewhere in the world, due to the unique and complex MRI environment that demands attention. This call-for-action outlines **ten critical steps** to enhance MRI safety and promote a culture of responsibility and accountability in the Asia-Oceania region. Key focus areas include strengthening education and expertise, improving quality assurance, fostering collaboration, increasing public awareness, and establishing national safety boards. By implementing these actions, we aim to **significantly reduce** MRI-related incidents and create a **culture of safety** across diverse healthcare settings in the Asia-Oceania Region. To address the growing concern of MRI safety, we urge the following ten-point call for action:

- 1 Increase educational initiatives**
- 2 Elevate expertise: organize continuous education, training and certification**
- 3 Enhance public awareness and education**
- 4 Encourage multidisciplinary collaboration**
- 5 Promote knowledge and experience sharing**
- 6 Strengthen quality assurance programmes**
- 7 Practice effective communication**
- 8 Nurture a safety and no-blame culture**
- 9 Monitor advancements in interventional procedures**
- 10 Establish national MRI safety boards / committees**

## American College of Radiology Honorary Fellow Award 2025: Congratulations to Dr Evelyn Ho



Heartiest congratulations to Dr. Evelyn Ho, our esteemed AOSR past president and current AOSR Honorary Advisor, on being one of the three recipients of the ACR Honorary Fellow Award this year. These prestigious awards recognize the recipients' exceptional contributions to the field of radiology and were presented at the ACR 2025 Annual Meeting, held at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC, from May 3-7, 2025. The convocation ceremony took place on the evening of May 4.

## 2025 RSNA Lifetime Honored Educator Award: Congratulations to Prof. Jeong Min Lee



We are delighted to announce that Prof. Jeong Min Lee has been awarded the 2025 RSNA Lifetime Honored Educator Award by the Radiological Society of North America.

This prestigious distinction recognizes RSNA members who have demonstrated sustained excellence in radiology education, having earned four RSNA Honored Educator Awards.

Prof. Lee's contributions through scholarly publications, international teaching, mentorship, and leadership in education exemplify the values of academic radiology.

## 2025 RSNA International Editorial Fellowship: Congratulations to Dr. Kevin Fung



We are proud to congratulate Dr. Kevin Fung on his selection as the 2025 RSNA International Editorial Fellow.

This prestigious fellowship offers early- to mid-career radiologists outside North America a unique opportunity to gain in-depth, hands-on experience in radiologic publishing and peer review with the editorial teams of RSNA's leading journals. Dr. Fung's dedication to academic radiology and scholarly communication makes him an outstanding ambassador for our region in this global editorial initiative.



## ENHANCING OPTIMIZATION STRATEGIES IN RADIOLOGICAL PRACTICE WEBINAR SERIES 2025



8.00 AM USA Eastern Standard Time  
 5.30 PM India Standard Time  
 7.00 PM Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia  
 8.00 PM Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippine  
 9.00 PM Japan, South Korea  
 9.30 PM Australian Central Standard Time

### Who should attend?

- Radiologists
- Medical physicists
- Radiographers and technologists
- Healthcare professionals and educators

### Why attend?

- **Gain practical strategies** to optimize radiation dose without compromising image quality.
- **Learn from** real-world solutions and the latest best practices.
- **Enhance patient safety** by implementing evidence-based approaches across imaging modalities.
- **Apply global standards locally**, with tips tailored for both advanced and resource-limited settings.



**Scan To Register**



**Emeritus Prof Kwan  
Hoong Ng.**  
AsiaSafe Chair



**Assoc Prof Nucharin  
Supakul**  
Program Director

Date	Topics ( 1 to 1.5hours)	Speakers
7 <sup>th</sup> June, 2025	DRLs Revisited	Assoc. Prof. Samuel Brady, MS, PhD, DABR, FAAPM
5 <sup>th</sup> July, 2025	CT Dose Optimization: Balancing Image Quality with Patient Safety	Assoc. Prof. Samuel Brady, MS, PhD, DABR, FAAPM Dr. Yon Cheong Wong, MD
2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug, 2025	Optimizing Dose in IR: Tools and Techniques	Assoc. Prof. Samuel Brady, MS, PhD, DABR, FAAPM Mr. Edward Chan, FHKCRRT, CPHIMS, MSc, MSSc, BSc
6 <sup>th</sup> Sep, 2025	Back to Basics: Achieving Quality and Efficiency in DR/CR	Assoc. Prof. Samuel Brady, MS, PhD, DABR, FAAPM Dr. Amel Antony, MD, DNB
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2025	Optimizing Mammography: Image Quality and Dose	Assoc. Prof. Samuel Brady, MS, PhD, DABR, FAAPM Dr. Sze Yiun Teo, MBBS, FRCR
1 <sup>st</sup> Nov, 2025	Implementation into Clinical Practice	Assoc. Prof. Samuel Brady, MS, PhD, DABR, FAAPM



## The AOSR Executive Council

### Executive Council 2025-2027

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Chamaree CHUAPETCHARASOPON  
Radiological Society of Thailand

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Japan Radiological Society

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Constitution, Nomination & Awards  
Committee Chair  
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Hong Kong College of Radiologists

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Indian Radiological and Imaging  
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College of Radiologists

#### Quality, Safety and Standards

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#### AOSR Office Director

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Korean Society of Radiology

Asian Oceanian School of Radiology  
(AOSOR) Director  
2024 - 2027

Yi Hong CHOU  
Chinese Taipei Society of Radiology

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College of Radiology,  
Academy of Medicine of Malaysia

Lilian LEONG  
Hong Kong College of Radiologists

Byung Ihn CHOI  
Korean Society of Radiology