

APSS BASIC SPINE COURSE 2025
4-5th October 2025
Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Asia Pacific Spine Society (APSS) together with Spine Research Unit (SRU) had organized the APSS Basic Spine Course on the 4-5th October 2025 (Saturday & Sunday) in Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This course was designed for Orthopaedic surgeons and trainees who are keen to expand their knowledge on the basic surgical principles for spine surgery. The lecture topics and saw bone workshops were planned to cover common spine surgical procedures. There was a total of 12 lecture topics which covered the basic surgical principles of spine surgery. Esteemed international faculties from APSS as well as the local hosts conveyed the lectures and demonstrated the surgical techniques through saw bone workshops. The local faculties were Professor Dato' Dr. Kwan Mun Keong, Professor Dr. Chris Chan Yin Wei, Associate Professor Dr. Chiu Chee Kidd, Dr Teo Yian Young and Dr. Jayamalar Thurairajasingam. The international faculties were Professor Dr Chang Dong-Gune (South Korea), Professor Dr Pankaj Kandwal (India) and Dr Yudha Mathan Sakti (Indonesia).

There were 35 participants joined the course which consisted of orthopaedic surgeons and master trainees from East and West Malaysia, as well as overseas (Singapore). The first 2 hours of the course was basic principles of spine surgery lectures by the local and international speakers. The session was then followed by the first saw bone workshop which demonstrated; lumbar decompression, pedicle screws insertion, transforaminal lumbar interbody fusion and thoracolumbar fracture reduction techniques. During the saw bone the workshop, participants were randomly divided into 6 groups, each group consist of 5 to 6 participants accompanied by one instructor.

The second half of the course was continued by lecture topics related to cervical surgery and bone graft. In the second saw bone workshop, techniques on anterior cervical discectomy fusion, cervical laminectomy, cervical lateral mass fixation and C1/2 Fixation were demonstrated.



Dr Yudha interacting with audience during his lecture on Thoracolumbar Fractures



Prof. Chang Dong-Gune giving lecture on Anterior Approach to Lumbar Fusion



Prof. Pankaj Kandwal conveying his lecture on Biomechanics of the Spine & Spinal Implants



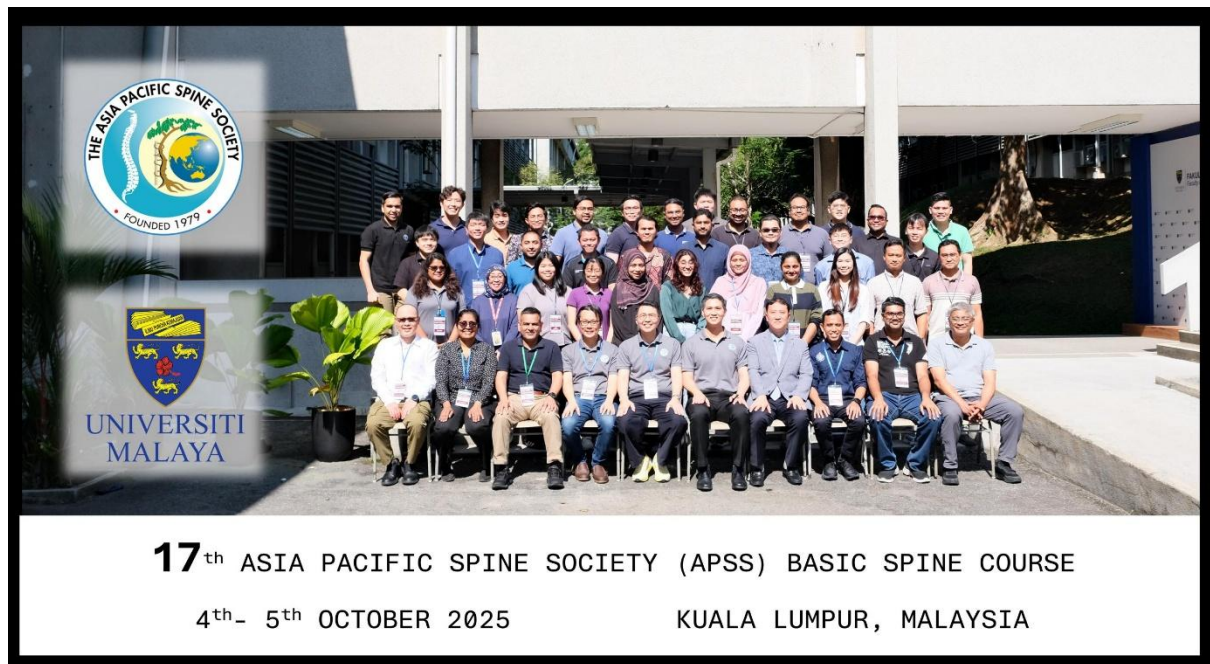
Saw bone workshop demonstrations by Professor Chang, Dr Yudha, and Professor Pankaj



Faculty appreciation dinner at The Khan's Indian Cuisine, Bangsar South



Faculty social night at The Vertigo, Banyan Tree Hotel, Kuala Lumpur



Official group photo of the local host and faculties, along with the course participants

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to Prof Dr. Wong Yat Wa, the APSS President for his support to the enablement and organization of this course. We would also like to express deepest gratitude to our industrial partners, DePuy Synthes for their continuous support of our educational activities throughout the years.

Thank you.

(Professor Dr Chris Chan Yin Wei)
Organizing Chairman