

EGb 761® Stole the Show Again at Prestigious Regional Conference – 13th ASAD 2019

28 – 31 Aug 2019, Shangri-La Hotel Singapore

Barry Ang

Dr Willmar Schwabe Pharmaceuticals (Germany) and Schwabe Pharma Asia Pacific (SPAP) collaborated to participate in the 13th Asian Society Against Dementia (ASAD) Conference 2019 in Singapore, with a central theme on *“EGb 761® – A Novel Approach From Prodromal to Dementia (Critical Look into BPSD and CVD)”*.

Being the most important dementia event in the region, ASAD 2019 attracted around 650 delegates from the region. Schwabe, together with our partners sponsored a total of 155 delegates. This conference has provided a perfect platform for Schwabe to present the latest scientific findings on EGb761® in dementia and mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

Various scientific programs were organized by SPAP throughout the congress period to build on the key messages of EGb761® in the management of dementia and MCI with BPSD and cerebrovascular disease (CVD):

1. The **KOL Workshop** provided our delegates with background clinical data on EGb 761®, and built the foundation for understanding the full clinical efficacies and advantages of EGb 761® in dementia and MCI management.
2. Our **Lunch Symposium** delivered the most up-to-date clinical findings on EGb 761® in dementia and MCI with BPSD & CVD. The first speaker, Prof. Serge Gauthier (Canada) spoke about *“Improving Outcomes in Alzheimer’s Disease Treatment – BPSD and CVD as Important Effect Modifiers”* and emphasized that EGb 761® confers the broadest effect in the treatment of BPSD. The second speaker, Assoc. Prof. Nagaendran Kandiah (Singapore) shared on the current evidence & promising effects of EGb 761® in MCI with CVD & neuropsychiatric symptoms (NPS). Supported by evidence from prospective studies, EGb 761® is recommended for the treatment of AD (±CVD), VaD, BPSD and MCI. Separate video interviews with the speakers were conducted to further capture the most pertinent points from the lunch symposium.
3. The Schwabe Hospitality Suite provided a conducive environment for Schwabe staff and partners to interact with KOLs and in-depth discussions on EGb 761®. We have also taken the opportunity to showcase the development of EGb 761® in terms of production & total quality control. An EGb 761® exhibition booth was also set-up to display and give out scientific materials of EGb 761® in dementia and MCI to the delegates.
4. EGb 761® gained further recognition in improving cognitive function when Prof Cui Mei won the Oral Presentation Award for her poster presentation entitled *“Ginkgo biloba Extract EGb 761® Improves Cognitive Function and Overall Condition in Patients after an Ischaemic Stroke: Results from a Pilot Study”*.
5. As a final highlight of the series of events in ASAD 2019, the second advisory board meeting of the **ASian Clinical Expert Group on Neurocognitive Disorders (ASCEND 2)** was organized to review the role of EGb 761® in the treatment of MCI with CVD & NPS with the objective of developing a regional consensus statement to facilitate the Asian countries in formulating strategies for the management and treatment of MCI. The series of well-coordinated activities has culminated into a positive advisory board outcome, targeting at a second consensus publication from the ASCEND Group.

Prior to the conference, a ceremony was also held for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Singapore National Neuroscience Institute (NNI) and Dr Willmar Schwabe Pharmaceuticals to begin a two-year collaboration investigating the clinical efficacy of EGb 761® in the management of MCI, and whether it can potentially prevent MCI patients with CVD from progressing to dementia. In addition, the clinical investigation team will also assess the effect of EGb 761® on the quality of life of the patients.



National Neuroscience Institute, senior consultant, Associate Professor Nagaendran Kandiah (first from right), Medical Director Associate Professor Ng Wai Hoe (second from left), with Schwabe Group Clinical Research Director Robert Hoerr (first from left) and Head of International Markets Peter Braun signed a 2-year Memorandum of Understanding.







ASCEND 2 Participants

From left to right: A.Prof Encarnita Raya-Ampil, Dr Anam Ong, Prof Young Chul Youn, Dr Fee Mann Yong, A.Prof Jacqueline Dominguez, A.Prof Panita Limpawattana, Prof Sang Yun Kim, Dr Nor 'Izzati Binti Saedon, Prof Seol-Heui Han, Prof Ralf Ihl, Prof Siti Setiati, A.Prof Nagaendran AL Kandiah, Prof Serge Gauthier (special guest), Prof Jianping Jia, Dr Harjot Singh, Dr Li Ling Ng, A.Prof Christopher Chen, A.Prof Chuthamanee (Charuchinda) Suthisisang, Dr Yee Fai Chan, A.Prof Vorapun Senanarong (Devahastin), A.Prof Darwin Dasig, A.Prof Toan Dinh Nguyen, Dr Yuda Turana, Dr Tong Mai Trang.
(Not in picture: Dr Narayanaswamy Venketasubramanian Ramani)