

2nd London International Thyroid Forum

DATE 12-13 June 2015 **VENUE** The Royal College of Surgeons of England, London, UK **REPORT BY** George Garas BSc(Hons) MBBS(Dist) MRCS(Eng) DOHNS, ENT SpR, Nottingham University Hospitals & Honorary Clinical Lecturer, Imperial College London, UK



The 2nd London International Thyroid Forum followed on from the very successful International Multidisciplinary Thyroid & Parathyroid Meeting which took place in 2011. Co-organised by Endocrine Surgeons, Mr Neil Tolley (St Mary's Hospital) and Mr Fausto Palazzo (Hammersmith Hospital) this two-day forum proved of great educational value.

The first day involved a practical course on ultrasonography for the thyroid surgeon. It consisted of lectures covering the basics of ultrasonography and FNA technique as well as specimen preparation for cytology. The lectures were given by Dr Gitta Madani, Consultant Head & Neck Radiologist from St. Mary's Hospital. Each lecture was followed by a hands-on practical where delegates were given the opportunity to practise these techniques under the guidance of experts in the field.

The second day involved a series of lectures and expert panel multidisciplinary team (MDT) discussions. The faculty consisted of world-renowned thyroid surgeons and endocrinologists including Prof Gregory Randolph (Harvard Medical School), Prof Ian Hay (Mayo Clinic), Prof Jeremy Freeman (University of Toronto), and past President of the British Association of Endocrine & Thyroid Surgeons, Mr Barney Harrison (Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield).

Mr Neil Tolley gave an outstanding lecture on 'New horizons in Thyroid Surgery' presenting numerous technological



(L-R) Prof Gregory Randolph (Harvard Medical School) with George Garas (Imperial College London).

Mr Neil Tolley (Imperial College London) lecturing on new horizons in thyroid surgery.

advances in the field of thyroid surgery such as single port minimally invasive robotic surgery and computational fluid dynamics in the preoperative evaluation of the airway in patients with retrosternal goitre.

Another brilliant lecture was given by Mr Guri Sandhu from the National Centre for Airway Reconstruction at Charing Cross Hospital on the trachea and thyroid cancer. Mr Sandhu presented numerous techniques to deal with this complex problem depending on the extent of tracheal involvement complemented by several videos.

There were also ample panel MDT discussions of challenging real-life clinical scenarios which were interactive involving not only the panel, but also members of the audience who were invited to ask questions and contribute to the decision making.

The next meeting- date to be confirmed for 2017.

"Overall, this international thyroid forum was of immense educational value covering everything from diagnostics, surgical technique, thyroid oncology, and controversies in thyroid cancer."



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ENT Masterclass 'Down Under!'

DATE: 24-25 July 2015 **VENUE:** Australian School of Advanced Medicine, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia **REPORT BY:** Mr M S Quraishi FRCS, Consultant ENT Surgeon, Doncaster, UK.



Sydney was once again the befitting setting for the 2nd Annual ENT Masterclass 'Australia' and for the inaugural ENT Nursing Masterclass.

Dr Faruque Riffat (Co-ordinator, ENT Masterclass Australia) along with his colleagues Prof Carsten Palme and Dr Daniel Novakovic hosted a galaxy of laryngologists from all over the world for a day of clinical excellence. Prof Andrew Blitzer started the session with a true Masterclass talk on the practicalities of office based laser laryngeal surgery. Prof Marshall Strome had the audience at the edge of their seats, sharing his rich experience of cryotherapy in the treatment of laryngeal cancer. The high and mighty of the world of laryngology followed one after the other. Prof Petra Ambrosch once again reminded us of the



Prof Petra Ambrosch: pushing the frontiers of laser laryngeal surgery

remarkable outcomes achievable with transoral laryngeal laser cancer therapy. Craig Zalvan, Tanya Meyer and Theo Athanasladis from New York and Australia followed with excellent talks on laryngeal augmentation and framework surgery. The post lunch session covered robotic surgery swallowing and airway stenosis. The world of laryngology was at its best.

Day two and the ENT Nursing Masterclass was standing room only! Almost a hundred delegates filed in for a comprehensive day of topics ranging from anaesthetic challenges for the ORL patients to laser safety and navigation in anterior skull base surgery. The afternoon was dedicated to a variety of popular hands-on workshops. The day ended with

a vote of thanks by Mr Marin Duvnjak, ENT Nurse Practitioner and co-organiser of the event.



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shquraishi@entmasterclass.com



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