14TH CONGRESS OF ASIA PACIFIC LEAGUE OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR RHEUMATOLOGY
11-15 July 2010, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Era of Biologics in the Asian Pacific Region

Important Deadlines:
Abstract Submission: 28 February 2010
Early Bird Registration: 30 April 2010

For further information, please visit:
www.aplar2010.com
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Welcome Message from the President of APLAR

It is my great pleasure and honor to invite you to attend the 14th Congress of APLAR to be held between July 11 – 15 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

On behalf of the Executive Committee and members of all the national societies of APLAR, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the organizing committee of Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology for hosting this meaningful meeting.

The last meeting, 13th APLAR Congress, concluded successfully in 2008 in Yokohama, Japan. More than 3,000 participants from 80 countries took part in this global forum.

For the past 40 years, APLAR Congress has been progressing rapidly not only in clinical practice but also in various research areas of basic and clinical medicine in the field of Rheumatology.

Undoubtedly, the 14th APLAR Congress will present outstanding scientific programs featuring many world-famous distinguished speakers in symposia of clinical trials of many new biologics, innovative researches and oral presentations, and attractive social programs for all participants. This biannual congress of APLAR will provide every attendee an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas as well as to foster friendship with each other.

We are extending a warm welcome to all participants in this exclusive meeting in Hong Kong.

Please join us and enjoy our coming Congress!

Prof. Ho-Youn KIM  
President of APLAR

Welcome Message from the Immediate Past President of APLAR

As the immediate past president of APLAR and someone who was brought up in Hong Kong, I have double pleasure to invite you to the 14th APLAR Congress of Rheumatology to be held in July 2010 in Hong Kong.

The APLAR Congress of Rheumatology is a primary platform for the promotion of the diagnosis and management of rheumatic diseases in Asia. It allows clinicians and scientists from the region to showcase their research achievements, and encourages sharing of information with the rest of the world on the burden and management of musculoskeletal diseases. It also provides a great opportunity for medical and allied health personnel to interact with patients and stakeholders of health funding bodies and the industries. The Congress has grown steadily and significantly over the years both in the number of participants and abstracts and the scope of the scientific programs. It is indeed an honor of Hong Kong that APLAR has selected this vibrant city to host the 14th APLAR Congress of Rheumatology. The intended program will cover a broad range of topics on basic science, translational medicine and clinical innovations, with an emphasis on the role of biologic therapies in the management of rheumatic diseases.

Located in the south coast of China, Hong Kong is one of the two special administrative regions of China, and a gateway to the rest of the country. It is one of the world’s leading financial centers, and is proud of the high quality and efficient health care system that it provides its citizens. Medical research has a long history in Hong Kong, particularly, there is a rich pool of clinical and research expertise in the field of rheumatology. Besides the above, Hong Kong is one of the most unique cities in the world where East meets West, a meeting which is reflected in its inhabitants, their customs, economic infrastructure, education and culture. On one street corner, there may be traditional Chinese shops selling Chinese herbal medicine or Buddhist paraphernalia, but around the next, one may find theaters showing the latest Hollywood blockbuster, an English-style pub, or a Catholic Church.

The 14th APLAR Congress of Rheumatology promises to be a great meeting for clinicians and scientists involved in the management of people with rheumatic diseases, and an excellent opportunity for them and their family to visit this fascinating city of Hong Kong. Join us in 2010.

Prof. Chak Sing LAU  
Immediate Past President (2006 - 2008)
Welcome Message from the Chairman of Host Organizing Committee

Welcome to Hong Kong and welcome to the 14th Asia Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology (APLAR) Congress, which will be held in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 11 to 15 July 2010.

The biennial APLAR Congress is the premiere educational event in rheumatology in the Asia Pacific region. We envisage that the 2010 APLAR Congress will attract broad interest as many new treatment modalities have become available for inflammatory arthritis and connective tissue disease. The meeting will concentrate on new insights on pathogenesis and therapeutics of rheumatology and related subspecialties. Internationally recognized keynote speakers will discuss recent advances in arthritis care and selected abstracts will be presented.

Concurrent symposia on rehabilitation and nursing care for arthritis patients will be held during the Hong Kong Congress. Members of the allied health professionals, including nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, will discuss new development in the treatment and care of patients suffering from rheumatic disease.

Hong Kong is easily accessible by air from almost all Asia Pacific countries. Delegates from mainland China can travel to Hong Kong by train. An attractive social program will enable our delegates and their family members to enjoy the city, where the East meets the West. Hong Kong is a vibrant cosmopolitan city with unique opportunities for sightseeing, shopping, dining and entertainment.

The Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology would like to warmly invite you to participate in the 14th APLAR Congress and looks forward to welcoming you to Hong Kong in 2010.

Dr. Tak Hin CHAN
Chairman, Host Organizing Committee, Hong Kong 2010 APLAR Congress

Welcome Message from the President of the Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology

I would like to welcome you all to the 14th Asia Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology (APLAR) Congress which will be held in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 11th to 15th of July, 2010.

Since its establishment in 1988, the Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology has been promoting rheumatology in Hong Kong. Our missions are to foster interest in the Rheumatology specialty among rheumatologists, non-rheumatology specialists, nurses, allied health care professionals and the public; improve the standard of care of patients with rheumatological disorders; and to liaise with organizations, associations, societies and medical schools in Hong Kong, mainland China, Taiwan, other Asia Pacific countries and overseas countries. These are achieved through regular scientific symposia, educational courses for doctors, trainees, specialists, health care professionals and the public, joint activities with societies, organizations and patients’ self-help groups of our locality and other geographical areas. We also publish a biannual Hong Kong Bulletin on Rheumatic Diseases and have established a scholarship for rheumatology fellows to attend overseas training in rheumatology. We also conduct audits on the quality of the rheumatology service and make recommendations for the management of different rheumatic conditions.

We are honored to host the APLAR 2010 Congress in Hong Kong. This 2-yearly meeting provides an opportunity for clinicians and scientists from the Asia Pacific region to exchange their research data and ideas. Through review lectures, courses, workshops and scientific symposia, we hope the APLAR 2010 will provide rheumatologists and other physicians a useful update on the pathogenesis, pathophysiology and therapeutics of various autoimmune diseases and chronic arthritic conditions. Programs for nurses and allied health care professionals will also be arranged. A number of renowned speakers from mainland China, Taiwan, other countries of the Asia Pacific region and western countries have been invited and sessions on clinical and basic research abstracts will provide young fellows and investigators a chance to present their hard work and collaborate with others.

Hong Kong is a city where the eastern and western culture meets. It is also a wonderful place for sightseeing, shopping, eating and leisure. We look forward to meeting you all in Hong Kong in year 2010.

Dr. Chi Chiu Mok
President, Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology
“Era of Biologics in the Asian Pacific Region”

Hong Kong, a city where the East meets the West, is an excellent place for exchange of clinical and research experience in the Asian Pacific region. The major advancement in the management of rheumatological diseases in the past decade is brought about by the emergence of the biological agents. Currently, there are more than 30 biologics that have either been incorporated into routine clinical protocols or are still undergoing their last phase of clinical trials in various rheumatic diseases. With the huge population in Asia, we are anticipating an exponential increase in the utilization of these biological agents in the coming years. The success of these agents has also led to an increase in basic scientific research into the mechanisms and pathogenesis of diseases. The APLAR 2010 Congress is designed to provide a balanced program that will meet the needs of the clinical rheumatologists and basic scientists. Emphasis will also be placed on the Asian Pacific experience of the management of major rheumatic diseases like rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriatic arthritis and osteoporosis. Review courses, workshops, plenary and concurrent sessions, as well as scientific abstract presentation will be organized to provide mentorship and stimulate critical thinking and discussion on various clinical and basic science topics.

We hope that the APLAR 2010 Congress will bring new insights and knowledge to the adult and pediatric rheumatologists, scientists, nurse specialists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other allied health professionals.
Day 1, 11 July (Sunday)

Pre-Congress Review Courses:
1. ACR Review Course for Clinicians (free for full and day delegates)
2. APLAR Basic Science Course (free for full and day delegates)
3. APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology (additional registration fee is required)

Opening Ceremony
Keynote Lecture: Excellence in Medicine and Rheumatology-Enter the Dragon!
Welcome Reception

Day 2, 12 July (Monday)

Plenary Session: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)
Concurrent Sessions (morning and afternoon)
Oral Abstract Presentation
Workshop: Conducting Research in APLAR Region

Lunch Symposium (Sponsored by Roche)
Evening Symposium (Sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb)

Day 3, 13 July (Tuesday)

Plenary Session: Osteoporosis
Concurrent Sessions (morning and afternoon)
Oral Abstract Presentation
Workshop: Reading & Interpretation of Plain Radiographs, DEXA and MRI

Lunch Symposium (Sponsored by Janssen)
Lunch Symposium (Sponsored by MSD)
Congress Dinner

Day 4, 14 July (Wednesday)

Plenary Session: Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)
Concurrent Sessions (morning and afternoon)
Oral Abstract Presentation

Lunch Symposium (Sponsored by Abbott)
Lunch Symposium (Sponsored by Rottapharm Madaus)

Day 5, 15 July (Thursday)

Plenary Session: Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS)
Concurrent Sessions (morning)
Closing Ceremony (noon)
Pre-Congress Review Courses

1. ACR Review Course for Clinicians
   Date: 11 July
   Fee: Free for full and day delegates
   Seats are limited, pre-registration is required.

2. APLAR Basic Science Course
   Date: 11 July
   Fee: Free for full and day delegates
   Seats are limited, pre-registration is required.

3. APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology
   From basic to intermediate
   Date: 9-11 July
   Language of teaching: English
   No. of delegates: Limited to 60 persons
   (registered on a first come, first served basis)
   Fees: HK$4,000/ US$500 (if registered before 15 April)
   HK$4,600 / US$600 (if registered after 15 April)

   Content:
   1. Overview & development of MSK USG
   2. Artefacts and pitfalls in USG
   3. Applications of MSK USG in Rheumatology
   4. Training and skill acquisition in MSK USG
   5. USG findings in normal joints
   6. USG findings in common rheumatic diseases
      • RA
      • Spondyloarthritis
      • Osteoarthritis (OA)
   7. Hand-on sessions
      • Normal subjects and patients with pathology
      • Simple USG guided intervention training

Plenary Sessions

12 July
Rheumatoid Arthritis
   • Overview of biological therapies in RA
   • Is remission possible in RA?
   • Pathogenesis of RA

13 July
Osteoporosis
   • Osteoporosis: the scope of the problem in the Asian Pacific region
   • Update on the treatment of osteoporotic fractures
   • Genetic and environmental determinants of osteoporosis

14 July
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
   • Therapies of SLE: what have we achieved and what are our future targets?
   • Update on B cell therapies in SLE
   • Genetics in SLE

15 July
Ankylosing Spondylitis
   • Immunopathogenesis of AS
   • Classification criteria for AS: what is new?
   • Update on the novel therapies of AS
## Concurrent Sessions

### Clinical

**Rheumatoid Arthritis**
- Special issues on the safety of TNF blockers:
  - Prevention of latent tuberculosis (TB) reactivation in areas of high TB burden
  - Prevention of hepatitis B flare
  - Malignancy and other adverse reactions - data from patient registry
- Biological therapies of RA: beyond TNF blockade
- Use of biological therapies in the Asian Pacific region
- Biology of IL-6 and its blockade in clinical practice

**Systemic Lupus Erythematosus**
- Basic mechanisms of atherosclerosis and the role of the immune system
- New avenues in the antiphospholipid antibody syndrome
- Cardiovascular morbidity of SLE: results of an international cohort
- Lupus nephritis forum
- Epidemiology and survival of SLE in Hong Kong
- Infection in SLE
- Cognitive impairment in SLE

**Ankylosing Spondylitis**
- Efficacy of NSAIDs in the prevention of structural progression in AS
- Sequential therapy of AS with anti-TNF and thalidomide
- Enthesitis related juvenile idiopathic arthritis

**Vasculitis**
- Update on the management of Behcet’s disease
- Update on the diagnosis and management of large vessel vasculitis
- Management of Kawasaki disease

**Fibromyalgia**
- Advances in the treatment of fibromyalgia

**Scleroderma**
- Scleroderma lung disease
- Pulmonary hypertension in scleroderma
- Management of gastrointestinal manifestations in scleroderma

### Orthopedics
- The bone and joint decade 2010 and beyond – the impact on translational research in musculoskeletal disorders
- Orthopedic management of RA
- Orthopedic management of AS

### Imaging in Rheumatology
- Usefulness of modern USG in the assessment and treatment of RA
- Application of USG in spondyloarthropathy
- The role of positron-emission tomography in rheumatology
- Common algorithms for reading hand, large joint and spine X-rays
- Utility of MRI in patients with back pain
- Interpretation of DEXA results

### Osteoarthritis
- A comparison of modern OA guideline
- Health related quality of life in OA
Psoriatic Arthritis (PSA)
- Targeted therapies in PSA and future directions
- Outcome measures in PSA
- Subclinical atherosclerosis in PSA

Osteoporosis
- What is the risk of osteoporosis and fracture associated with different inflammatory musculoskeletal conditions – the epidemiological data
- How to prevent and treat glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis
- Guidelines for the monitoring of bone turnover, bone mineral density and treatment in postmenopausal osteoporosis

Inflammatory Myopathies
- An update on the assessment and treatment of inflammatory myopathies
- Novel autoantibodies and their relationship with the pathogenesis of inflammatory myopathies
- Management of juvenile dermatomyositis

Crystal Arthropathies
- Mechanisms of monosodium urate-mediated inflammatory response
- Management of calcium pyrophosphate dihydrate deposition disease
- Gout and metabolic syndrome

Sjogren Syndrome
- Sjogren syndrome: current developments from a rheumatologist’s point of view
- Diagnosis of sjogren syndrome: lessons from the SICCA Project

Antiphospholipid Syndrome
- Antiphospholipid antibodies: from bench to bedside
- Antiphospholipid syndrome dilemmas still to be solved: 2010 status

Pediatrics
- Update on use of biologics in juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- Pediatric lupus: from genetics to clinical management
- Inflammatory myopathies in children
- Kawasaki disease - what next if intravenous immunoglobulin fails

Allied Health
- Exercises for people with OA
- Life style re-design for people with RA
- Pain Management – alternatives to pharmacological approach

Basic Science
Dysregulation of Immune System in Autoimmunity
- Toll like receptor in autoimmunity
- Dendritic cells in rheumatic diseases
- B cell in rheumatic diseases

Pathogenesis of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
- Novel cytokines in SLE
- A review of genetics of SLE in Asia
- T/B lymphocytic biomarkers in SLE patients

Pathogenesis of other Rheumatic Diseases
- Immune dysregulation and therapeutic targets in scleroderma
- Immunopathogenesis of AS: role of T cells
- Pathogenesis of adult onset still disease
## Regulatory T cells in Rheumatic Diseases
- Regulatory T cell and Th17
- Inducing regulatory cells to control autoimmunity - the role of Treg cells

## Cytokines and Chemokines in Rheumatic Diseases
- Novel cytokines in inflammatory diseases
- Cytokines and disease activity in SLE
- Chemokines in arthritis

## Mesenchymal Stem Cell
- Mesenchymal stem cell control of B cell
- Mesenchymal stem cell in SLE
- Chondrogenesis from mesenchymal stem cells

## Genetics of Rheumatic Diseases
- Genetics in SLE
- Genetics of RA
- Genetics of AS

## Pathogenesis of Neuropsychiatric Lupus
- Pathogenesis of neuropsychiatric lupus
- Autoantibody profile in neuropsychiatric lupus
- The story of the central nervous system involvement in SLE

## Pathogenesis of Rheumatoid Arthritis
- The role of Th1 and Th17 in joint destruction
- Placenta growth factor in rheumatoid inflammation.
- Clinical development and trials of dendritic cell therapy for RA

## Epigenetics in Rheumatic Diseases
- Epigenetic targets in the pathogenesis of RA
- The inhibitory effect of miRNA in RA
- MicroRNAs and lupus autoimmunity

## Animal Model of Rheumatic Diseases
- Murine model of inflammatory arthritis
- Pathogenesis of lupus nephritis
- Th1/Th17 in inflammatory arthritis

## Osteoimmunology
- Osteoimmunology in rheumatic diseases
- Regulation of osteoclastogenesis by cytokine
- Stem cell mobilization by osteoclast

### Highlighted Symposia
- COPCORD Symposium
- EULAR Symposium on Early RA
- Gout Symposium

### Education Series
- Workshops for young investigators in rheumatology:
  - How to conduct a successful clinical research
  - Overcome hurdles in preparing a manuscript: authors perspective
  - Overcome hurdles in preparing a manuscript: editors perspective
- Rheumatology pearls - case presentation
Prof. Catherine BACKMAN (Canada)
Prof. Sang-Cheol BAE (Korea)
Prof. Kim BENNELL (Australia)
Prof. Ferdinand C BREEDEVELD (The Netherlands)
Dr. Hermine BRUNNER (USA)
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Prof. Anthony D WOOLF (UK)
Prof. Kazuhiko YAMAMOTO (Japan)
Prof. Shumpei YOKOTA (Japan)
Prof. Dae-Hyun YOO (Korea)
Prof. David Tak Yan YU (USA)
Prof. Jingwu ZANG (China)
Prof. Xuan ZHANG (China)

The list is as of November 2009.
CALL FOR PAPERS

Call for Papers

The Scientific Committee cordially invites prospective authors to submit abstracts for presentations. All abstracts will be considered for oral or poster presentations.

Authors must submit abstracts online at www.aplar2010.com. Please note that only electronic submissions will be accepted. In case you do not have any internet access, please contact the Congress Secretariat.

Deadline for Abstract Submission is 28 February 2010

Abstract Categories

1. BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH
   1.1. Genomics, genetic basis of disease, HLA/T cell recognition
   1.2. Cytokines and inflammatory mediators
   1.3. Autoantibodies
   1.4. Cartilage and synovial-like fibroblasts
   1.5. Stem cells and mesenchymal cells
   1.6. Inflammatory and crystal-induced arthritis: pathogenesis and animal models
   1.7. Systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjogren’s, systemic vasculitis and antiphospholipid syndrome - pathogenesis and animal models
   1.8. Inflammatory myopathies and scleroderma: pathogenesis and animal models
   1.9. Basic and translational research in pediatric rheumatology
   1.10. Innate immunity

2. CLINICAL RESEARCH
   2.1. Rheumatoid arthritis - prognosis, predictors and outcome
   2.2. Rheumatoid arthritis - clinical aspects and co-morbidity
   2.3. Rheumatoid arthritis - anti-TNFα therapy
   2.4. Rheumatoid arthritis - non-TNFα biological therapies
   2.5. Rheumatoid arthritis - non biologic treatment
   2.6. Systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjogren’s and antiphospholipid syndrome – therapies
   2.7. Systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjogren’s and antiphospholipid syndrome - clinical aspects, comorbidities and complications
   2.8. Spondylarthropathies - clinical aspects and co-morbidity
   2.9. Spondylarthropathies - biological and non-biological therapies
   2.10. Psoriatic arthritis
   2.11. Osteoarthritis
   2.12. Osteoporosis
   2.13. Metabolic bone diseases and crystal-induced diseases
   2.14. Systemic vasculitis
   2.15. Scleroderma, myositis and related syndromes
   2.16. Infection-related rheumatic diseases
   2.17. Fibromyalgia
   2.18. Soft tissue rheumatism
   2.19. Pediatric rheumatology
   2.20. Behcet’s disease and miscellaneous rheumatic conditions
   2.21. Imaging techniques and diagnosis
   2.22. Epidemiology, health care system and pharmacoeconomics
   2.23. Rehabilitation for rheumatic diseases
   2.24. Advances in pain management

3. ALLIED HEALTH RESEARCH TOPICS
   3.1. Nursing
   3.2. Physiotherapy
   3.3. Occupational therapy
   3.4. Psychological intervention and miscellaneous forms of care
   3.5. Alternative medicine (eg. acupuncture)

4. CASE REPORT
CALL FOR PAPERS

General Policies

1. **Originality.** The abstract submitted must be of an original scientific nature and has not been published previously or accepted for publication in whole or in part by any medical journals before 8 February, 2010.

2. **Number for Submission.** Authors can submit more than one paper.

3. **Language.** English is the official language of the Congress and will be adopted in all the abstract submissions, publications and presentations.

4. **Guideline on Submission.** Author will be required to provide his or her login user ID and a password.

5. **Acknowledgement of Receipt.** Upon submission, authors will receive a confirmation by email. Otherwise, please contact the Congress Secretariat.

6. **Review and Selection.** Abstracts will be double-blind and peer reviewed by an international panel of eminent experts. Selection will be based upon: relevance to theme, originality and interest, clinical and research content, and state of completeness.

7. **Mode of Presentation.** The Program Committee reserves the right to select and assign the abstracts relevant to the sessions for oral or poster presentation.

8. **Notifications of Acceptance** will be sent to presenting authors along with the details of the presentation format in April 2010.

9. **Registration.** All presenting authors of the abstracts (either oral or poster) are required to register and pay for the registration fee by the deadline. Failure to do so will result in exclusion from the final program.

10. **Publication.** All accepted abstracts would be published in the Scientific Proceedings of the Congress in printed and electronic form only upon receipt of registration fees in full. Authors will be required to sign copyright transfers to APLAR.

Abstract Format

1. **Word Limit.** **Abstracts cannot exceed 400 words.** A maximum of 2 graphs, tables or images saved in JPEG/GIF/TIF format of at least 300 dpi can be included in your abstract.

2. **Title.** Abstract title must be in Initial Capital / lower case, e.g. The online abstract submission. The title should be brief and descriptive.

3. **Author Information.** Author and co-author names, institutions, cities and countries are to be typed in appropriate boxes. Please include family / last name and initials of author(s) and do NOT include degrees or professional titles (Dr, PhD, Prof, MD, etc.).

4. **Content.** Each abstract must contain sufficient details for evaluation. Make the abstract as informative as possible. Clearly indicate the aims and conclusions supported by data. Results stated in the abstracts must be complete (though concise) and final. Organize the body of the abstract as follows: (a) objectives, (b) methods, (c) results, (d) conclusions. Use standard abbreviations and generic drug names. Place unusual abbreviations or acronyms in parentheses after first use. Do not identify author(s) or institution(s) in text.

Travel Grants & Awards

**Young Investigator Awards** will be presented to clinicians and researchers younger than 40 years of age (as at 8 Feb 2010) for recognition of their outstanding original research. Short-listed candidates will be required to provide proof of age, e.g. passport copy.

A number of travel grants will be awarded to delegates who have submitted abstracts of outstanding quality and have requested sponsorship to attend the Congress. Supporting documents, including reference letters from the head of department or division, can be faxed or emailed to the Congress Secretariat quoting the abstract number and the name of the applicant. Delegates who have already received sponsorship from other organizations and/or commercial companies to attend the Congress are not eligible for application for the travel grant. Travel grant awardees will have to pay the Congress registration fee and the grant will be granted during the Congress.

**For application, please specify on your online abstract submission form.**
Registration Information

Registration Procedures

Participants may register for the Congress by the following methods:

A. Register online at www.aplar2010.com

B. Complete the registration form and return it to the Congress Secretariat by fax or mail with appropriate payment. (The Registration form is to be completed in BLOCK letters or typed).

To enjoy the early bird rate, registration must be received no later than 30 April 2010.

Payment

Payment of registration fees must be made in Hong Kong Dollars by the following methods:

- Bank transfer to
  Name of Bank: Standard Chartered Bank
  Address: 15 Queen’s Road Central, Hong Kong
  Account Name: APLAR 2010 Co. Limited
  Account No: 003-433-0-007398-9
  SWIFT CODE: SCBLHKHHXXX
  Reference: Name of delegate or invoice no.

A copy of the receipt for the bank remittance should be attached to the Registration Form. All bank charges for remittances are to be borne by the participant.

- Credit Card: Visa and MasterCard

- Hong Kong Dollar Check (for Hong Kong participants only) made payable to “APLAR 2010 Co. Ltd.”

Cancellation Policy

Refund of cancellations of registration will be made subject to the following deadlines and administrative charges:

Cancellations received on or before 11 June 2010
50% of the registration fee will be refunded

We regret that no refunds will be issued.

All cancellations must be made in writing to the Congress Secretariat. Please note that substitution is permitted on the basis that written notice is received before 30 June 2010.

Registration Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Early Bird (before 30 April 2010)</th>
<th>Regular (after 30 April 2010)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Delegate (11-15 July 2010)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Doctor and Scientist</td>
<td>HK$3,700 (US$470)</td>
<td>HK$4,500 (US$570)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Doctor and Scientist – Developing countries*</td>
<td>HK$2,340 (US$300)</td>
<td>HK$2,730 (US$350)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health Professional/Trainee/Student#</td>
<td>HK$1,560 (US$200)</td>
<td>HK$1,950 (US$250)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Day Registration (for Hong Kong Delegate Only) - 12, 13 or 14 July 2010

| Medical Doctor and Scientist                 | HK$1,500 per day                 |
| Allied Health Professional/Trainee/Student#  | HK$800 per day                  |
| Accompanying Person                          | HK$780 (US$100)                 |

APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology
HK$4,000 (US$500) HK$4,600 (US$600)

Please note that registration fees do not include the APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology, Congress dinner, accommodation, airport transfer and optional tours.


# The organizer may request delegates to present supporting document regarding their allied health profession, trainee or student status.

Registration Entitlements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Full Delegate</th>
<th>Day Registration</th>
<th>Accompanying Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Sessions (excluding APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology)</td>
<td>✓ On Registered day only</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Exhibition</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee / Tea breaks</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress Satchel, Abstract Book# and Proceedings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Attendance</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IJRD subscription for 2 years</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Considering the impact on the environment, a hardcopy of the abstract book will only be provided upon request. A softcopy of the abstract book will be provided to all delegates.
A wide range of hotel rooms in Hong Kong have been secured to facilitate hotel reservation by Congress participants. All hotels listed below are ideally located in the neighborhood of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC). Most are within walking distance while some are conveniently located along major public transport routes.

**MAP OF CONGRESS HOTELS IN WAN CHAI AREA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Star Rating</th>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Room Rate Per Night (HKD)</th>
<th>Room Rate Per Night (USD)</th>
<th>Distance to Conference Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H1. Grand Hyatt Hong Kong</td>
<td>5-star</td>
<td>Grand Room</td>
<td>HK$1,950</td>
<td>US$524</td>
<td>Within the same complex as HKCEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Harbour View Room</td>
<td>HK$2,380</td>
<td>US$309</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2. Renaissance Harbour View Hotel</td>
<td>5-star</td>
<td>Superior Garden View Room</td>
<td>HK$1,430</td>
<td>US$186</td>
<td>Within the same complex as HKCEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Superior Harbour View Room</td>
<td>HK$1,980</td>
<td>US$257</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H3. Novotel Century Hong Kong</td>
<td>4-star</td>
<td>Standard Room</td>
<td>HK$1,100</td>
<td>US$143</td>
<td>0.5km, 10 minutes walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H4. The Empire Hotel Hong Kong</td>
<td>4-star</td>
<td>Deluxe Room</td>
<td>HK$748</td>
<td>US$97</td>
<td>0.5km, 7 minutes walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H5. The Harbourview</td>
<td>4-star</td>
<td>Premier Room</td>
<td>HK$825</td>
<td>US$107</td>
<td>0.3km, 3 minutes walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H6. The Garden View - YWCA(^a)</td>
<td>3-star</td>
<td>Standard Room</td>
<td>HK$660</td>
<td>US$86</td>
<td>3km, 15 minutes by car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H7. Hotel Jen(^a)</td>
<td>3-star</td>
<td>Standard Room (with 1 daily breakfast)</td>
<td>HK$682</td>
<td>US$89</td>
<td>3.5km, 20 minutes by car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H8. The Wesley Hotel</td>
<td>3-star</td>
<td>Standard Room</td>
<td>HK$660</td>
<td>US$86</td>
<td>0.7km, 15 minutes walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H9. Island Pacific Hotel(^a)</td>
<td>3-star</td>
<td>Superior Room</td>
<td>HK$550</td>
<td>US$72</td>
<td>3km, 15 minutes by car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H10. The Anne Black - YWCA(^a)</td>
<td>3-star</td>
<td>Standard Room</td>
<td>HK$440</td>
<td>US$58</td>
<td>30 minutes by car</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. To guarantee the special discount rates, reservations must be made through International Conference Consultants Limited (ICC).
2. All the room rates apply to single or double occupancy, unless otherwise specified.
3. Hotel reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Credit card details are required by hotel to secure your booking.
4. The special room rates quoted are only valid for reservations made through ICC on or before 9 June 2010. ICC has an obligation to return all unsold rooms to the hotels after 9 June 2010. Therefore room availability and special rates for reservations made after that date cannot be guaranteed.
5. The above hotel rates are only valid during the Congress period for delegates attending APLAR 2010. All bookings for days outside the conference period will be subject to availability.
6. All enquiries, changes or cancellation of room reservations should be addressed to ICC and NOT directly to the hotel.

Cancellation:
- **Reservation at H1 Grand Hyatt Hong Kong**
  Any cancellations after 9 June 2010 will be subject to one-night’s cancellation fee. Changes to the arrival date within 72 hours of arrival will incur one-night’s room charge as penalty. Any no-shows will result in the full room charges for the entire stay.
- **Reservation at other hotels**
  One-night room charge will be charged by the hotel if you cancel your booking after 9 June 2010. In the event of a no-show, hotel reservation will be released automatically and one-night room charge will be charged.

Please contact the Congress Secretariat (reg@aplar2010.com) for hotel room booking.
**OPTIONAL LOCAL TOURS**

**T1: Hong Kong Island Tour**

Date: 11 July 2010 (Sunday) or 15 July 2010 (Thursday)
Time: 09:00 – 13:00
Tour Price: HK$290 (US$38) per person (Join-in group tour)

The Peak offers a breathtaking panorama of Victoria Harbour and the Kowloon Peninsula. You will be able to enjoy a scenic view of Repulse Bay, a popular summer escape for swimmers. Just around the corner is Stanley which is famous for its relaxed ambience and street market. Shopping at Stanley Market is always fun and there are many bargains to be found.

**T2: Kowloon Experience Tour**

Date: 12 July 2010 (Monday)
Time: 14:00 – 18:00
Tour Price: HK$310 (US$40) per person (minimum 15 persons to operate)

The tour will take you to the famous “Jade Market”, an open-air market where tradesmen buy and sell rare stones and finished ornaments. We will then visit the Wong Tai Sin Temple, where you can pay homage to the blessed “God of Immigrants” and have your fortune told by the wise ones. Finally, step back in time with a visit to the Hong Kong Museum of History. It outlines the folk culture and historical development of Hong Kong.

**T3: New Territories Tour**

Date: 13 July 2010 (Tuesday)
Time: 09:00 – 13:00
Tour Price: HK$310 (US$40) per person (Join-in group tour)

A tour around the New Territories shows you the rural aspect of Hong Kong. Step back into the mid-1800s as you enter Tai Fu Tai Mansion, the opulent stately home built in 1865, and Fan Tin Village. The nearby Lo Wai Walled Village and Tang Chung Ling Ancestral Hall offer fascinating sights of village life in the New Territories. Another beautiful tradition stems from the enchanting Lam Tsuen Wishing Trees. Join the local villagers to burn joss sticks and incense papers to make your wishes come true.

**T4: Lantau Island Tour with Vegetarian Lunch**

Date: 14 July 2010 (Wednesday)
Time: 08:00 – 16:30
Tour Price: HK$690 (US$90) per person (Join-in group tour)

Visitors take a fast ferry through the Harbour to Lantau Island, then board a coach to the beautiful Cheung Sha beach and on to the unique Tai O fishing village, where fishermens’ homes are built on stilts. The coach then takes a winding road up the mountain to Ngong Ping Plateau where the Giant Buddha sits majestically close to the Po Lin Monastery. Ample time is allowed for a guided tour of the Po Lin Monastery and Giant Buddha Exhibition Hall. A vegetarian meal is served in the Monastery, followed by optional visits to the culturally themed Ngong Ping Village. The tour ends with a spectacular ride aboard the Skyrail cable car offering stunning views going down to Tung Chung.

**T5: Macao Excursion**

Date: 15 July 2010 (Thursday)
Time: 08:00 – 18:00
Tour Price: HK$820 (US$107) per person (Join-in group tour)

An hour’s hydrofoil ferry ride brings you to the previous Portuguese enclave – Macao. Macao is rich in culture and heritage. You will enjoy visiting the 16th-century Kun Iam Temple and travelling up Penha Hill and Chapel for a magnificent view of the city. The tour will also lead you to the Ruins of St. Paul’s Cathedral, Monte Fort, Senado Square and Avenida da Praia Residences. There are plenty of casinos in Macao offering a wide range of games.

(Price includes round trip economy class ferry ticket between Hong Kong and Macao, transportation, western lunch, professional English speaking guide and admission fees.)

**Terms and Conditions**
1. Bookings are subject to acceptance on a first come, first served basis.
2. On receipt of completed form and payment, confirmation will be sent to the participant.
3. All tours will be on a join-in group basis or organized for a specific minimum number of people exclusively. In the event of no-show, payment is not refundable.
4. All tour prices include a round trip transfer and English-speaking guide service throughout, unless otherwise specified.
5. Final tour arrangements are subject to change in weather conditions and minimum quota requirements. In the event of cancellation of tours, the only liability of the Congress Secretariat is to refund the tour fees paid.
6. Please reconfirm the tour pick up point and time at the tour desk.
7. Participants are advised to arrange personal travel insurance to cover loss incurred in case of cancellation, medical expenses and damage or loss of personal effects. The Congress Secretariat will accept no liability for personal injuries or for loss or damage to property belonging to the participants during the organized tours.

**Payment Policy**
Tour fee is required at time of reservation and will be charged if the tour can be operated.
Cancellation charge will be applied as follows if cancellation notice is received:
After 9 June 2010 50% of the tour fee
7 days prior to departure 100% of the tour fee
REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete the form below and return it with the appropriate payment to APLAR 2010 Congress Secretariat
International Conference Consultants Ltd, Unit 301, The Centre Mark, 287-299 Queen’s Road Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: (852) 2569 9973  Fax: (852) 2547 9528  Email: reg@aplar2010.com

You are strongly recommended to register online at http://www.aplar2010.com

Please read the registration information before registering.

(A) PERSONAL INFORMATION
(Please type or print in block letters and ✓ where appropriate)
Title: □ Prof.  □ Dr.  □ Mr.  □ Mrs.  □ Others, please specify: __________________________
Family Name: __________________________  First Name: __________________________
Position / Department: __________________________
Institution: __________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: __________________________ Postal code: __________________________ Country: __________________________
Tel: __________________________ Fax: __________________________ Email: __________________________
Special Meal Requested:  □ Vegetarian  □ Pork-free  □ Beef-free  □ Others, please specify: __________________________

Accompanying Person(s):
□ Prof.  □ Dr.  □ Mr.  □ Mrs.  □ Ms.
Family Name: __________________________  First Name: __________________________
Special Meal Requested:  □ Vegetarian  □ Pork-free  □ Beef-free  □ Others, please specify: __________________________

□ Prof.  □ Dr.  □ Mr.  □ Mrs.  □ Ms.
Family Name: __________________________  First Name: __________________________
Special Meal Requested:  □ Vegetarian  □ Pork-free  □ Beef-free  □ Others, please specify: __________________________

(B) REGISTRATION FEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Early Bird (before 30 April 2010)</th>
<th>Regular (after 30 April 2010)</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Delegate (11-15 July 2010)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Doctor and Scientist</td>
<td>□ HK$3,700 (US$470)</td>
<td>□ HK$4,500 (US$570)</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Doctor and Scientist – Developing countries*</td>
<td>□ HK$2,340 (US$300)</td>
<td>□ HK$2,730 (US$350)</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health Professional/Trainee/Student</td>
<td>□ HK$1,560 (US$200)</td>
<td>□ HK$1,950 (US$250)</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Registration (for Hong Kong Delegate Only)</td>
<td>□ 12 July □ 13 July □ 14 July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Doctor and Scientist</td>
<td>□ HK$1,500 per day</td>
<td></td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health Professional/Trainee/Student</td>
<td>□ HK$800 per day</td>
<td></td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying Person</td>
<td>□ HK$780 (US$100)</td>
<td></td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total (B) HK$

* For definition of developing countries, please refer to the Congress website or registration information section.

Please note that registration fees do not include APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology, Congress dinner, accommodation, airport transfer and optional tours.
### (C) PRE-CONGRESS COURSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Registration Fee</th>
<th>Attend</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 July (Sun)</td>
<td>PRE-01 ACR Review Course for Clinicians</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 July (Sun)</td>
<td>PRE-02 APLAR Basic Science Course</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 – 11 July (Fri-Sun)</td>
<td>PRE-03 APLAR Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course in Rheumatology</td>
<td>HK$4,000 (US$500) (before 30 April)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HK$4,600 (US$600) (after 30 April)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total (C) HK$**

### (D) SOCIAL PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Price Per Person</th>
<th>No. of Person(s)</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congress Dinner</td>
<td>13 July (Tue) 18:00 – 20:00</td>
<td>HK$ 780 (US$ 100)</td>
<td>x [ ]</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total (D) HK$**

### (E) OPTIONAL LOCAL TOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tour</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Price Per Person</th>
<th>No. of Person(s)</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T1: Hong Kong Island Tour</td>
<td>11 July (Sun) 09:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>HK$290 (US$38)</td>
<td>x [ ]</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2: Kowloon Experience Tour</td>
<td>12 July (Mon) 14:00 – 18:00</td>
<td>HK$310 (US$40)</td>
<td>x [ ]</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3: New Territories Tour</td>
<td>13 July (Tue) 09:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>HK$310 (US$40)</td>
<td>x [ ]</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4: Lantau Island Tour with Vegetarian Lunch</td>
<td>14 July (Wed) 08:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>HK$690 (US$90)</td>
<td>x [ ]</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5: Macao Excursion</td>
<td>15 July (Thu) 08:00 – 18:00</td>
<td>HK$820 (US$107)</td>
<td>x [ ]</td>
<td>HK$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total (E) HK$**

### (F) REQUEST FOR HARDCOPY OF ABSTRACT BOOK

Considering the impact on the environment, a hardcopy of the abstract book will only be provided upon request. A softcopy of the abstract book will be provided to all delegates.

☐ I request a hardcopy of the abstract book.

### (G) LETTER OF INVITATION

On request, the APLAR 2010 Congress Secretariat will send a letter of invitation to attend the Congress. Such an invitation is extended specifically to assist participants to obtain travel refunds, appropriate visas, approvals, sponsorship or leave. It does not imply a commitment on the part of the Congress Organizer to provide any support, financial or otherwise.

☐ Please send me a letter of invitation to the address provided on this registration form.

### PAYMENT DECLARATION

I would like to settle the payment of HK$ / US$ _________________ by

☐ Check / Bank Draft payable to “APLAR 2010 Co. Ltd.”

☐ Bank transfer to

Bank: Standard Chartered Bank
Account Name: APLAR 2010 Co. Ltd.
Account Number: 003-433-0-007398-9
SWIFT Code: SCBHLHKHHXXX
Reference: name of delegate

A copy of the receipt of the bank remittance should be attached to the Registration Form. All bank charges for remittance must be borne by the remitter.

☐ Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard (in Hong Kong dollars only)
I hereby authorize International Conference Consultants Limited (ICC Ltd.) to debit my account for the above-mentioned amount.

Card Number: __________________________ Expiry Date (MM/YY): __________________________

Name of Cardholder: __________________________
Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of the Congress.

**Notes:**
1. Registrations are subject to acceptance on a first come, first served basis.
2. Registration forms received without payment will not be processed. Please do not send cash.
3. Each registrant should complete a separate registration form. A photocopy of the registration form is acceptable.
4. A letter of confirmation will be sent upon receipt of your registration form and full payment. Any changes or alterations must be made in writing to the Congress Secretariat.
5. Accompanying Person(s) means the spouse and/or family member(s) of delegate(s).
### (H) HOTEL RESERVATION

- [ ] No hotel reservation required.  
- [ ] I will book my own room. I will be staying at __________________________ Hotel.  
- [ ] Please book a room for me. *(Please indicate your choices (1, 2 & 3) in appropriate box.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preference (1,2 &amp; 3)</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Room Rate Per Night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Grand Hyatt Hong Kong</td>
<td>Grand Room</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>7.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>The Anne Black - YWCA</td>
<td>Standard Room</td>
<td>HK$440 (US$58)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Check-in:** __________________________  
**Date of Check-out:** __________________________

- [ ] Single  
- [ ] Double  
- [ ] Twin  
**I will be sharing with __________________________**

**Special Requests:**  
- [ ] Smoking Room  
- [ ] Non-Smoking Room

**Others, please specify __________________________**

### Notes:

1. To guarantee the special discount rates, reservations must be made through International Conference Consultants Limited (ICC).
2. All the room rates apply to single or double occupancy, unless otherwise specified.
3. The above rates are subject to 10% service charge. Breakfast is not included in the room rates but can be arranged at additional cost.
4. Hotel reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Credit card details are required by hotel to secure your booking.
5. The special room rates quoted are only valid for reservations made through ICC on or before 9 June 2010. ICC has an obligation to return all unsold rooms to the hotels after 9 June 2010. Therefore room availability and special rates for reservations made after that date cannot be guaranteed.
6. The above hotel rates are only valid during the Congress period for delegates attending APLAR 2010. All bookings for days outside the Congress period will be subject to availability.
7. All enquiries, changes or cancellation of room reservations should be addressed to ICC and NOT directly to the hotel.
8. **Cancellation:**  
   - *Reservation at H1 Grand Hyatt Hong Kong*

     Any cancellations after 9 June 2010 will be subject to one-night’s cancellation fee. Changes to the arrival date within 72 hours of arrival will incur one-night’s room charge as penalty. Any no-shows will result in the full room charges for the entire stay.

   - *Reservation at other hotels*

     One-night room charge will be charged by the hotel if you cancel your booking after 9 June 2010. In the event of no-show, hotel reservation will be released automatically and one-night room charge will be charged.

### TO GUARANTEE HOTEL RESERVATION

I hereby agree to be bound by the above rules and regulations and would like to guarantee my hotel reservation by

- [ ] Visa  
- [ ] MasterCard  
- [ ] American Express

**Card Number:** __________________________  
**Expiry Date (MM/YY):** __________________________

**Name of Cardholder:** __________________________

**Signature:** __________________________  
**Date:** __________________________

*(If you would like to settle hotel deposit by other payment methods, please contact the Congress Secretariat for details.)*
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT HONG KONG

Passport and Visa
Visitors must hold a valid passport, endorsed where necessary for Hong Kong. Hong Kong has a liberal visa policy, allowing visa-free entry to nationals of more than 170 countries and territories. For country-specific visa information, please visit www.immd.gov.hk/ehtml/hkvisas_4.htm. For delegates from countries for which visas are required for entry to Hong Kong, please check with the Chinese Embassy or Consulate in your country.

For delegates traveling to other cities in China, an entry visa to China is required. Please obtain your visa from the Chinese Embassy or Consulate within your current place of residence. The travel documents must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of traveling.

Airport Transfer

Airport Express Line (AEL)
This high-speed rail service takes passengers to and from the Hong Kong Station in Central in about 23 minutes. Train services are provided daily between 6 am and 1 am and at 12-minute intervals. Train tickets can be purchased at the Airport Express Customer Service Center located at the Arrivals Hall. Taxi is recommended for direct transfer from the Hong Kong Station to Congress hotels in 5-10 minutes. Alternatively, a free Airport Express shuttle bus serving between the Hong Kong Station and major hotels departs every 24 minutes.

Approximate cost: Single Journey - HK$100 per adult ticket, HK$50 per child ticket
Round Trip (valid for one month) - HK$180 per adult ticket

Airport Seat-in-Coach
The coach service is available between the airport and all Congress hotels. The service timetable corresponds with the arrival and departure flight schedules of major international airlines. Tickets can be purchased at the coach operator counter at the Arrivals Hall.

Approximate time: 60 minutes
Approximate cost: Single journey - HK$140 per person

Taxi
Urban taxis are red. The current rates are HK$18 on flag fall for the first two kilometers plus HK$1.50 every further 0.20 kilometer. Additional charges for luggage and tolls apply. Taxis only accept HK Dollars in cash.

Approximate time: 45 minutes
Approximate cost: HK$350-HK$400

Air Passenger Departure Tax
Adults (12 years and over): HK$120
Children (under 12 years): Free
Air passenger departure tax is normally included in the price of the air ticket.

Business Hours
Generally, offices of commercial establishments and government departments are open from 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays. Some are open on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm. Major banks are open from 9 am to 4:30 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 12:30 pm on Saturdays.

Most shops and department stores are open daily from 10 am to 9 pm, while 24-hour convenience shops are located all over the city.

There is no sales tax on goods and services in Hong Kong. Hotels and restaurants usually add 10% service charge to their bills. Tipping may be appropriate when a service charge is not included.

Climate
Hong Kong has a sub-tropical climate with seasonal changes. In July, the temperature ranges from 26°C to 33°C. Humidity can reach nearly 86 per cent. An umbrella or a hat can protect you from the intense sunshine. Go to www.hko.gov.hk for weather forecast before deciding what to pack.

Currency and Credit Card
The Hong Kong Dollar (HK$) is the unit currency used in Hong Kong. One US dollar is about HK$7.70. Most foreign currencies and traveler’s cheques can be changed over banks, hotels and moneychangers. There are no restrictions on the type or amount of money that can be brought into or taken out of Hong Kong.

All major credit cards are widely accepted in Hong Kong and can be used to obtain cash advances at banks and automatic teller machines (ATMs). ATMs can be found almost everywhere and at the meeting venue, and provide 24-hour cash withdrawal (HK$).

Electricity
The standard voltage in Hong Kong is 220 volts AC/50 cycles. The plug/socket system in Hong Kong is a 3-rectangular-pin type.

Public Transportation
Hong Kong is so compact that getting around is quick and easy. An efficient public transport system – networks of urban underground trains (MTR), numerous routes of trams, buses and ferries – enable visitors to explore Hong Kong conveniently and safely on their own.

Airport Express Travel Pass not only takes you to/from the airport; it also allows you to travel within the city by MTR for 3 consecutive days. For further information, please visit: http://www.mtr.com.hk

Time Zone
Add 8 hours to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) to get the Hong Kong time.

Telecommunication
International direct dialing, Internet, e-mail facilities are easily accessible in Hong Kong. Most of the mobile telephone systems used around the globe operate in Hong Kong.

Discover Hong Kong
For the most updated tourist information, please visit the website of the Hong Kong Tourism Board at www.discoverhongkong.com.
CONGRESS INFORMATION

Organizer:
Asia Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology
http://www.aplar.org

Host Organizer:
The Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology
http://www.rheumatology.org.hk

Co-organizer:
School of Nursing, Hong Kong Polytechnic University
http://nhs.polyu.edu.hk

Enquiry:

APLAR 2010 Congress Secretariat
c/o International Conference Consultants Ltd
Unit 301, The Centre Mark, 287-299 Queen’s Road Central, Hong Kong.
Tel: (852) 2559 9973
Fax: (852) 2547 9528
Website: www.aplar2010.com
Email:
General Enquiry  enquiry@aplar2010.com
Sponsorship & Exhibition  sponsor@aplar2010.com
Registration  reg@aplar2010.com
Abstract Submission  abstract@aplar2010.com

Congress Venue
The 14th Congress of Asia Pacific League of Association for Rheumatology (APLAR 2010) will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC).
Address: 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong (Harbour Road Entrance)
Tel: (852) 2852 8888
Fax: (852) 2802 0000
Website: www.hkcec.com

Registration and Information Desk
Our information counters will be operated throughout the Congress for all participants, accompanying persons and day participants.

Language
English is the official language of the Congress.

Badge
Each participant will be provided with a name badge and invitations for social program at the Congress registration desk at HKCEC. All participants are requested to wear their name badges throughout the Congress and social program. Only badge holders will be admitted to the Congress venue, meeting rooms, related exhibitions and social program.

Insurance and Liability
Participants are advised to secure their own insurance to cover loss incurred in case of cancellation, medical expenses and damage or loss of personal properties.

Letter of Invitation
To facilitate registrants’ visa application, registrants may make a request in writing for a letter of invitation to attend the Congress from the Congress Secretariat.

Important Dates
Deadline of Abstract Submission: 28 February 2010
Deadline of Early Bird Registration: 30 April 2010
APLAR 2010 is one of the major international rheumatology congresses. It offers an excellent opportunity to the healthcare industry and related parties to promote their products and services to a targeted audience of key decision makers.

As a sponsor or exhibitor of the Congress, your company will be able to enjoy special privileges and gain maximum company exposure. Please contact the Congress Secretariat (sponsor@aplar2010.com) for details of the sponsorship and exhibition opportunities available. Other suggestions for sponsorship are welcome.

**Platinum Sponsor**

Roche

**Silver & Lunch Symposium Sponsors**

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MSD

**Lunch Symposium Sponsor**

ROTTAPHARM

MADAUS

**Evening Symposium Sponsor**

Bristol-Myers Squibb

**Others Sponsors / Exhibitors**

Esaote China Limited

Genzyme Corporation

Novartis Pharmaceuticals (HK) Ltd.
Making History

1969. The crew of the Apollo 11 were the first to walk on the moon

This giant leap for mankind was a real breakthrough, changing our view of the future

2006. The first and only selective B cell therapy for RA treatment

Each course of two infusions offers an unprecedented 6–12 months of lasting treatment success. MabThera® will change the way you treat RA¹

Reference: