

2024 Taiwan Rhinology Society Annual Meeting and Pre-Congress Workshop on Smell and Taste Examination– A Milestone in International Collaboration

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The 2024 Annual Meeting of the Taiwan Rhinology Society (TRS) underscored the society's dedication to fostering international collaboration and showcasing Taiwan's strengths in rhinology. After nearly a year of preparation, TRS extended invitations to esteemed scholars from the rhinology societies of Japan, Korea, and Thailand, and implemented an all-English format for domestic speakers. This approach maximized the exchange of global expertise and highlighted Taiwan's contributions to clinical research in this field.

With the growing focus on olfactory disorders in the post-COVID-19 era, TRS hosted Taiwan's and Asia's first-ever Workshop on Smell and Taste Examination on October 5, 2024. Held at the newly established Clinical Innovation Center (CiC) in Taipei Veterans General Hospital. The workshop featured leading experts, including Prof. Thomas Hummel from the University of Dresden, Germany, a pioneer and leader in the field of olfaction and gustation, and Prof. Eri Mori from Tokyo Jikei University School of Medicine, Japan, renowned for her expertise in olfactory diagnostics and surgeries. Taiwanese specialists, Prof. Rong-San Jiang from Taichung Veterans General Hospital, Prof. Ping-Hung Shen from Kuang Tien General Hospital, and Prof. Yun-Ting Chao from Taipei Veterans General Hospital, also shared valuable insights into examination methodologies and practical applications.



The first smell and taste workshop in Asia was opened by the organizer, Prof. Yun-Ting Chao.



Special guest Prof. Thomas Hummel delivered a lecture on the current developments in olfactory examination.



Prof. Rong-San Jiang introduced UPSIT and automated olfactory test.



Prof. Ping-Hung Shen introduced the development of TIBSIT.



Prof. Yun-Ting Chao introduced the Sniffin' Sticks test and its application



Prof. Eri Mori introduced Japanese olfactory tests



The smell and taste workshop was a lively event, with over 100 participants

The hands-on workshop featured six stations where participants explored various olfactory and gustatory tests. Led by experts such as Dr. Rumi Sekine and Dr. Ayaho Yoshino from Japan, Prof. Kai-Li Liang and Prof. Jing-Jie Wang from Taichung Veterans General Hospital, Dr. Sheng-Kai Huang and Prof. Ping-Hung Shen from Kuang Tien General Hospital, and Prof. Yun-Ting Chao from Taipei Veterans General Hospital, the stations provided a unique opportunity for practical learning. The workshop drew significant interest, attracting 85 participants, including 26 international physicians from Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand, reflecting the growing global attention to olfactory medicine. The event set a new benchmark for workshops in Taiwan, with participants praising the expert-led sessions and hands-on experiences.



Dr. Rumi Sekine introduced the threshold and discrimination subtests of SST.



Dr. Ayaho Yoshino introduced the identification subtest of SST and retronasal olfactory test.



Dr. Sheng-Kai Huang and Prof. Ping-Hung Shen introduced TIBSIT and provided samples for participants to practice.



Prof. Kai-Li Liang introduced the automated olfactory test, the SCOTS.



Prof. Jing-Jie Wang introduced taste examination



Prof. Yun-Ting Chao introduced the intranasal trigeminal function and let the participants experience the trigeminal lateralization test.

On October 6, 2024, the annual meeting continued in Taipei Veterans General Hospital with an impressive lineup of presentations. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of TRS President Prof. Chih-Jaan Tai, Congress President Prof. Min-Ying Lan, Congress Secretary General Prof. Yun-Ting Chao, and the TRS organizing team, the meeting featured 17 international scholars and 24 domestic experts, who shared a wide range of topics in rhinology with approximately 150 attendees.



Opening talks by TRS President Prof. Chih-Jaan Tai and Congress President Prof. Min-Ying Lan



The TRS 2024 annual meeting gathered up to 150 participants from all over the world.

Presidential speaker Prof. Shinichi Haruna, President of the Japan Rhinologic Society, shared his extensive research on eosinophilic chronic rhinosinusitis (ECRS). Prof. Chang-Hoon Kim, President of the Korean Rhinologic Society, presented cutting-edge findings in the molecular biology of ECRS. These presentations provided attendees with valuable updates on recent developments in the field.



Speeches by JRS president, Prof. Shinichi Haruna and KRS president, Prof. Chang-Hoon Kim

The meeting concluded with a highly anticipated Keynote Speech by Prof. Thomas Hummel, whose engaging and approachable style encouraged lively discussions with scholars from Taiwan and abroad.



Other international speakers included Prof. Sachio Takeno, Prof. Kota Wada, Prof. Masafumi Sakashita, and Prof. Ichiro Tojima from Japan, Prof. Tae Hoon Kim, Prof. Kyu Sup Cho, Prof. Myeong Sang Yu, and Prof. Dong-Young Kim from Korea, as well as Prof. Kornkiat Snidvongs and Prof. Kannika Roongrotwattanasiri from Thailand. Their presentations spanned clinical and foundational research, offering attendees a comprehensive view of current trends and advancements in rhinology.



All the international and domestic speakers and moderators in TRS 2024

Although Typhoon Krathon posed potential challenges, the typhoon warning was lifted just before the event, allowing the meeting to proceed smoothly under clear skies. Thanks to the careful preparations of the organizing committee, participants were kept informed of any necessary adjustments. The two-day meeting ran seamlessly, once again demonstrating TRS's capability to organize international conferences of the highest standard.