



# ASPCR RESEARCH



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## Season's Greetings from ASPCR

This holiday season we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our society members and supporters who continue to make our work possible.

As we look toward the new year, we are excited for the opportunities ahead to continue pushing the boundaries of pigment cell research and making a meaningful impact on the lives of patients around the world!

**SAVE THE DATE: 23-24 MAY 2025**  
**12TH ANNUAL ASPCR MEETING**  
**SHANGHAI, CHINA**

Visit our updated website

<https://aspcr.org>

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friends, colleagues, and members of ASPCR,

2024 is a remarkable year for ASPCR, and I want to take a moment to reflect on what we have accomplished together. It has been a year marked by collaboration, innovation, and a shared commitment to promote advancement in the field of pigment cell research as well as the growth of our society. Each of you, whether in the clinic or laboratory, has contributed to the ongoing expansion of ASPCR.

This year, Taipei had the honor and pleasure of hosting the 11th Annual Congress of ASPCR. Together with the AMWC Asia-TDAC meeting, more than 2,000 participated in the event. Next year, the ASPCR congress will take place in Shanghai. I am looking forward to another successful meeting that will bring us together and expand our collaboration around the globe.

But perhaps most inspiring has been the spirit of community that has defined this year. The exchange of ideas and the mutual support that we offer one another are what make our society so special. I am happy to announce that we have launched the ASPCR mentorship program, and starting in 2025, we will have industry partners who will work together with us to promote pigmentary research. It is in these moments of connection, where collaboration works hand in hand with creativity, that true progress happens.

For the year 2025, I am filled with optimism. We are on the cusp of new challenges, new projects, and new opportunities. Let's continue working together to push the frontiers of knowledge and mentor the next generation of pigment cell researchers.

Thank you for your dedication, hard work, and passion. I am grateful to each of you for providing tremendous support to our society. I look forward to another great year for ASPCR. Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

With sincere appreciation,

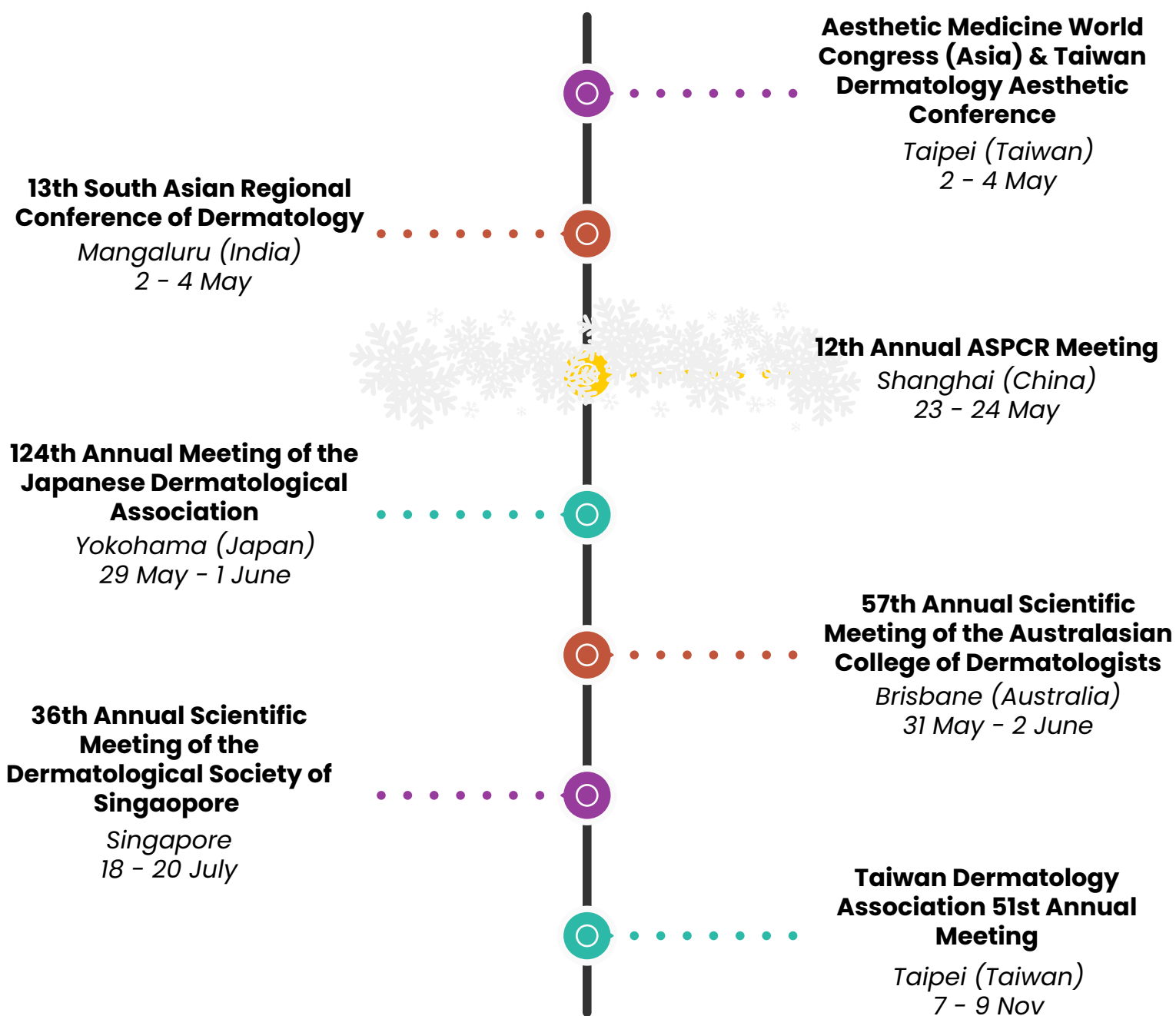
Cheng-Che E. Lan, MD, PhD

**President**

**Asian Society of Pigment Cell Research**

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2025

Pencil the following date into your 2025 diaries for key events to stay up to date with pigment cell research





# *BUILDING THE FUTURE: UNITING SCIENCE AND HOPE FOR VITILIGO PATIENTS*

## **VIPOC GLOBAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2024 Vitiligo International Symposium (VIS) took place in Cairo, Egypt, from December 13–15. Cairo, known for its ancient pharaonic history displayed in the pyramids and Grand Egyptian Museum, Islamic heritage seen in its intricate mosques and architecture, beautiful Coptic churches, bustling markets and modern vibrancy, provided the perfect backdrop for this global gathering.

Day 1 focused on the latest in vitiligo research and treatments. A basic science session explored new treatment targets, autoimmune mechanisms, proteomics, and repigmentation patterns, with presentations from experts including Dr John Harris, Prof Meri Tulic, and Dr Marcel Bekkenek. A stimulating debate session was held discussing the safety of lasers, depigmentation methods, and dermoscopy in vitiligo. The medical therapy session covered new drugs such as Upadacitinib and Baricitinib, while the surgical therapy session discussed challenges and gaps to be filled in vitiligo surgery, presented by Somesh Gupta. The afternoon included discussions on involving patients early on in studies by the VIPOC president, the Egyptian Vitiligo Society and the importance of personalized treatment (Prof Jung Min Bae).

Day 2 began with a session on phototherapy (NB-UVB & excimer light) as a key treatment for repigmentation and stabilization. Other discussions focused on the psychosocial burden of vitiligo, risk factors for recurrence, and parenting styles' impact on patients (Prof Khaled Ezzedine). The final session looked at assessment tools and the future role of artificial intelligence in vitiligo management, led by Prof Chau Yee Ng. The day concluded with a gala dinner, accompanied by a performance from an Egyptian harpist, fostering a sense of friendship and team spirit among attendees and announcing the next VIS venue at Vancouver, Canada.

Separate vitiligo surgery workshops were held at Cairo University and Ain Shams University, where experts shared advanced techniques and tips.

Overall, the event emphasized progress in vitiligo research, treatment, and patient care, while promoting collaboration among the global community of experts.

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## **VIPOC GLOBAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**







## Membership

It's time to **renew your ASPCR membership** for 2025! Continue to enjoy access to educational events and a community of dedicated pigment cell researchers. Discounted membership rates apply for residents!

Renew at <https://www.aspcr.org/membership-renew/>



11th Annual Meeting of The Asian Society for  
Pigment Cell Research - 2024