

Editorial



The importance of international collaboration in periodontology and global leadership

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Conflict of Interest

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

The Korean Academy of Periodontology (KAP) has been making ongoing efforts to strengthen its relationships with other periodontal societies worldwide. By engaging in collaborative efforts in research, clinical practice, education, and community service, KAP aims to evolve into a leading global academic institution. Presently, KAP enjoys productive and collaborative relationships with several organizations, including the Japanese Society of Periodontology (JSP), the Mongolian Association of Periodontology (MAP), the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology (APSP), and the Chinese Society of Periodontology (CSP). These partnerships are instrumental in advancing the field of periodontology on an international scale.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic significantly disrupted international exchanges, as conditions have improved, most domestic and international academic conferences have resumed, with face-to-face interactions largely returning to pre-pandemic levels. In line with this recovery, KAP co-hosted the MAP-KAP Educational Workshop with MAP this year in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, a program previously halted due to the pandemic. This workshop, which has been running since 2011, focused on “Regenerative Periodontal Surgery & Bone Regeneration in Dental Implants” and concluded successfully, featuring highly informative lectures and enthusiastic participation from MAP members.

With the vision of being a global leader in periodontology, KAP has played a pivotal role in the establishment and development of MAP. Additionally, by operating the Dr. Han SB's Global Fellowship Program, KAP continues to promote international collaboration by providing support for initiatives such as the KAP Travel Award and KAP Clinical Traineeship, helping to facilitate academic exchange and professional development.

KAP has maintained a strong relationship with JSP since the signing of an MOU in 1991. This partnership is sustained through various activities, such as KAP-recommended speakers presenting at JSP's international sessions during their annual conferences, special lectures by the presidents of both KAP and JSP, and the active participation of members from both societies in each other's academic meetings.

KAP also collaborates closely with AAP, engaging in ongoing discussions about global periodontal issues and seeking ways to strengthen the global network of periodontal professionals beyond the Asian region.

Since its inaugural conference in 1995, APSP has consistently hosted biennial meetings throughout the Asia-Pacific region. This year, the 15th APSP meeting was held in Vietnam, perpetuating a tradition of vibrant scholarly exchange. Additionally, the exchange program for young periodontal researchers between KAP and CSP, which was previously suspended due to the pandemic, will be either resumed or expanded.

Moving forward, KAP will continue to take on a leadership role in promoting international exchanges, with the goal of establishing a global network. In doing so, KAP aims to further enhance its collaborative relationships with periodontal societies around the world. Additionally, the academy is dedicated to increasing global awareness of periodontal diseases and improving gum health, thereby advancing its position as a global leader in periodontology.