The World Digestive Health Day [WDHD] 2010 was observed on 29th May 2010 at Hotel Swosti Premium at Bhubaneswar, Odisha in India. This was organized by Dr. S.P. Singh on behalf of Orissa state chapter of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology [ISG] and the Kalinga Gastroenterology Foundation [KGF], Cuttack. The program included a CME program on “Inflammatory Bowel Disease [IBD]” the Theme of this year’s WDHD, and the formal observation of WDHD.

WORLD DIGESTIVE HEALTH DAY [WDHD] CEREMONY

The proceedings commenced with a welcome address delivered by Dr. Haribhakti Seba Das, Asst. Professor, Dept of Gastroenterology, SCB Medical College, Cuttack, who is the treasurer of Orissa chapter of ISG.

This was followed by an introductory lecture by Prof. S.P. Singh, the Honorary Secretary of the Orissa chapter of ISG. In his introductory address, Prof. SP Singh, the Convenor of the Meet spoke about the importance of observing the World Digestive Health Day to promote digestive health. He spoke about the history of formation of the WGO, and enlightened the audience about the history of W.G.O., and how this day everyone was commemorating the anniversary of the creation of the World Gastroenterology Organisation O.M.G.E. on May 29th, 1958.

The World Digestive Health Day [WDHD] ceremony was inaugurated by lighting of the traditional lamp by Prof. S.P. Misra, Professor of Gastroenterology at the M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad, who is also the Honorary Secretary of the ISG [Indian Society of Gastroenterology].

Prof. S.P. Misra spoke about the importance of ISG and World Gastroenterology Organisation [WGO], and the yeoman service the world body was providing in the field of gastroenterology service, training and research, and stressed the need for observing this day to promote digestive health. He congratulated Kalinga Gastroenterology Foundation for regularly conducting the program in the country year after year, and mentioned that this was appreciated and recognized by the WGO too.
INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE SYMPOSIUM

This CME program was attended by gastroenterologists, physicians and gastrointestinal surgeons from coastal Orissa. The CME Faculty consisted of Prof. Manisha Dwivedi, Professor of Gastroenterology at the M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad, Prof. Govind Makharia from the Dept of Gastroenterology, at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Dr. Mahesh K Goenka, Director, Institute of Gastroenterology, at the Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals, Kolkata, and Prof. Ganesh Pai, the Head of Dept. of Gastroenterology at the Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Karnataka.

The topics for CME included:
- Pathogenesis of IBD and the Hygiene Hypothesis,
- Ulcerative Colitis in Indians: Problems in Diagnosis & Management
- Approach to Management of Crohn’s Disease, and
- Endoscopic Diagnosis of IBD.

Prof. Manisha Dwivedi, Professor of Gastroenterology at the M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad spoke on the pathogenesis of ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease, and how the changing hygiene was influencing the epidemiology of IBD in Indians.

Prof. Govind Makharia from the Dept of Gastroenterology, at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi delivered the lecture: “Ulcerative Colitis in Indians: Problems in Diagnosis & Management”. Dr. Makharia who is also the convenor of the National Task force on IBD in Indians provided an algorithmic approach to diagnosis and management of Ulcerative Colitis in Indians.

Prof. Ganesh Pai, the Head of Dept. of Gastroenterology at the Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Karnataka delivered the lecture: “Approach to Management of Crohn’s Disease”. He highlighted the problems in diagnosing and treating Crohn’s Disease in a country like India where Intestinal Tuberculosis is so common.

Dr. Mahesh K Goenka, Director, Institute of Gastroenterology, at the Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals, Kolkata spoke on the endoscopic diagnosis of IBD. He stressed upon the role of newer endoscopic procedures like Capsule Endoscopy and Double Enteroscopy in improving diagnosis of small intestinal inflammatory diseases.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Kedarnath Panda, consultant gastroenterologist in the department of Gastroenterology, Kalinga Hospital, Bhubaneswar, followed by dinner.

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