

New benchmark set to deliver optimal osteoporosis care throughout Asia Pacific

Launch of first pan-Asia Pacific minimum clinical standards for the screening, diagnosis & management of osteoporosis

Today (Thursday, January 28, 2021), the Asia Pacific Consortium on Osteoporosis (APCO) will launch the first pan-Asia Pacific clinical practice standards for the screening, diagnosis, and management of osteoporosis, targeting a broad range of high-risk groups.

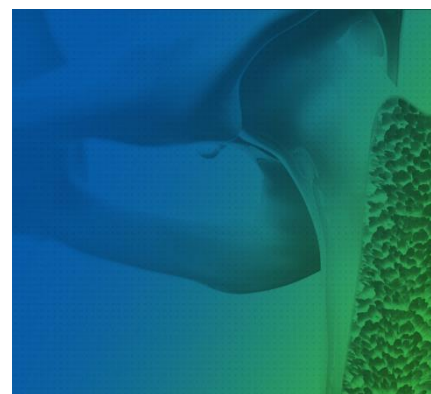
Set for publication in [Osteoporosis International](#), 'The APCO Framework' comprises 16 minimum clinical standards that will serve as a benchmark for the provision of optimal osteoporosis care in the region.

This set of clear, concise, relevant and pragmatic clinical standards aim to support national societies, guidelines development authorities, and health care policy makers with the development of new guidelines, and to encourage the revision of existing guidelines.

Implementation of The APCO Framework, or a similar set of standards of care informed by the Framework, is expected to significantly reduce the burden of osteoporosis not only in the Asia Pacific region, but also worldwide.

The number of people aged 60 years and over in the Asia-Pacific region – home to more than a third of the world's population aged 65 years and over, and to more elderly people than any other region¹ – is predicted to triple between 2010 and 2050, reaching a staggering 1.3 billion people.² Osteoporotic fractures among Asia-Pacific populations are expected to increase exponentially, not only due to the region's rapidly aging population, but also to mounting urbanisation, and the subsequent increase in sedentary lifestyles.³ Currently one-in-four patients who sustain a hip fracture die within a year, and less than half of those who survive, regain their previous level of function.^{4,5}

To learn more about how The APCO Framework is set to achieve greater consistency in clinical practice guidelines across Asia Pacific, tee up an interview with an expert (below), today.



EXPERTS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW	
Dr Manju Chandran	APCO Executive Committee Chairperson, Senior Consultant, Department of Endocrinology, Director, Osteoporosis & Bone Metabolism Unit, Singapore General Hospital, SINGAPORE
Dr Philippe Halbout	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF), APCO Executive Committee member, SWITZERLAND
Prof. Peter Ebeling AO	Medical Director, Osteoporosis Australia & APCO Executive Committee member, AUSTRALIA
Dr Zhao Yanling	Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Beijing United Family Hospital, & APCO Member, Beijing, CHINA
Prof. Atsushi Suzuki	Professor & Chair, Department of Endocrinology & Metabolism, Fujita Health University & APCO Member, JAPAN
Prof. Yoon-Sok Chung	Professor, Department of Endocrinology & Metabolism, Director, Ajou Institute on Aging, Ajou University Medical Center & APCO Member, SOUTH KOREA
Dr Hew Fen Lee	Consultant Endocrinologist, Puchong Medical Specialist Centre, Subang Jaya Medical Centre & APCO member, MALAYSIA
Dato' Dr. Lee Joon-Kiong	Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Beacon Hospital & APCO Member, MALAYSIA
Dr Nigel Gilchrist	Specialist Consultant Physician, Canterbury District Health Board & APCO Executive Committee Member, Christchurch, NEW ZEALAND
Mr Paul Mitchell	Adjunct Senior Lecturer, School of Medicine, University of Notre Dame Australia & APCO Executive Committee Member, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND

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2. United National Population Fund (UNFPA) Asia & the Pacific. *Ageing*. [Nov, 2020]; Available from: <https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/node/15208>.
3. International Osteoporosis Foundation, *The Asia-Pacific Regional Audit: Epidemiology, costs & burden of osteoporosis in 2013*. 2013. p. 1-128.
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