
The Malaysian Node of the Human Variome Project (MyHVP) and the Human Variome Project International (HVPI) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia, the Cyprus Institute of Neurology & Genetics and the National University of Malaysia will host the Global Globin 2020 (GG2020) Challenge Conference for 2019 with the theme "Enhancing Partnership in Genomic Capacity and Equitable Healthcare" on October 28-30, 2019, at the UNESCO Headquarters Paris, France.

The Global Globin 2020 Challenge (GG2020) 2019 Conference is the third of such conference that was previously held in Kuala Lumpur and Penang, Malaysia. The theme "Enhancing Partnership in Genomic Capacity and Equitable Healthcare" is chosen as it focuses on topics that addresses variant detection in genes causative of blood / haemoglobin disease, leading to shared knowledge of advanced human genomic data. GG2020 is a project under the initiative of the HVP (Human Variome Project, a non-governmental organization (NGO) recognized as a working partner by UNESCO) that aims to leverage the latest developments in the human genome involving the collection and sharing of systematic data to combat haemoglobin disease (especially thalassemia and sickle cell disease) in low-income countries as well as developing countries.

The two-and-a-half-day conference will bring together 26 well known, experienced, and knowledgeable speakers, mostly from Europe, Asia including Southeast Asia. Professor Phillippe LeBoulch, as the keynote speaker, will share the success of gene therapy in his keynote address on October 29, 2019. He is the scientific founder of the Bluebird Bio Company based in Cambridge, United States, instrumental for research in the field of gene therapy with regards to thalassaemia.

The organizer has prepared a spectrum of current topics at this conference for participants to explore and share knowledge particularly on diagnostics, health system management, data sharing, curation and interpretation of new variants, and other topics which are related to haemoglobin/ blood diseases especially thalassaemia. Participation in this conference will assist students, academicians and professional in terms of capacity building and skills development which is facilitated through sharing experiences and knowledge in the field of medicine especially haemoglobinopathies, by leading professionals attending the conference.

The organisers seek your cooperation and assistance to disseminate information on this conference to all your colleagues to encourage participation in the GG2020 2019 conference: "Enhancing Partnership in Genomic Capacity and Equitable Healthcare". The conference e-poster is attached for your reference.

Your kind attention and cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.