

By: Ellist L. Muñiz

As the attendees visited our WGO booth at DDW, we had many positive comments and interest about the Morocco display, as we were promoting Gastro 2024 that will take place at Marrakech, Morocco.

Who visited DDW?

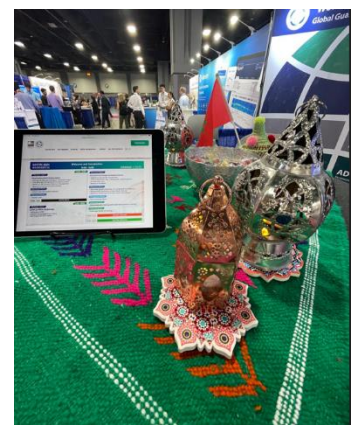
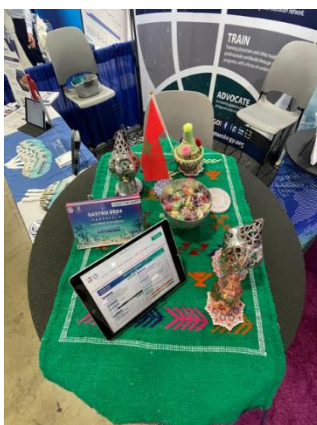
The latest updates

Digestive Disease Week (DDW) was held in Washington, D.C. in-person & Online on May 18th - 21st. There were programs through lectures, hands-on workshops and other scientific sessions that offered attendees the opportunity to earn CME and MOC credits.

Professor Geoffrey Metz, WGO President, Professor Carolina Olano, President Elect, Professor Guilherme Macedo, Past President, Professor Vivek Kaul, Secretary General, Dr. Luis Carlos Sabbagh, Director of WGO Bogotá Training Center, Professor Anita Afzali from USA, Dr. Hani Abis from Bogotá Colombia, many doctors and professors visited our WGO booth at DDW in Washington, DC.

GASTRO 2024

When: November 7, 2024 - November 9, 2024
Location: Marrakech
Country: Morocco
Organizer(s): WGO and the Société Marocaine des Maladies de l'Appareil Digestif
Website: <https://www.worldgastroenterology.org/meetings/wgo-international-meetings>



Register Now and Submit an Abstract

<https://www.wgosmmad2024.com>



Professor Geoffrey Metz, President
Dr. Luis Carlos Sabbagh

Dr. Leticia Moreira



Dr. Mathew Philip



Prof. Wafaa Badre



Prof. Vivek Kaul



Professor Guilherme Macedo, Past President
Professor Susana Lopes



Prof. Jose M. Sanguinetti (Pepe) and Dr. Claudia Defilippi



Prof. Hani Abis and her Colleague

Ankara Training Center
Active

Professor Dilek Oguz



Myanmar Training Center
The latest updates

Prof. Than Than Aye

The Training Center needs remote training assistance.....Please reach out to Dr. Luis C. Sabbagh (sabbaghluis@gmail.com) for further information

La Paz Training Center
The latest updates

Dr. Miguel Villa Gomez

18th International Course on Advanced in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy
WGO La Paz Training Center

By: Ellist L. Muñiz

Cont... with photos from DDW

Dr. Alejandro Piscoya



Left to right: Prof. Guillemo Macedo, Prof. Geoffrey Metz, Prof. Carolina Olano and Dr. Wojciech M. Marlicz

Prof. Anita Afzali



Prof. Carolina Olano and Dr. Mashiko Setshedi



By: Ellist L. Muñiz

Cont... DDW photos

Dr. Luis C. Sabbagh and Dr. Diego Aponte
Director / Co-Director of
WGO Bogotá Training Center



Dr. Fabian Juliao, Colombia

Ankara Training Center

By: Ellist L. Muñiz

WGO Ankara Training Center

The latest updates to get you through the day

As of March 2024, the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology (TSG) made the decision to replace Professor Dilek Oğuz as the new director of the Ankara Training Center. Professor Dilek Oğuz is the immediate past president of TSG, and she was very successful and active during her presidency.

Dr. Luis Carlos Sabbagh welcomed Professor Dilek Oğuz to the Ankara Training Center. Professor Oğuz seeks deeply to understand their training process and will use a clear, structured approach to do all training as required and projects. The Training Center is to facilitate, educate, shape, and tone the participant's skills. Keeping in mind Professor Oğuz is in the process of understanding the Center's process.

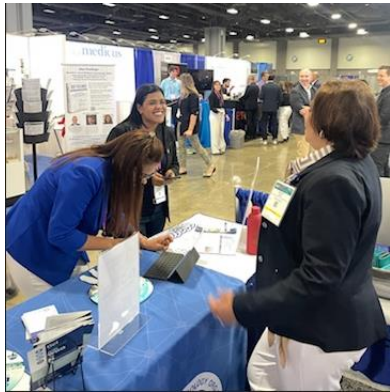
Professor Oğuz extends her thank you to all who has trusted her for the Director position at the Ankara Training Center. She will excel in her duties as she has done in every position she has performed. The programs will be designed to teach the knowledge and skills that are necessary for the participants.

Dr. Luis Carlos Sabbagh wants to thank Professor A. Sedat Boyacıoğlu for all the years of service as the Director of Ankara Training Center up-to February 2024. It was a pleasure working with Professor Boyacıoğlu. We wish Professor Boyacıoğlu all the best in his new adventure, we hope to see him soon.

By: Ellist L. Muñiz

Cont.... DDW Photos

As attendees approached the WGO booth at DDW, they were welcomed to sign into WGO's mailing list. This will keep them informed of any information we send out.



Right end: Dr. Varocha Mahachai



Left to right: Dr. Hanna Aberra, Dr. Tony Tham and Prof. Anita Afzali



Left to right: Dr. Walter Bejarano, Prof. Geoffrey Metz, Prof. Carolina Olano and Dr. Luis C. Sabbagh



Dr. Herbert Burgos
Director WGO San Jose Training Center



Dr. Shivangi Kothari and Dr. Harshit Khara

Dr. Walter Bejarano is from Cali, Colombia, he has attended the Train the Trainers (TTT) in Pereira, Colombia that was held in 2023. He also attended Dr. Luis C. Sabbagh's 30th Anniversary Course in Bogotá, Colombia and SPED in Santiago, Chile. He has been very active regarding informing himself of any updates / workshops that will benefit him. We were happy to see him at DDW.

Dr. Jorge Espinoza & Dr. Alejandro Piscoya



Dr. Bradley Stillman and Prof. Jonathan Leighton



Milly Gonzalez and Dr. Wojciech Marlicz

By: Ellist L. Muñiz

More.... DDW photos



Dr. Shounak Majumder and Dr. Mahesh Goenka



Dr. Sonam Mathur



Dr. Sridhar Sundaram

DDW is an event that occurs every year in different states. WGO gets the opportunity to have a booth and welcome as many doctors and professionals at their booth. But the first ones we would like to see are those doctors and professors that are members of WGO, Directors or Co-Directors of one of the WGO's Training Centers, Faculty, or members of any of our committees for a quick photo.

It was a pleasure seeing everyone at DDW. A huge thank you to all of you that show-up at the WGO booth. Thank you for supporting us and making a difference.



By: Ellist L. Muñiz

WGO Myanmar Training Center

The plan was to start *remote training* in September 2023; for Endo-Nurses. We need those who can assist with training. If you can assist, please send an email to emuniz@worldgastroenterology.org and Mrs. Ellist L. Muñiz will forward the information to the appropriate area / people.

The following Directors has agreed to assist Myanmar:

Dr. Luis C. Sabbagh, Bogota Training Center

Professor Guilherme Macedo, Porto Training Center

Professor Ibrahim Mostafa, Cairo Training Center

Dr. Luis C. Sabbagh has emailed Prof. Ibrahim Mostafa the program for him to review the Myanmar remote training. Prof. Mostafa is in the process of reviewing and reconnecting with Dr. Sabbagh to further assist Myanmar Training Center.



By: Miguel Villa-Gomez Zalles

WGO La Paz Training Center

The latest updates to get you through the day

WGO La Paz Training Center had organized their 18th International Course on Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy. The courses received students (young Gastroenterologists) from all over Latin America. During the 18th International Course, WGO La Paz Training Center had 40 students and 9 international professors. The activities were conducted on June 6th and 7th, in the La Paz with conferences and live cases.

They continued in Cochabamba on June 8th, 9th and 10th with community care (Community Care Projection Program), community education with the “giant colon” and the OPGE/SIED and AEG/WGO La Paz Training Center symposiums.



By: Prof. Ibrahim Mostafa

**WGO Cairo Training Center
The latest update**

The Cairo Training Center focuses on Dedicated Hepatology Theoretical courses, Dedicated Post Graduate course, Hands on Liver Stiffness, Hands on Liver Biopsy, Hands on of Liver ultrasound, Hands on Eno Hepatology, Variceal bleeding management, EUS for portal hyper-triton

By: Prof. Liliana Sampaio Costa Mendes

**WGO Brasilia Training Center
The latest update**

The Brasilia Training Center focuses on Clinical hepatology, radio-interventional procedures, liver transplantation, radiology, biliary endoscopy procedures, preceptors and hands on. Training do not have Fibro-scan

The Training Center needs speakers from other countries. The Training Center did not had people specifically for Training in hepatology.

By: Shiv Sarin

**WGO New Delhi Training Center
The latest update**

The New Delhi Training Center focuses on:

- Outpatient adult hepatology services

- Outpatient pediatric hepatology services
- Transplant hepatology services
- Liver transplantation [LDLDT and DDLT]
- Upper GI Endoscopy [diagnostic and therapeutic (EVL, glue injection Gastric varices, Danis Sx alla stent placement)]
- Colonoscopy [diagnostic and therapeutic]
- Hepatic hemodynamics (HVPG/PAP)
- Liver biopsy (Percutaneous/Trans-juglar/EUS guided)
- Fibro-scan
- ERCP [Therapeutic (stone extractions, plastic and metallic stents placement)]
- EUS [diagnostic and therapeutic (FNAC/FNB/Cystogastrostomy etc.)]
- Diagnostic Radiology [CT/MRI/Contract USG, Doppler, PET scan]
- Interventional radiology [TIPS, TACE, RFA, BRTO/PATO, Hepatic vein stenting/balloon dilation for BCS]
- Radiotherapy [SBRT for HCC]
- Intensive care services including Plasma exchange/CRRT/DPMS etc.
- Hepato-pathology

By: Prof. Guilherme Macedo

**WGO Porto Training Center
The latest update**

The Porto Training Center focuses on:

An intensive Hepatology training program, which includes immersion in clinical hepatology (with weekly clinical rounds on all in-patients in the Department, every other weekly pathology meeting with live cases discussed with Pathology and our specialists), outpatient hepatology clinic performing 10 thousand consultations per year, experience with all types of liver biopsy (including EUS and trans jugular), ultrasound and liver and spleen elastography. Banding endoscopic sessions for portal hypertensive patients, ERCP 500 cases per year, organization of 2-3 yearly masterclass sessions (regional meetings) and 1 Clinical Hepatology Preceptorship Course every year (national/international)

By: Dr. Mario Reis Alvares-da-Silva

**WGO Porto Alegre Training Center
The latest update**

The Porto Alegre Training Center focuses on:

- General Hepatology (Hepatology Master Course)
- Viral Hepatitis
- Liver Steatosis
- Hepatocellular Carcinoma
- Liver Transplantation
- Critical and Emergency Care in Hepatology
- Liver Pathology

By: Prof. Chris Hair and Prof. Mai Ling Perman

**WGO Suva Training Center
The latest update**

The Suva Training Center focus is on: Hepatology topics are taught directly to the diploma of Medicine and Master of Medicine in the formal post graduate program through FNU. The teaching occurs during the month-long gastro program hosted at the WGO Training Center with FNU team and ANZGITA team. Ad hoc teaching may occur during that month including grand round topics, informal teaching within the endoscopy program (maybe short tutorials cases etc.) and on ward rounds with staff and students. Cases are often discussed remotely between colleagues, for example for weeks ago Prof. Chris Hair was discussing a referral for a liver transplant with a Fijian consultant. The Training Center has no liver transplant access and no Fibro scan. A significant amount of work and effort has been developed with Dr Alice Lee, hepatitis B free foundation and the Fiji MOH and its staff around liver disease and viral hepatitis. This is a component of a broader effort across the pacific with Prof. Alice Lee team to assist island countries in their efforts to treat and minimize harm from hepatitis B infection. This is both an educational and development program, and an exemplar to the world.

Training Center's Anniversary
1 year Anniversary for Brasilia Training Center
20 – 24 years Anniversary – Cairo, Rabat, Karachi & South Africa Training Center

Training Center	Country	Inaugurated as a WGO Training Center	Years
Addis Ababa	Ethiopia	April 18th, 2015	9
Ankara	Turkey	December 10th, 2013 & Relaunch on April 10th, 2015	9
Blantyre	Malawi	May 10th, 2016	8
Cairo	Egypt	March 1st, 2004	20
Khartoum	Sudan	January 10th, 2015	9
Lagos	Nigeria	April 18th, 2015	9
Nairobi	Kenya	May 6th, 2016	8
Rabat	Morocco	Jan--2003	21
SAGES-ADD	South Africa	June 23rd, 2000	24
Bogotá	Colombia	August 6th, 2008	16
Brasilia	Brazil	7/15/2023	1 in Jul
La Paz	Bolivia	March 14th, 2005	19
La Plata	Argentina	March 21st, 2007	17
Mexico City	Mexico	July 28th, 2008	16
Porto Alegre	Brazil	November 30th, 2012	12
San José	Costa Rica	March 5th, 2010	14
Bangkok	Thailand	March 20th, 2006	18
Karachi	Pakistan	May --- 2003	21
Suva	Fiji	October 26th, 2008	16
Xi'an	China	March 20th, 2015	9
Yangon	Myanmar	March 16th, 2015	9
New Delhi	India	April 26th, 2015	9
Porto	Portugal	June 9th, 2015	9
Rome	Italy	May 11th, 2006	18

By: Martin Yantorno

Administrator of WGO La Paz Training Center

WGO La Plata Training Center The latest update

Since 2007, the WGO La Plata Advanced Training Center has continued to train young gastroenterologists from all over Latin America. The center is part of a hospital of the public health system, with a training unit with more than 25 years of experience, assisting patients in one of the largest districts in Argentina. The great demand for care means that various pathologies can be treated, many of which are highly complex, said Martin Yantorno.

To provide an adequate and quality response, the center has been incorporating technologies for access to the entire population, along with advanced endoscopic practices.

Third Space Endoscopy

Together with the Neurogastroenterology unit, the Training Center performs high-resolution manometry studies for the diagnosis and characterization of patients with achalasia. These patients are then treated with the POEM technique, associating monitoring with EndoFlip during the procedure to ensure better results said Martin Yantorno.

The Training Center continues with the treatment of mucosal lesions with suspected superficial submucosal invasion with an approach using endoscopic submucosal dissection. In addition, certain subepithelial lesions are treated under resection through submucosal tunneling.

Interventional Ultrasound Endoscopy

In recent years we have been constantly training in interventional techniques by echo-endoscopy, in ultrasound-guided biliary drainage techniques (choledochoduodenostomy and hepatic-gastrostomy) and gastroenteroanastomosis, with excellent technical and clinical results in our patients. "We also perform ultrasound-guided radiofrequency techniques for the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors," said Martin Yantorno.

Simulation in endoscopic training

In recent years we have acquired high-quality mechanical simulators for the training of our fellows in upper and lower digestive endoscopy and ERCP. "These simulators allow us to improve learning curves, achieve competence and perfect basic and advanced techniques before practicing them on patients," said Martin.

The Training Center will continue working to improve their teaching techniques and learning models for their fellows, seeking to provide quality medical care!!



By: Martin Yantorno

WGO La Plata Training Center

More...photos and contact information



Contact:

Center Directors: Dr. Francisco Tufare and Dr. Fernando Baldoni

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La Plata, Argentina 1900
E-mail: tufare@yahoo.com.ar and baldoni.f@yahoo.com.ar
Website: www.laplatatrainingcenter.com

Administrator: Martin Yantorno
Email: martinyantorno@hotmail.com



By: Prof. Guilherme Macedo

WGO Porto Training Center The latest update

WGO Porto Training Center was the non-commercial sponsor of an extremely popular yearly initiative, the “Corrida de S. João” (St John Run), celebrating and anticipating the festivities of S. João on June the 23rd, an important patron of the town and also of many regions in Portugal. Our Training Center, based in Hospital S. João, Porto, assumed this great opportunity to advertise and promote Digestive Health, which in fact became the motto for this year’s 10 km run and 7km walk, allowing the athletes and public to enjoy the magnificent view that unites the Douro River and the Atlantic Ocean throughout the course.

The support to this event was meant to raise curiosity and draw large attention to the benefits of physical exercise in Digestive Health. Local radios and TV (beyond the obvious ubiquitous social media) made large covering of this partnership that brought together more than 5 thousand participants, from 36 different countries and 5 continents!

The podium ceremony included not only the winners, but also the Director of the WGO Training Center, the Run Porto’s General Director, the Town Councilor and Fernanda Ribeiro a former Olympic gold medal in 10 km in Atlanta 1996, also European and World champion in this length. It was a great opportunity to show casing Gastroenterology in its multiple features and modern accomplishments, as everyone became completely aware of the importance and role of preventive strategies we currently use and adopt.

In fact, all credits were given to their message: run for your *Digestive Health!*



Out of the box initiatives, always raising Gastroenterology in its different settings.

By: Dr. Abdelmounem Abdo

WGO Khartoum Training Center The latest update

After the beginning of the Sudan war in April 2023, the Khartoum Training Center, along with the National Center for Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases, managed to relocate to the city of Medani, 180 kilometers south of Khartoum. The center successfully reinstated gastroenterology services within three months, as published in the September 2023 issue of the WGO newsletter.

The center was able to provide endoscopy, gastroenterology, hepatobiliary, and pancreatic services with the support of the Federal Ministry of Health and Gezira Ministry of Health. The main challenge was retaining trained personnel in the fields of gastroenterology, hepatobiliary, and liver transplantation. The center managed to retain 70% of these staff members by working at the Gezira Center for Endoscopy and Laparoscopic Surgery.

Within five months, the center performed 350 ERCPs and over 60 hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgeries, serving many war-displaced individuals from all states of Sudan. Additionally, the center trained two consultant gastroenterologists in ERCP and more than 30 fellows in general medicine and surgery.



Unfortunately, the city of Medani was attacked by Rapid Support Forces on December 15, 2023, leading to the displacement of the city’s residents and war-displaced individuals to other cities, which caused the collapse of medical services, including gastroenterology services.

By: Dr. Abdelmounem Abdo
Cont...WGO Khartoum Training Center
The latest update

Kassala, in eastern Sudan, was chosen to be the new gastroenterology hub. Preparations began for a new center to provide these services, but this time, the center lost 80% of its workforce. However, the center did not stop. The major challenge was continuing to provide ERCP services, which had been absent throughout Sudan for the past three months. The center managed to reinstate these services, overcoming all difficulties with support from the Federal Ministry of Health, the Kassala Ministry of Health, and the Advanced Diagnostic Center administration.

One major challenge was finding a fluoroscopy machine. The center was able to utilize a C-arm, which was part of a non-functioning urology lithotripsy machine. The lithotripsy part was non-functional, but the C-arm was working. The main obstacle we faced was the table used for the procedure, which was customized for urology services. The staff faced difficulty moving the C-arm through the urology table.

Additionally, the mirroring image of the fluoroscopy had a right and left mirror image but not an up-down mirroring, and the fluoroscopy image for the ERCP position was up-down. To overcome these issues, we designed a locally made table and fixed the screen up-down, resolving these issues.

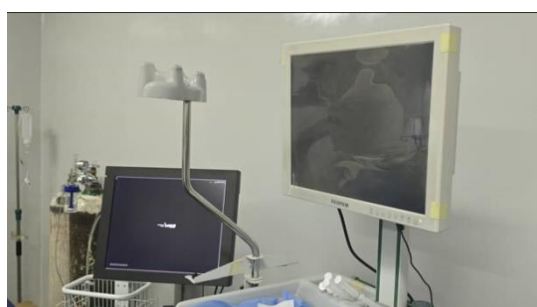
After the first five cases, we encountered the challenge of displaying the fluoroscopy image on a single screen, which was fixed in the C-arm, for both the radiology technician and the endoscopist, said Dr. Abdo. To overcome this, the staff managed to connect the C-arm to another screen using DVR (Digital Video Recording) technology from security cameras. This helped them overcome this issue. In addition, they used this technology to record all cases' fluoroscopic and endoscopic views. The center is considering using it for live demonstrations and conference participation, as they have done this before but with the help of a professional team.

From **March 26 to May 15**, the center performed 170 biliary ERCP cases, with three lists per week, each list serving no fewer than six patients, plus an additional list if there were patients waiting. This is because 90% of them come from other states, as shown in the graph. We are trying to resolve those issues and refer patients back to their referring doctors.

Currently, the center is training three gastroenterologists and nursing staff. The center is now thinking of establishing ERCP services in at least two other states.

The center is currently developing an ERCP fellowship program. The proposal has been written, and consultations are ongoing with many colleagues in this field and the Sudan Gastroenterology Fellowship program on how to approve the proposal and grant certification.

There is no benefit in war, but we must deal with its negative consequences and turn them into positive actions that benefit those affected by the war. **We will never give up**, said Dr. Abdo



By: Prof. Nonthalee Pausawasdi
WGO Bangkok Training Center
The latest update

The WGO Bangkok Training Center has summarized their Endoscopy Training Center's activities between 2023-2024.

- Lectures
- Lectures and hands-on
- Live Endoscopy - demonstration only
- Live Endoscopy - with trainee participation

Since all trainees should have hands-on practice during their training period, several training sites within the Bangkok Metropolitan Area have been included so that an appropriate number of patients and endoscopic events can be accommodated.

By: Ellist L Muñiz
The scoop of the day
The latest update

e-WGN – To all Directors and Co-Directors
Things to keep in mind

The e-WGN EPOV form has changed.

Please use the online submission form using the following link:
<https://form.jotform.com/231257798490064>.

You can find all submission instructions and it will make sure you will have all needed components prior submission.

Issue 3
 Content Deadline – July 12th, 2024
 Publication Date – September 11th, 2024

Issue 4
 Content Deadline – October 11th, 2024
 Publication Date – December 11th, 2024