

# **Second ACNS hands on course in Nanjing - A Neurosurgical feast for the Young Neurosurgeons**

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## **Abstract**

ACNS hands courses are done by the Asian Congress of Neurological surgeons. This provides a way for young Neurosurgeons to understand and practice complex vascular, skull base and vascular procedures. Young Neurosurgeons from all over the world come, interact and learn during these courses. One has to be a registered member of ACNS to attend the course. Usually, 10 to 20 Young Neurosurgeons and 2 medical students are sponsored for this event (registration and local hospitality). The first ACNS course was done in Tyumen in October 2013 and the second one was in Nanjing, November 2013. The third and the fourth ACNS educational hands on courses will be done in Karachi and Coventry respectively.

## **Key words - ACNS, hands on educational courses, Nanjing**

The second ACNS hands on course was done in the beautiful city of Nanjing in Jiangsu province China on the 9th and 10th of November, 2013. As the organizing secretary, I had the pleasure of being in the elite company of Prof. Yoko Kato ( President Asian Congress of Neurological surgeons), Professor Lukui Chen ( President of the congress), Professor Zhou Dingbiao ( President, Chinese Neurosurgical society) and Professor Peter Nakaji (Director of residency program, BNI, Phoenix, Arizona).

The esteemed faculty consisted other than us, Dr. Ying Mao (Huashan Hospital, Fudan University), Dr. Chao You ( West China Hospital, Sichuan University), Dr. Xiaobiao Zhang ( Zhongshan hospital, Fudan University) Tetsuro Sameshima, Kazu Ohmori and Y Sanada...

Nanjing is a beautiful city and despite having travelled to Nanjing seven times before, I was still amazed at the vastness and the beauty of the city.. The food was exotic and of course excellent. On 8th, we had dinner with Professor Chen and we were served sea cucumber and duck tongue soup amongst other delicacies..

On 9th, we had many excellent sessions from the esteemed Chinese Neurosurgeons, which served enough evidence to how advanced was microneurosurgery in China. Dr. Kato showed her excellent work in giant aneurysms and AVMS using flow 800, Dr. Chen talked about the experience of a Young Neurosurgeon and Dr. Nakaji showed some excellent slides on 3D surgery... I really wish this kind of technology was accessible to other parts of the world as well for training residents..

Dr. Sameshima(Hammamatsu University school of Medicine) , Dr. Sanada ( Kinki University) and Dr.Ohmori (Fuchu Hospital, Osaka) talked on various beautiful skull base approaches and I talked on my

usual topic, the cisternostomy and its advantages. The sessions were well attended and excellent interaction with young Neurosurgeons were done.. On the 9th night, we had dinner and a city tour of Nanjing.

On 10th, we went to the impressive anatomy lab that the Zhongda hospital in the morning. We split into different teams and demonstrated Endoscopic approaches to the skull base and also the FTOZ, anterior clinoidectomy, transcavernous approaches, intradural posterior clinoid removal, approaches to the basilar top and cisternostomy approaches, drilling of the Kawase triangle, combined ST-IT approaches with cutting of the tent, and approaches to the vertebral artery and the lower cranial nerves. Transcondylar approach was also shown by another team.

Young Neurosurgeons were thrilled to see all these approaches and were keen to learn more in the coming courses.

On the 11th morning it was time for parting and we all thanked the organizers for the excellent academic feast and the hospitality..

We would like to thank Dr. Yoko Kato for her great efforts in education of the Young Neurosurgeons all over the world and Dr. Chen Lukui, president of this congress for his exceptional hospitality and his organizing such a wonderful congress.