

Zorgniotti Fund 2022 – Summary proposed project from APSSM

Background:

The Asia Pacific (AP) region accounts for more than 50% of the world population with a diverse socio-cultural and economic demography. Over the past decade, there has been considerable government initiatives to promote better healthcare system with a stronger emphasis on various sexual health education programs. However, there are considerable challenges to deliver high quality and evidence-based sexual medicine education and healthcare service in many AP countries. The APSSM has been working with many local sexual medicine organisations within the AP region to promote greater awareness, scientific collaborations, and the quality of sexual medicine education since the early 2000s.

The Sexual Medicine Education Intensive Course (SMEIC), developed with the financial support from the Zorgniotti fund since 2010s, is one of such programs conducted by APSSM to encourage and strengthen sexual medicine education and practice among current and future APSSM member countries.

Scientific Educational Program: The APSSM-SMEIC has been designed to educate, facilitate, and improve the delivery and implementation of sexual medicine educational programs and healthcare service in AP region through regular scientific partnership between sexual medicine experts from APSSM and local organisations. Over the past few years, the APSSM-SMEIC has gained significant interest and positive feedbacks among APSSM member countries and is recognised as a premier sexual medicine educational program incorporating state-of-the-art educational curriculum, robust discussion forum on contemporary issues and hands-on surgical workshop.

This intensive course allows for greater exchange of scientific knowledge to advance and consolidate current evidence-based clinical practice as well as foster closer collegiality among APSSM members. Furthermore, APSSM aims to educate and promote local expertise to improve sexual medicine knowledge and encourage a self-sustainable sexual medicine courses/meetings in that country in the future. In turn, this will develop existing sexual medicine healthcare system and potentially translate to an increase in the membership within the APSSM (and ISSM) and encourage stronger members participation at future sexual medicine meetings.