

“To dream is simply to be pragmatic”

Mr. Shimon Peres the former president and prime minister of Israel

The Israeli Society Of
Urogynecology and Pelvic Floor



The ISPP (International Society of Pelviperineology) 2016 annual meeting took place at the Peres House for Peace on the Mediterranean Sea shore, in Tel-Aviv-Jaffa, 21-24th September 2016. This took place around the time Shimon Peres, one of the greatest leaders in Israeli history had passed away at the age of 93. The event was held in collaboration with The Israeli Society for Urogynecology and Pelvic Floor Medicine (ISUG), the Israeli Society of Urology and the Israeli Society of Colorectal Surgery. This was one of the biggest and most successful urogynecology conferences being held in Israel with involvement of more than 250 participants, in which more than 50 were guests from around the world (including: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Palestine, Slovenia, Reunion Island, Russia and Turkey). Preceding the meeting four workshops were held, focusing on the Integral Theory System, chronic pelvic pain, pelvic floor ultrasound and intractable OAB. Thereafter, eight plenary sessions and four original research sessions were conducted lasting for a full and very busy two days. Out of dozens of abstracts submitted, 40 were selected for oral presentation. The third day of the conference was dedicated for live surgeries for incontinence and pelvic floor prolapse reconstruction, vaginal and laparoscopic repairs, performed by masters and transmitted to the venue auditorium in an interactive mode.

The former president and Prime Minister, Mr. Shimon Peres, was known for always looking for new solutions – whether fighting for peace or pushing for scientific research and new technological innovations.

The ISUG is the official pelvic floor society in Israel. It brings together, urogynecologists, gynecologists, physiotherapists, nurses, and all medical professionals with an interest in pelvic floor disorders. The aims of ISUG are to bring together all medical professionals in the field in order to establish national clinical guidelines, promote health and disseminate information to patients, to share knowledge and provide a forum for research through scientific meetings, conferences and lectures and to academically and clinically stimulate the society's members.

The ISUG has decided to declare Pelviperineology Journal (PPJ) as an official journal of the society. We believe that the PPJ has an essential role in achieving the society's goals. Israeli researchers and authors are encouraged to submit their work to the PPJ and a link to the journals website is available on the society's website.

The ISUG is an active academic society on several levels:

- It holds annual conferences with a broad scientific program including sessions to present research abstracts of original studies especially emphasizing studies conducted by residents and young researchers.
- Discussions regarding issues with multidisciplinary aspects are organized and encouraged on “Friday morning” quarterly meetings, with the participation of physicians from different disciplines, such as gynecological endoscopists, physiotherapists, urologists and other professionals.
- Provides sponsorship and support for scientific meetings held in various medical centers throughout the country, in which experts from around the world discuss a subject or demonstrating live surgery.

Historically, ISUG was established in 2002 and in 2010, the ISUG organized the first IUGA Regional Symposium in Israel. This too was a very successful event with many participants from around the world including physicians from the Palestinian Authority. During this meeting the obstetrical anal sphincter injuries (OASIS) hands-on Workshop was first conveyed in Israel by Sultan and Tucker. This workshop was a milestone in the ISUG decision to adopt the program and implement it in Israel. Since then in the past six years, starting February 2011, the ISUG has worked vigorously to advance and substantiate the diagnosis and management OASIS and to raise the awareness and knowledge in this field, by delivering voluntarily the workshop at most of the hospitals in Israel.

Among the many activities of ISUG, one of the most important missions lays with the education and training of the younger generation. The ISUG conducts a unique final exam preparatory course for residents.

The society is in the process of establishing a formal urogynecology fellowship in Israel that would be recognized by the Scientific Council of the Israeli Medical Association.

ISUG is dedicated to advances in knowledge of urogynecological diseases, urinary or fecal incontinence, and vaginal prolapse and the dissemination of this knowledge to patients. For this reason the society is involved in the translation of international patient leaflets to Hebrew that are soon to be published. In addition, one of the ISUG's goals is to write and publish clinical guidelines and position statements in accordance with internationally accepted guidelines, but adapted to Israel. The society has already published position statements on management of overactive bladder syndrome and the diagnosis and management of obstetrical anal sphincter injuries.

One of ISUG's main goals for the future is to establish a formal school for urogynecology in order to better educate medical students, residents, nurses and physiotherapists in the field.

Finally, Mr. Shimon Peres had said “All my life I have worked to ensure that Israel's future is based on science and technology as well as on an unwavering moral commitment... They called me a dreamer. But today, when I look at Israel, we all can see clearly that the greater the dream, the more spectacular the results.” These visionary ideas are held by many in Israel and are an inspiration for the ISUG in the field of urogynecology and pelvic floor medicine.

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