APASL Single Topic Conference on Hepatitis C was held in Karachi, from 17th to 19th Oct 2014. The Conference was hosted by Pakistan Society for the Study of Liver Diseases (PSSLD). This meeting was indeed timely held as Pakistan is probably first Asian country where treatment of hepatitis C with directly acting antiviral agent (DAA) sofosbuvir has already been started. The program of this meeting was very appreciated by the attendants. The conference encompassed a wide range of topics related to hepatitis C and the presentations were excellent. The meeting discussed ways of translation from bench to bed side through clinical trials, practical approach and influence on decision makers.

The participants particularly appreciated the pragmatic approach of the first day’s session which strived to provide guidance to decision makers as to the way forward. It was also very valuable for everyone to learn about the hepatitis-control activities in the region. Deliberations made in this session may act as a resource document for all interested parties including hopefully the governments. Speakers from APASL, World Health Organization, CEVHAP, World Hepatitis Alliance and representatives from the government participated in this symposium.

The postgraduate course taught students, fellows and healthcare providers how to evaluate patients with liver disease. Various diagnostic modalities were discussed. Day 2 of the meeting was devoted to the new advances in the treatment of hepatitis C and HCV related hepatocellular carcinoma. On Day 3, there were sessions on case vignettes, free papers, treating hepatitis C in special populations and liver transplantation. Different aspects of management related to hepatitis C were discussed in these sessions. There were some very informative and thought provoking keynote lectures presented by renowned figures in the field.

The meeting brought together international experts from different countries of world to discuss the latest discoveries and advances in the field of hepatitis C. The International faculty included Kadir Dokmeci (President APASL), George KK Lau (Past President APASL) Seng Gee Lim (Past President APASL), Charles Gore (President World Hepatitis Alliance), Kwan Hyub Han (President APPLE), Lai Wei (President Chinese Society of Hepatology), Necati Ormeci (President Turkish Society of Gastroenterology), Gamal Shiha (Egypt), Homie Razavie (CDA USA), Oidov Baatarkhuu (President Mongolian Society of Hepatology), Graham Foster (UK), Stefan Wiktor (Team Lead, Global Hepatitis Program WHO), Francisco Averhoff (CDC USA), Ion Ancuta (Romania) and Ashley Brown (UK) This conference provided an ideal forum to disseminate the latest developments in the field hepatitis C to the community of hepatologists, gastroenterologists, internists, family physicians, and students.
Dr. Kadir Dokmeci President APASL addressing APASL STC on Hepatitis C 2014 Karachi Pakistan