

# Sri Lanka Association of Minimal Access & Digital Surgeons

## e-Newsletter

Volume 4

Issue 1

April 2023



### **Editors**

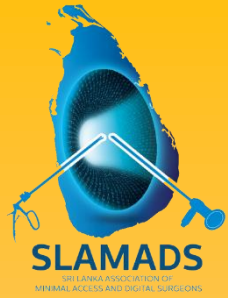
Kuda B Galketiya

Umesh Jayarajah

Chamila Lakmal

Rifat Jamaldeen

# Message from the President - SLAMADS



**My dear friends,**

It is great that training programmes and teaching activities continued despite COVID pandemic and the adverse socio-economic situation in the country. I am delighted all such CME activities have been normalized now. I take this opportunity to thank the editorial board of the SLAMADS newsletter for taking maximum effort to revive the newsletter in 2023.

When we established SLAMADS in 2020 with the objective of improving and maintaining standards and quality of minimally access surgery in Sri Lanka, one of our aims was to collaborate with other organizations around the world with similar interests. Fulfilling that aim and maintaining our MOU with ALSGBI, we organized the joint CME on 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2023. We are so fortunate that the Association of Minimal Access Surgeons of India (AMASI) wholeheartedly joined with us in this programme and I wish to thank the Presidents and the members of their councils of both ALSGBI and AMASI for joining hands with us. Also, I take this opportunity to thank Prof. C. Palanivelu, Founder President of AMASI and Prof. Tan Arulampalam, President Elect of the ALSGBI, both local and overseas faculty who shared their experiences with us during this CME session.



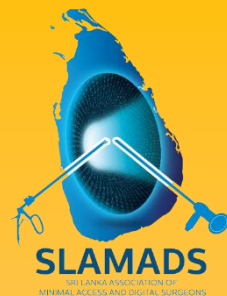
I am fortunate to have a council and an academic committee who have clearly understood the objectives of the SLAMADS and decided to have the CME programmes completely free of charge for the participants. I hope all Sri Lankan surgeons in other countries, who have not become members of the SLAMADS will join with us and share their expertise to develop MAS in the island.

I also like to announce that through SLAMADS young surgeons in Sri Lanka can have short term training scholarships to South Korea, offered by the Korean Society of Endo-laparoscopic & Robotic Surgery.

Let me also invite you to submit video recordings of MAS done by you to be published in our website and write ups of interesting clinical materials you have come across to be published in our newsletter which is directly linked with ALSGBI website.

Thank you,

**Prof. Bawantha Gamage**  
**Founder President, SLAMADS**

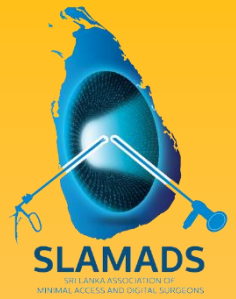


## From the Editors:

### Minimal Access Surgery (MAS) in Sri Lanka - Past, present and future

- It's four decades from the first laparoscopic cholecystectomy being reported. In early nineties, the technique was introduced to Sri Lanka by our trainers. They faced challenges of learning a new skill as well as purchasing expensive equipment. The second generation were exposed to MAS during foreign training and were able to establish services away from Colombo. The next generation of trainees had training locally as well as overseas and it is a pleasure to note a rapid growth of places providing MAS as well as an increasing range of procedures being performed, during the last decade.
- The College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka played a leading role to uplift MAS services by organizing training programs as well as guiding the Ministry of Health to provide facilities in a growing number of hospitals.
- In the latter part of 2020, a long-felt need was fulfilled by the establishment of Sri Lanka Minimal Access and Digital surgeons (SLAMADS), under the umbrella of the College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka. Since inception, SLAMADS has taken a pioneering role in streamline training in MAS.
- The aim of the newsletter is to embrace activities of SLAMADS as well as to provide a platform for surgeons to share their experiences.
- With progressive development of bio-medical engineering, the scope of MAS is rapidly evolving. While appreciating the cost of new developments are high, it is important to fall in line with the rest of the world. In spite of financial drawbacks in the country, standards of medical education as well as services were never compromised.
- Keep going when the going gets tough!

# Point of view



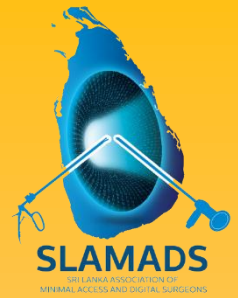
## Per-operative cholangiography- Routine or selective?

- The debate on routine vs. selective cholangiography during laparoscopic cholecystectomy continues.
- Advocates argue that routine cholangiography will delineate biliary anatomy, detect common bile duct stones and avoid bile duct injuries. In addition, it may help to identify other clinically silent diseases, such as cholangiocarcinoma and choledochal cyst.
- Surgeons who advocate selective use, cite the increased cost, time and the low yield.
- Proponents cite the cost and time of intraoperative cholangiography are outweighed by that of managing bile duct injuries and working up retained stones postoperatively. Opponents argue that bile duct injuries can be avoided by proper dissecting technique, demonstrating critical view safety. The silent stones picked up during cholangiography may pass out spontaneously or may remain silent.
- However, as there is a growing number of centres performing routine per-operative cholangiography, it is advisable for surgical trainees to master the technique.

Kuda B Galketiya



# Recently held CME activities



## Thoracoscopic Oesophagectomy

**Live Demonstration**

Pre-Congress Workshop  
SLCO '22

**Interactive Session With The Experts**

- Pre-operative evaluation
- Technical aspects of the procedure
- Oncological Controversies
- Post-operative care

Sri Lanka Association of Surgical Oncologists  
in collaboration with  
Sri Lanka College of Minimal Access and Digital Surgeons  
and  
College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka

**Onsite Registration at 8am  
2022/12/07**

Theatre complex, National Cancer Institute Maharagama

For all Surgeons and Trainees  
Free Registration  
[Click here or Scan QR](#)

Course Coordinator  
Dr Niroshan Atulugama  
0772374569

## Hands-on Endoscopy for Surgical Registrars – Oesophagogastrroduodenoscopy (OGD) /Flexible Sigmoidoscopy (FS)

Organized by  
Sri Lanka Association of Minimal Access and Digital Surgeons  
&  
The College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka  
In collaboration with  
The Kandy Society of Medicine

**Objectives**

1. Indications and precautions
2. Common findings and how to record
3. Patient preparation
4. Maintenance of scopes
5. How to troubleshoot
6. Perform Oesophagogastrroduodenoscopy & Flexible Sigmoidoscopy

Venue: National Hospital Kandy  
Date: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
Registration Fee: Rs 1000/-

Time: 08.00am-10.30am (Lectures at Eye auditorium)  
11.00pm-3.00pm (Practicals at Endoscopy Unit)

Registration: Please contact Ms. Chatusha (0112682290/0112695080) between 9am - 4pm on or before 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Course Co-ordinator:  
Dr. Chathuranga Keppetiayagama

## LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY WORKSHOP WITH LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

For Surgeons And Trainees  
Organised By  
(SLAMADS) Sri Lanka Association For Minimal Access And Digital Surgeons

In Collaboration with  
The College of Surgeons Sri Lanka, Northern Chapter

**18th MARCH 2022  
8 AM - 2 PM**

**TEACHING HOSPITAL  
JAFFNA  
JICA THEATRE  
COMPLEX**

**FOR REGISTRATION**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1U0497n5o8mERZSeTyPSPihutYL\\_dzskvBalsYVv1Rg/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1U0497n5o8mERZSeTyPSPihutYL_dzskvBalsYVv1Rg/edit)

**CONTACT**  
DR K KAROORAN - 0771876886  
DR M SUMAN - 0779012275

## SLAMADS-ALSGBI-AMASI JOINT CME SESSION

**22nd MARCH 2023**

**PROGRAM**

**19:15 - 19:30 (IST)  
13:45-14:00(GMT)** **INAUGURATION**

**19:30 - 20:30 (IST)  
14:00-15:00(GMT)** **CASE I  
COLORECTAL**

**20:30 - 21:30 (IST)  
15:00-16:00(GMT)** **CASE II  
HEPATOBILIARY**

**21:30 - 22:30 (IST)  
16:00-17:00(GMT)** **CASE III  
UPPER GI**

**REGISTRATION FREE**

Organized By  
**SLAMADS**  
THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF SRI LANKA

**Prof Tan Arulampalam**  
President ALSGBI

**Mr. Altaf Awan**  
Consultant HPB Surgeon

**Mr S Kadiramanathan**  
Consultant UGI Surgeon

**Prof C R Selvasekar**  
Consultant Colorectal Surgeon

**Prof YKS Viswanath**  
Consultant UGI Surgeon

**Prof C Palanivelu**  
Founder President ALSGBI

**Dr C J Varghese**  
President AMASI

**Dr Kalpesh Jani**  
Consultant GI Surgeon

**Dr RV Patankar**  
Consultant GI Surgeon

**Dr P.Senthilnathan**  
Consultant GI Surgeon

**Prof Bawantha Gamage**  
President SLAMADS

**Dr C. Keppetiayagama**  
Consultant GI Surgeon

**Dr. Rasitha Manathunga**  
Consultant Oesophageal Surgeon

**Dr Manjula Pathirana**  
Consultant General Surgeon

**Dr Udaya Samarasekera**  
Consultant General Surgeon

**Dr Sanjeev Samarasekera**  
Consultant GI Surgeon

**Prof DN Samarasekera**  
President CSSL

**Dr Rukman Sanjeeva**  
Consultant General Surgeon

**Dr Rameendra Senaratne**  
Consultant General Surgeon

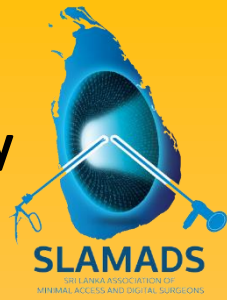
**Prof Rohan Siriwardena**  
Consultant GI Surgeon

**SCAN QR FOR REGISTRATION**

<https://slamads.lk/>  
slamads2020@gmail.com  
+94112682290

**SUN PHARMACEUTICALS**  
**Pantocid**

# CME on Thoracolaparoscopic Oesophagectomy



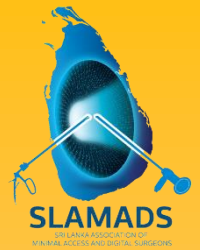
An interactive session and live demonstration of minimally invasive oesophagectomy was organised by the Sri Lanka Association of Surgical Oncologists and the SLAMADS in December 2022 as a part of pre-congress workshop SLCO 2022.

The trainees and surgeons benefitted from the array of interactive discussions on the technical aspects of the procedure, troubleshooting and pre/post-operative care.





# Hands-on Workshop on Endoscopy for Surgical Registrars



A hands-on endoscopy workshop was conducted on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2022 for surgical registrars which was organised by SLAMADS in collaboration with Kandy society of Medicine, coordinated by Dr Chathuranga Keppatiyagama, Consultant GI Surgeon. Indications, precautions, patient preparation, common findings, recording, maintenance of scopes and troubleshooting in relation to oesophagogastrroduodenoscopy & flexible sigmoidoscopy were discussed.



## Jaffna joint CME: March 2023

The Sri Lanka Association of Minimal Access and Digital Surgeons (SLAMADS) made use of the opportunity to reach the northern part of the country by participating in the Teaching Hospital Jaffna workshop. A full-day workshop on a variety of laparoscopic procedures was demonstrated to surgical trainees on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2023. The coordinator, Dr. V Sutharshan had organized an excellent event for the benefit of trainees. The workshop was an adjunct to the oncology trainee's sessions in Jaffna that was held the following day. The council is looking forward to another event in 2023 in the northern chapter and other regions of the country.





## SLAMADS-ALSGBI-AMASI JOINT CME SESSION 2023



A collaborative CME program was conducted on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March both live and virtual by SLAMADS jointly with Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons and Great Britain and Ireland (ALSGBI) and Association of Minimal Access Surgeons of India (AMASI). The resource persons included multinational renowned surgeons from UK, India and Sri Lanka.

Case discussions were conducted under three main areas of interest to the surgeons and surgical trainees. The colorectal case-based discussion on recurrent rectal cancer was moderated by Prof Bawantha Gamage with the expert panel of Professor Tan Arulampalam (UK), Dr C Selvasekar (UK), Dr Kalpesh Jani (India), Dr Rasitha Manathunga (SL) and Dr SHR Sanjeewa (SL).

The HPB case- based discussion which on complicated biliary stone disease was moderated by Dr Rameendra Senarathne with the expert panel of Dr Althaf Awan (UK), Dr P Senthilnathan (India), Professor Rohan Siriwardana (SL) and Dr Udaya Samarajeewa (SL).

The Upper GI case based discussion on GORD and fundoplication was moderated by Dr C Keppetiyagama with the expert panel of Professor Y K S Viswanath (UK), Mr Sritharan Kadirkamanathan (UK), Dr Roy S Patankar (India), Dr Sanjeev Samaranayake (SL) and Dr Manjula Pathirana (SL).

A total of around 100 surgeons and trainees participated in the event both live and online. The recording is available in the official College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka YouTube channel.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPx8vLDrb5o>



# The 15<sup>th</sup> Basic Laparoscopic Skills Workshop For Surgical Trainees was held in February 2023 at the College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka



**15<sup>th</sup> BASIC LAPAROSCOPIC SKILLS WORKSHOP FOR SURGICAL TRAINEES**

16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
at The College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka

Organized by,  
Sri Lanka Association of Minimal Access & Digital Surgeons  
In collaboration with  
The College of Surgeons Sri Lanka






**Who Should Attend**

The basic course is of greatest benefit for surgical registrars who have started their surgical training and for advanced surgical trainees who want to develop or improve in laparoscopic surgical skills.



**Horizons of Knowledge**  
Competence to master the future.

The Aesculap Academy enjoys a world-wide reputation for medical training of physicians, senior nursing staff and staff in OR, anesthesia, ward and hospital management. The CME accredited courses consist of hands-on workshop, management seminars and international symposia. For that the Aesculap Academy was given the Frost & Sullivan award as 'Global Medical Professional Education Institution of the Year' three times in succession.

The Aesculap Academy courses are of premium quality and accredited by the respective medical societies and international medical associations.



For more information

Dr. Udaya Samarajewa, Course Coordinator  
Consultant Surgeon  
HP: 0718340897

Mr. S. A. Dayananda, Administrative Manager  
The College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka  
#6, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.  
Tel / Fax: +94 112682290 / 2695080

**Course Director**  
Prof. Bawantha Gamage  
Professor in Surgery

**Course Coordination**  
Dr. Udaya Samarajewa  
Consultant Surgeon

**Course Duration**  
One and half days (12 hours)

**Course Objectives**  
At the end of the course each trainee should be able to:

- ☐ Develop hand eye co-ordination, manual dexterity, depth perception and translation of 2D image to 3D working environment
- ☐ Effectively and ergonomically use laparoscopic instruments
- ☐ Describe the newer energy sources for laparoscopic surgery
- ☐ Tie a laparoscopic surgeon's knot
- ☐ Handle a needle intracorporeally and take bites from tissues
- ☐ Be able to do interrupted and continuous suturing with good tissue approximation
- ☐ Form laparoscopic cholecystectomy in porcine liver block.

**Registration**

Name to appear on Certificate of Attendance (Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms)

Designation	Department
Hospital / Institution	
Address	
Postcode / City	
Tel	Fax
HP	
Email	
Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Course Capacity**  
Limited to 20 participants only

**Course Fee:**  
Local participants - LKR3,000/-  
Foreign participants - LKR6,000/-

- Admission to Workshop
- Workshop Material
- Meals as stated in the programme

Please fill out the form individually & submit the completed form with payment to the College on Or before 10th Feb 2023.

**Confirmation of Registration**  
Confirmation of registration will only be issued upon receipt of a completed Registration Form with full payment.

**Closing Date for Registration**  
Closing date for registration will be on 10th Feb 2023.

Due to limited space, an early registration is highly recommended and registration is on a first come first served basis.

**Liability**  
The Organizing Committee shall not be held liable for personal accidents or losses or damage to private property of registered participants

**Faculty**

- † Dr. K. L. Fernando  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Prof. Kemal Deen  
Professor in Surgery
- † Dr. Mahanama Gunasekara  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Sumudu Kumara  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Ramendra Senarathne  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Prof. Thejana Wijayarathne  
Professor in Surgery
- † Dr. Arunajith Peiris  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Sanjeev Samaranyake  
Consultant GI Surgeon
- † Dr. S H R Sanjeva  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Wasantha Wijenayake  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Pramodh Chandrasinghe  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Kesara Ratnatunga  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Aravinda Dissanayake  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Chathuranga Keppetiyagama  
Consultant Surgeon
- † Dr. Rasitha Manathunga  
Consultant Surgeon

**Agenda**

**Day 1**

**BASIC PRINCIPLES IN LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY**

How to become a safe Laparoscopic Surgeon

Laparoscopy setup & Basic principles of camera holding

Technique of safe entry and creation of pneumoperitoneum

Anesthesia and problems of pneumoperitoneum

Practical Session I Depth perception and hand-eye Coordination

Practical Session II Laparoscopic Dissection skills

Safe Dissection of The Calot's Triangle

Tissue approximation techniques in laparoscopic surgery

Practical Session II Suturing and Knotting

**Day 2**

Energy devices in Laparoscopic surgery Basic

Master Video sessio. Laparoscopic Appendicectomy/Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy.

Practical Session IV Lap Cholecystectomy on porcine specimen

Practical Session V Lap Cholecystectomy on porcine specimen

Ergonomic in Laparoscopic Surgery

Common problems during lap cholecystectomy & How to overcome

PGIM Approved.

Pre requisition for MD part II examination

# 15<sup>th</sup> Basic Laparoscopic Skills Workshop





# KSERS International training program (ITP)



The Korean Society of Endoscopic & Robotic Surgeons (KSERS) had a 1-month International Observership Program for selected candidates from around the world.

The KSERS selected institutions worldwide according to the candidates' preferences, contacted the chairman of the institution and provided financial support for selected candidates. The amount of the scholarship was 2,000,000 won.

SLAMADS was selected as one of the institutions in the recently held observership program and Dakshitha Wickramasinghe was awarded the full scholarship to attend the KSERS ITP in 2023.

Young surgeons and trainees are encouraged to apply and get benefitted from such collaborative programs in future through SLAMADS.

# Case report

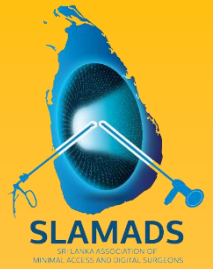
## Minimal access surgery under minimal facilities

### A case of laparoscopic anterior resection

G.R.Nirmalasingham<sup>1</sup>, R.Mayuran<sup>2</sup>, D Shachini<sup>3</sup>

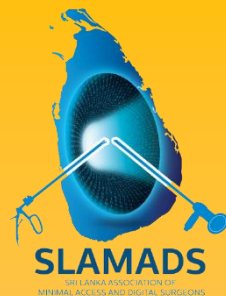
<sup>1</sup>Consultant surgeon, <sup>2</sup>Senior house officer, <sup>3</sup>Intern house officer

District General Hospital, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka



Anterior resection (AR) is the mode of treatment for the non-obstructed high rectal carcinoma. A 76-year-old male presented with a 2 months history of rectal bleeding.

Colonoscopy revealed a growth 25 cm from the anal verge. CECT abdomen and pelvis confirmed a large sigmoid colon polyp and malignant transformation cannot be excluded. Histology of that lesion came as adenomatous lesion with low grade dysplasia.



After the MDT meeting, anterior resection was performed laparoscopically with 4 ports. We used a monopolar diathermy as the sole energy source as other equipment like bipolar diathermy or ultrasonic dissector were not available.

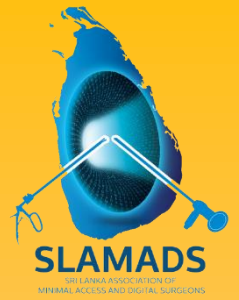
Compared to open AR, laparoscopic AR has major benefits and for a surgeon pelvic dissection is far more easy and superior compared to open resection.

Dissection was started at the origin of the inferior mesenteric artery with standard medial to lateral mobilization. Control of arteries, namely superior rectal and sigmoid vessel were done by intra corporal knotting and with Liga clips. Inferior mesenteric vein was ligated high. All the dissection were carried out with monopolar hook, scissors and Maryland. Transection and anastomosis was done with stapling devices.

Patient was discharged on day 8 after the surgery.

Laparoscopic surgeries can be challenging with the exclusive use of monopolar energy device. However, it is still possible with careful approach.





# Write to us !!

We urge all surgeons and trainees to write brief reports to us on

- Surgeries performed by MAS with learning points
- Range of procedures done at your institute as well as facilities available

Email to: [kbgalketiya@yahoo.com](mailto:kbgalketiya@yahoo.com)