

SGOP 2025: A Year of Growth, Advocacy, and Service

Under the leadership of Dr. Doris R. Benavides, the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists of the Philippines, Inc. (SGOP) is gearing up for another year of meaningful work and progress. With a strong focus on education, research, advocacy, and community service, SGOP is committed to expanding its impact in the field of gynecologic oncology, ensuring that more women receive the care they deserve.

Building a Stronger Foundation

The first quarter of 2025 has been all about solidifying plans, setting priorities, and strengthening partnerships. SGOP has been working closely with its mother society, the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS), as well as other external partners, to ensure that its programs reach more people and create a greater impact.

Keeping Education at the Forefront

Lifelong learning remains a top priority for SGOP. The society has carefully curated high-quality educational content for its Midyear and Annual Conventions, along with a robust lineup of Continuing Medical Education (CME) activities. The goal is simple: to keep members updated, equipped, and prepared for the rapidly evolving field of gynecologic oncology.

Big Events on the Horizon

One of SGOP's biggest accomplishments this year is the successful planning of its two major conventions:

- Midyear Convention
 - Theme: Siak Man Met
 - Date: April 4–6, 2025
 - Venue: Awesome Hotel, San Juan, La Union
 - Committee Chair: Dr. Richard Ronald Cacho
 - What to Expect: A mix of meaningful discussions, networking, and cultural experiences.
- Annual Convention
 - Theme: Optimizing Surgical Practices in Gynecology: Collaborative Insights and Oncology Updates

- Date: July 31 – August 1, 2025
- Venue: EDSA Shangri-La, Manila
- Committee Chair: Dr. Aya De Castro-Malig
- What to Expect: An in-depth exploration of surgical advancements in gynecology, with discussions on oncology updates, minimally invasive techniques, and fertility preservation, led by renowned local and international experts in the field.



With everything now in place, these events are shaping up to be engaging, informative, and valuable for all attendees.

Making a Difference in the Community

Beyond conferences and academic discussions, SGOP is deeply committed to giving back. This commitment was evident in its active participation in the POGS Ad Hoc Manila Declaration Call to Action against Cervical Cancer. Last March 26, members of SGOP who are part of this initiative flew to Agusan del Sur for the group’s second face to face visit to the adopted province under the POGS project “Adopt a Community for Women’s Healthcare and Capacity-building”. It was a monitoring and evaluation visit 4 months after the healthcare providers’ VIA training given last November. It was their turn to present their screening output including their best practices and problems encountered.



The POGS Adhoc Committee on the Manila Declaration and subspecialty representatives with the AgSurnons



L-R: Dr. Melchor Dela Cruz, Jr.(SGOP Community Service Committee Chair), Dr. Lilli Mae Cole(Head, POGS Ad hoc Committee on Manila Declaration), AgSur PHO Dr. Jacqueline Momville, Dr. Jean Anne Toral(Project director, Adopt a Community for Women’s Healthcare and Capaaacity-building), Dr. Caroline Castro(SGOP Secretary), Dr. Charlene Lim (SGOP)

Another community activity was a medical-surgical mission, held on February 22, 2025, at Southern Isabela Medical Center. Led by Dr. Melchor De La Cruz, in partnership with POGS and the Santiago City Medical Society, the mission provided vital gynecologic oncology services to underserved women in the region.

Here's what the team accomplished in a single day: 4 endometrial cancer surgeries, 3 colposcopies with biopsy, 19 VIA (visual inspection with acetic acid) screenings with breast exams, 1 polypectomy, and a colposcopy lecture for OB-GYN residents to help train the next generation of doctors.



Looking Ahead: More Collaboration, More Impact

As the year unfolds, SGOP is excited to build stronger collaborations with government agencies, private institutions, and other medical organizations. The society encourages its members to stay involved and actively support its initiatives, ensuring that together, they can drive progress in gynecologic oncology.

With a clear vision, a dedicated team, and a heart for service, SGOP is ready to make 2025 a year of real, lasting change for the women it serves.