

Dr Manju Chandran

Senior Consultant, Department of Endocrinology,
Director, Osteoporosis & Bone Metabolism Unit, Singapore General Hospital &
APCO Executive Committee Chairperson, SINGAPORE

Dr Manju Chandran, who is the International Osteoporosis Foundation 2021 IOF Olof Johnell Science Awardee, is an internationally renowned Endocrinologist. She is a Senior Consultant and Director of the Osteoporosis and Bone Metabolism Unit at Singapore General Hospital, and the inaugural Executive Committee Chairperson of the [Asia Pacific Consortium on Osteoporosis \(APCO\)](#).

After completing her Fellowship in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, Dr Chandran, an American citizen who was born and brought up in India, moved to Singapore in 2003, where she has been practicing ever since.

Dr Chandran is Chairperson of the Singapore Ministry of Health's Appropriate Care Guidelines for Osteoporosis Working Group. She was elected to the Board of the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) in 2020.

She is immediate past Chairperson and current Board member of the Chapter of Endocrinologists of the College of Physicians, Academy of Medicine Singapore, elected member of the Council of Scientific Advisors of the IOF, and a past President of the Endocrine and Metabolic Society of Singapore. Dr Chandran was the first woman from Asia to hold a position as a member of the Publications Committee of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR), and currently serves on its Women in Bone and Mineral Research Committee.

Dr Chandran is also an appointed Faculty Member of the Skeletal Rare Disorders Academy of the IOF, a Task Force member of the 5th International Workshop on Parathyroid Disorders, and a Steering Committee Member of the Rare Bone Disorders Summit – a multistakeholder coalition that provides a platform for collaborative efforts to improve the lives of patients with rare skeletal diseases. She is also a Task Force Member of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Public Health Aspects of Musculoskeletal Health and Aging and ESCEO Workshop on Phosphate Wasting Disorders, a Task Force Member of the APAC XLH Working Group and Task Force Member of the WHO Expert Working Group on Locomotor Capacity.

In addition, she serves as Treasurer of the Osteoporosis Society of Singapore, as Deputy Chair of the Asia Pacific and South Africa Regional Advisory Council of the IOF, and as Vice Chair of the Asia Pacific Panel of the International Society of Clinical Densitometry (ISCD).



Dr Chandran's research and clinical interests include the Epidemiology and Health Economic Burden of Osteoporosis, Rare Bone Disorders, Renal Bone Disease, and Parathyroid Disorders. She is a highly published academician and a regular speaker at regional and international conferences in the fields of Endocrinology and Bone Metabolism.

In addition to the IOF Olof Johnell Science award which recognizes a distinguished medical professional and researcher who has an outstanding record of achievements in education, research and policy implementation in the bone and musculoskeletal field, Dr Chandran has won a multitude of other international awards, including the IOF-ESCEO International Young Investigator Award for 2013, and the IOF Committee of National Societies Medal in 2015.

Her Fracture Liaison Service at Singapore General Hospital, OPTIMAL, was the first in Asia Pacific, and the third worldwide, to clinch the Gold Star in the IOF's global *Capture the Fracture* campaign in 2015.

Dr Chandran is also the winner of the 2021 Singapore General Hospital Most Inspiring Mentor award and winner of the light-hearted but meaningful, Singhealth DUKE National University of Singapore Most Caffeinated Researcher Award 2019 – awarded to the researcher in the Singhealth group of institutions with the most positive attitude, who never gives up, and who always goes the extra mile when collaborating with others. This commitment and passion and the global perspective she brings to APCO has helped to establish the entity very quickly in the field of osteoporosis.

An osteoporotic fracture occurs every three seconds worldwide. This staggering statistic has a far-reaching deleterious impact on populations. In its ongoing effort to stem this tide of osteoporosis and its deadly complication of fragility fractures, and as its third major undertaking in its illustrious three years of existence APCO has launched a Bone Health Audit and QI Tool Kit today (May 24, 2022), to promote quality improvement (QI) of osteoporosis care.

“This comprehensive tool kit, that encompasses multiple components in the screening, diagnosis and management of osteoporosis, is a world-first of its kind,” said Dr Chandran.

“Previous audits have focused on just a single aspect of osteoporosis care, namely the identification and appropriate management of osteoporotic fragility fractures.

“The APCO Bone Health Audit and QI Tool Kit is based on seven selected standards from The APCO Framework that apply to the clinical setting. Implementation of the QI will be through iterative Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles,” Dr Chandran said.

“Once the audits are completed, healthcare professionals (HCPs) and medical centres can commence implementing changes to their clinical practice. APCO is in the process of engaging QI experts to help train APCO members to perform such projects in their individual medical centres and practices.”

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MEDIA CONTACT & INTERVIEWS

Kirsten Bruce, VIVA! Communications, Sydney, AUSTRALIA

T +61 (0)401 717 566

E kirstenbruce@vivacomcommunications.com.au