## The "Uva Chapter" - College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka



The UVA chapter of College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka represents all the surgeons in the UVA province. It embraces surgeons in Provincial General Hospital Badulla (the tertiary centre for the UVA province), Base Hospital Mahiyanganaya, Base Hospital Monaragala, Base Hospital Bibile, District Hospital Diyathalawa and District Hospital Welimada.

Comparatively, it is one of the younger chapters in the CSSL and is comprised mostly of young surgeons who are at the beginning of their career. It is for this very reason and the absence of permanent posts in the province, that surgeons rotate frequently, but also continuously add colour and vigour to the chapter. It is not untrue that the natural beauty of the misty hills and waterfalls in Uva captivate all those who travel to the province, proving the maxim, "who ever comes will not leave Badulla".

## **History of the UVA chapter**

The Uva chapter was founded by Dr Kalana Palliyaguruge, Consultant Urologist in March 2018. Ever since, it has set the stage for the surgeons of the region to collaborate with the CSSL and work tandem in uplifting surgical care in the region. In 2019 Dr Ananda Jayawardena, Consultant General Surgeon led the chapter and entrusted the baton to Dr Niroshan Atulugama, Consultant Surgical Oncologist in 2020.



Dr Kalana Palliyaguruge
Urological Surgeon
2018/2019

Dr Ananda Jayawardena General Surgeon 2019/2020 Dr Niroshan Atulugama
Surgical Oncologist
2020/2021

## Surgical services provided in the USA province.

We are now comprised of a variety of surgical subspecialties and provide a full range of surgical care for the people in the USA province.

To mention a few highlights,:

**Kidney transplant program**- In 2019 the first ever kidney transplant (KT) was performed at PGH Badulla which was a live donor KT. Ever since, 22 kidneys have been transplanted as a mix of live donor KT and deceased donor KT, which led the ministry of health to recognise the hospital as an established transplant centre.

**Hepatobiliary services**- we also perform all types of complex Hepatobiliary and panctreatic surgery in the province with the arrival of HPB specialists in the chapter.

**Extracoporeal radiotherapy for bone tumours**- the first ever ECRT at PGH Badulla was performed in 07/2021 for an Ewings sarcoma of a distal Humerus in a 16 year old girl. The whole distal radius was dissected out, irradiated outside the body and re-implanted.

**Awake Craniotomy**- the Neurosurgical team performed the first ever successful "awake craniotomy" for brain metastases at PGH Badulla in 10/2021.

Likewise tremendous strides have been made in parallel in the other subspecialties as well. It is also interesting to see the surgeons in the regional hospitals join and share their expertise in combined operations, which benefits both ways.

## Projects/workshops done in 2020/2021

Amidst of the COVID pandemic we managed to conduct a few workshops at PGH Badulla with the collaboration of CSSL. All programs were broadcasted through online platforms in addition to the physical meetings.

 Thyroid day – a full day symposium was organized including general and cancer surgeons, pathologists, endocrinologists, radiologists and oncologists from the region. We managed to streamline pathology and radiology reporting in the hospital by introducing Bethesda and TIRADS grading systems respectively.





2. **Tubes and Stomas**- workshops on feeding tubes, trachesostomy tubes and stomas were conducted along with hands-on experience for doctors.



3. **Urology Day**- A successful program was conducted with the help of regional urologists and enlightened the medical officers on common urological problems.

