



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Asia-Pacific Initiative for Rheumatology Nurse Education (ASPIRE)

The following provides answers to some of the frequently asked questions about ASPIRE, from why it was established to what they mean for rheumatology nurse education in Asia-Pacific.

1	What is ASPIRE?	ASPIRE is a faculty-led initiative established to cater to the educational needs of rheumatology nurses across Asia-Pacific.
2	When was ASPIRE established?	ASPIRE was formed in January 2017 during the Inaugural Virtual Meeting of the Rheumatology Nurse Specialist Education Expert Working Group.
3	What is motivation and rationale behind ASPIRE?	ASPIRE was established as a response to the expanding role of nurses in daily rheumatology clinical practice. Therefore, it is important to create a rheumatology nursing curriculum to assist nurses in acquiring a foundation of knowledge and skill set that extend beyond that of their initial education and training.
4	Who led the development of ASPIRE?	The initiative was led by an expert working group comprising leading rheumatologists and rheumatology nurse specialists.
5	Who is part of the ASPIRE working group?	The founding working group members include Professor Kazuhiko Yamamoto (Japan), Professor Lai-Shan Tam (Hong Kong), Ms Susan Oliver (UK), Ms Mie Fusama (Japan) and Ms Gladys Kwok (Hong Kong).
6	Why is ASPIRE important to rheumatology nurse education in Asia-Pacific?	Nurses in the rheumatology service need to be appropriately trained in order to be effective in their expanded roles, which may include disease assessment, management and monitoring. ASPIRE will ensure that high quality and relevant educational resources are available to support this.
7	What has ASPIRE accomplished since its inception?	The core training modules in RA have been reviewed and endorsed by APLAR. These modules were structured around: patient assessment; treatment and self-management education; and disease monitoring and follow-up care.