Update from the Genetic Counseling SIG Breakfast Session, ISPD Conference, Singapore 2019
Tuesday, 10 September 2019

The genetic counseling special interest group breakfast session attracted a captive audience of approximately 40-50 attendees. There was quite a diversity of participants, including genetic counselors from the US, Australia and UK, maternal-fetal-medicine physicians, scientists and other providers of genetic counseling.

Ms. Ellis reviewed the biology, guidelines, and cases surrounding the transfer of mosaic aneuploidy embryos. Her talk prompted several insightful questions, including “what percentage of patients do prenatal diagnosis after PGT-A?” and “Does anyone look at the placenta after birth for mosaicism?” Ms. Ellis discussed the latest PGDIS guidelines around prenatal diagnosis following mosaic embryo transfer and the challenges these present. We then asked the audience to break into their table groups to discuss some of their personal experience with this challenging clinical scenario. Information was exchanged not only about this topic but also about different clinical practices between countries. It was surprising to some to learn that genetic counseling was provided by the same clinician who performed ultrasound and other testing for the patient.

Ms. Choi then reviewed the guidelines for counseling of prenatal microarray, encouraging the audience to consider how they raise sensitive points such as non-paternity or consanguinity during pre-test counseling. Handouts and other counseling aides were offered as a solution, as was the approach of presenting these topics as a general category of “other parental findings” instead of focusing on any point in detail. A discussion followed about the differences between prenatal and postnatal array findings reported, which different by region and country. The breakout groups also generated interesting information about the scope of prenatal CMA among different countries and payor systems, ranging from CMA as a first-line test to a reflex test following QF-PCR or karyotype.

Lastly, we shared global resources:
- Genetic counseling society in Asia: [https://www.psgca.org/](https://www.psgca.org/)

We hope to establish a group database from the attendees of this session to promote communication, exchange of information and collaboration in the next year.