

## CHILD NUTRITION IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

Eighth Nutricia Symposium

**CHILD NUTRITION  
IN SOUTH EAST ASIA**  
*Yogyakarta, 4–6 April 1989*

*Edited by*

H.K.A. VISSER and J.G. BINDELS



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## Preface

Exactly 25 years after the first Nutricia Symposium was held in Groningen, the Netherlands, dealing with fundamental aspects of neonatology, the 8th Nutricia Symposium was held at nearly the opposite end of the globe and dealt with a number of most important aspects of child nutrition in South East Asia.

It was the intention of this symposium to bring together a respectable number of specialists in this field from the countries involved, complemented by a number of experts from outside the area chosen because of their recognised contributions to the main topics of the symposium. In this way, a platform for discussion and cooperation was provided to bring the specific problems of *child nutrition* in South East Asia closer to a solution. From the contents of the papers and also the valuable discussions, it should be clear to the reader that the goal of this symposium has been attained.

It would have been difficult to find a place which was better suited for this symposium than Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The excellent work done by the several local committees in organising this symposium is greatly acknowledged, especially the efforts of Prof. H. Iskandar Wahidiat, Prof. Darwin Karyadi, Prof. I.G.N. Gde Ranuh, Prof. Moelyono S. Trastotenoyo, Prof. S.H. Pudjiadi, Dr. Samsudin, Dr. Suharyono, Dr. Yati Sunarto and Dr. A.G. Soemantri need to be mentioned.

Since the proceedings of this symposium consist mainly of contributions by local specialists in the field, it seems logical that this book will find its way all over South East Asia. However, one would be foolish to think that this book is only of limited value for the other parts of the world. Many problems indicated here have a much wider relevance than to South East Asia only. For instance, it is of great interest to find in this book a large number of realistic descriptions of the actual practice of breast feeding in this region. The fact that one of the largest infant food manufacturers, Nutricia (fully endorsing the WHO code) made this symposium possible should be interpreted as an awareness of its great responsibility in this respect for child health in South East Asia, as well as in other parts of the world.

March 1990

THE EDITORS

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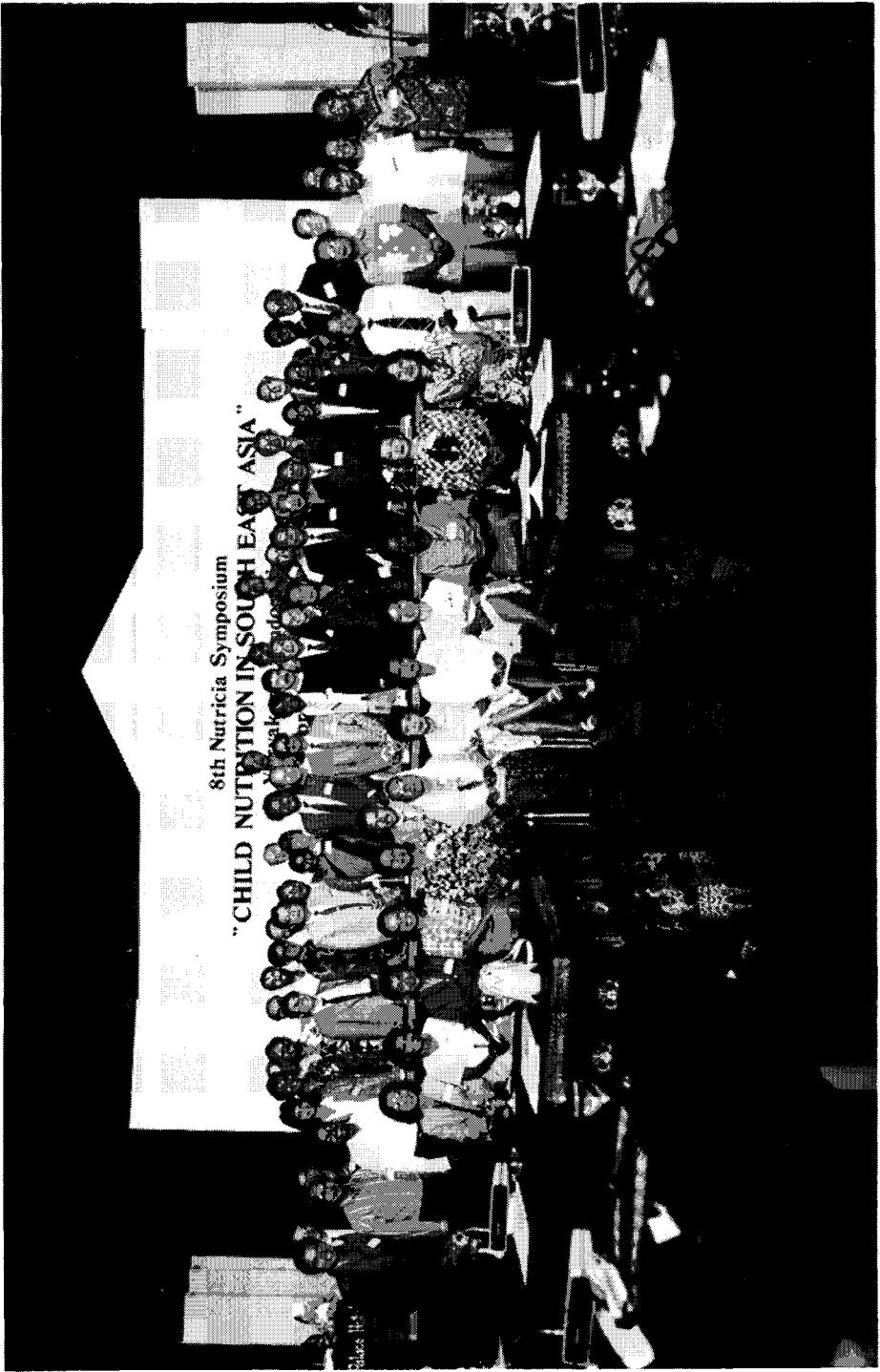
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# List of participants

- Dr. (Mrs.) Anna Alisjahbana, Bandung, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) P. Bhaskaram, Hyderabad, India  
Dr. Dradjat Budiman, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Kou Liang Chang, Taipei, Taiwan  
Dr. J.J. Counsilman, Clovis, California, USA  
Dr. Edhi Dharma, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. S. Drahaman, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
Prof. R.E. Eeckels, Dacca, Bangladesh  
Dr. (Mrs.) C. Geefhuysen, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. C. Gopalan, New Dehli, India  
Prof. M. Gracey, Perth, Australia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Endang D. Hamid, Medan, Indonesia  
Prof. R. Hariyono, Semarang, Indonesia  
Prof. P.F. Heywood, Herston, Queensland, Australia  
Dr. Boerhan Hidayat, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Prof. D. Hull, Nottingham, England  
Dr. Mahdin A. Husaini, Bogor, Indonesia  
Prof. Ismangoen, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Sri Kardjati, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Dr. D.R. Karunaratne, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
Prof. Darwin Karyadi, Bogor, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Darwin Karyadi, Bogor, Indonesia  
Prof. Ashfaq Ahmed Khan, Peshawar, Pakistan  
Prof. Zafarullah Kundi, Rawalpindi, Pakistan  
Prof. (Mrs.) J.A. Kusin, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Dr. Wen Chang Liu, Kaohsiung, Taiwan  
Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Li Ming Cheng, Hong Kong  
Dr. Chairuddin P. Lubis, Medan, Indonesia  
Dr. Bondan Lukito, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Sidharta Martohusodo, Malang, Indonesia  
Prof. L. Mata, Guadalupe, Costa Rica  
Dr. (Mrs.) Moenginah P.A., Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Moersintowarti Navrendra, Surabaya, Indonesia
- Prof. A.M. Molla, Karachi, Pakistan  
Prof. Muzief Munir, Manado, Indonesia  
Prof. A.S. Ongkie, Manado, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Christine A. Powell, Mona, St. Andrew, Jamaica  
Prof. S.H. Pudjiadi, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Prof. Abdul Waheed Qureshi, Lahore, Pakistan  
Dr. (Mrs.) Nursida Raid, Medan, Indonesia  
Prof. I.G.N. Gde Ranuh, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Dr. M.G.M. Rowland, Cambridge, England  
Dr. Tonny Sadjimin, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Saraswati Boerhan, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Dr. Satriono, Ujung Pandang, Indonesia  
Dr. Teluk Sebodo, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Prof. D. Sinniah, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Dr. A.G. Soemantri Hardjojowono, Semarang, Indonesia  
Dr. Yati Soenarto, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Pitono Soeparto, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Dr. Soenarto, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Dwi A. Soeyoso, Surabaya, Indonesia  
Dr. Deddy Subardja, Bandung, Indonesia  
Dr. I. Sudigbia, Semarang, Indonesia  
Dr. Suhartati, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Suharyono, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. (Mrs.) Emelia Suroto-Hamzah, Bandung, Indonesia  
Dr. Purnomo Suryantoro, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Achmad Suryono, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. I.G. Suwenda Pare, Kediri, Indonesia  
Prof. Moelyono S. Trastotenoyo, Semarang, Indonesia  
Prof. H.K.A. Visser, Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
Prof. A. Samik Wahab, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Prof. H. Iskandar Wahidiyat, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Dr. Sabdo Waluyo, Solo, Indonesia  
Prof. Chap-Yung Yeung, Hong Kong

## Participants Nutricia

- Dr. J.G. Bindels, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands  
Ir. (Mrs.) Amalia Ernawati, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Drs. E.J. van der Hagen, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands  
Mr. A. Istanto, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Mr. O. Kreukniet, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Dr. L.T. Leksana, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Mrs. G. Maasland, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands  
Dr. Ir. A.K. Muntjewerf, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands  
Ir. M.G.M. van Overbeek, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands

## List of authors and editors

- Dr. Anna Alisjahbana, Department of Child Health, Medical School Unpad, Hasan Sadikin General Hospital, JL Pasteur 38, Bandung, Indonesia.  
*Co-authors:* R. Peeters, M. Maertens, S. Tanuwidjaja, H. Tjokrohusodo, W. Ngantung and D.A. Primana.
- Dr. P. Bhaskaram, National Institute of Nutrition, Indian Council of Medical Research, Jamai Osmania PO, Hyderabad, 500007, India.
- Dr. J.G. Bindels, Nutricia Research, P.O. Box 1, 2700 MA Zoetermeer, The Netherlands.
- Dr. J.J. Counsilman, Department of Zoology, National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore. *Present address:* 3700 Plainsman 54, Bryan TX 77802, USA.
- Dr. C. Gopalan, The Nutrition Foundation of India, B-37, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi 110049, India.
- Prof. Michael Gracey, Gastroenterology & Nutr. Res. Unit, Princess Margaret Children's Medical Research Foundation Unit (inc), Perth, Western Australia. *Present address:* Aboriginal Health Unit, Health Department of Western Australia, 189 Royal St. East Perth, Western Australia 6004.  
*Co-author:* H. Sullivan.
- Prof. P.F. Heywood, Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research. *Present Address:* Community Nutrition Program, University of Queensland, Clinical Sciences Building, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Herston, Queensland, Australia 4006.  
*Co-author:* A.H. Heywood.
- Dr. Mahdin A. Husaini, Nutrition Research and Development Centre, Kompleks Gizi, JL DR Semeru 63, Bogor 1612, Indonesia.  
*Co-authors:* Soedarti Surbakti and Yayah K. Husaini.
- Prof. Darwin Karyadi, Nutrition Research and Development Centre, Kompleks Gizi, JL DR Semeru 63, Bogor 1612, Indonesia.
- Prof. J.A. Kusin, Nutrition and Agrotechnology Section, Royal Tropical Institute, Mauritskade 63, 1092 AD Amsterdam, The Netherlands.  
*Co-authors:* Sri Kardjati, C. de With and W.M. van Steenberg.
- Prof. L. Mata, Institute for Health Research (INISA), University of Costa Rica, P.O. Box 212, 2100 Guadalupe, Costa Rica.
- Prof. A.M. Molla, Aga Khan University Hospital, Stadium Road, PO Box 3500, Karachi 74800, Pakistan.  
*Co-author:* Ayesha Molla.
- Dr. Christine A. Powell, Tropical Metabolism Research Unit, University of the West Indies, Mona, St. Andrew, Jamaica.  
*Co-author:* S.M. Grantham-McGregor.

- Prof. S.H. Pudjiadi, Child Health Department, Medical Faculty University of Indonesia, JL Salemba 6, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Dr. M.G.M. Rowland, Dunn Nutritional Laboratory, Cambridge, United Kingdom.  
*Present Address:* East Anglian Regional Health Authority & PHLS Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre, Union Lane, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1RF, United Kingdom.
- Dr. Tonny Sadjimin, Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit, Faculty of Medicine, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta.
- Dr. A.G. Soemantri Hardjojoewono, Department of Pediatrics, Diponegoro University, RS DR Kariadi, JL DR Sutomo 16, Semarang, Indonesia.
- Dr. Pitono Soeparto, RS DR Soetomo, Bagian Ika, FK University Airlangga, JL Dharma Husada 6–8, Surabaya, Indonesia.
- Dr. I. Sudigbia, Department of Pediatrics, Diponegoro University, RS DR Kariadi, JL DR Sutomo 16, Semarang, Indonesia.
- Dr. Suharyono, Department of Pediatrics, Division Gastroenterology, Medical Faculty, University of Indonesia, JL Salemba Raya 6, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Dr. Soedarti Surbakti, Central Bureau of Statistics, Jakarta, Indonesia.  
*Co-authors:* Yayah K. Husaini and Mahdin A. Husaini.
- Prof. H.K.A. Visser, Department of Pediatrics, Sophia Children Hospital/Erasmus University, P.O. Box 70029, 3000 LL Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
- Prof. Chap-Yung Yeung, Department of Pediatrics, Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong.  
*Co-authors:* F.H.W. Wong and A.Y.C. Tam.

# Opening of the Symposium

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is indeed a great pleasure to welcome all of you at this 8th Nutricia symposium on behalf of the Advisory Board. It was in the early 60s that Nutricia started this series of symposia. The first five were organized in the Netherlands, by Professor Jonxis and myself (the subjects were in the fields of neonatology and nutrition); number 6 was organized by Professor Eeckels in Leuven (the subject was tropical pediatrics), number 7 by Professor Silk in the U.K. (gastroenterology and nutrition in internal medicine) and now number 8 in Indonesia on 'Child Nutrition in South East Asia'. Mr. Van der Hagen, the president of Nutricia, mentioned yesterday evening at the opening dinner, that there is a mutual relationship between industry and science. Nutricia is supporting science in several ways: by giving money to organize these symposia, but also by supporting fellowships and research projects. This year, a Nutricia Research Foundation has been established and at the end of this year the first fellowships and grants will be awarded. Moreover, once every three years a Nutricia Award for most distinguished service to nutrition will be presented to a scientist, elected by an international board of advisors. We are very grateful to Nutricia for this generous support to nutritional science.

The subject of this meeting is of great interest. Child nutrition is a very important subject. There is strong evidence that nutritional deficiencies and undernutrition in children may have long-lasting – even permanent – effects.

Nutrition of the pregnant mother and infant has great priority in governmental strategies. Nutritional deficiencies and infections, and particularly diarrhea in children, have great impact on child health in large parts of the world, including South East Asia. Pediatrics and nutrition are disciplines on their own, clinically and scientifically. But they are strongly related. This Nutricia symposium brings together workers from different disciplines, and this may help to bridge the gap between clinicians and nutritionists.

This is a meeting where most of the papers will be presented by investigators who themselves work in this part of the world or who have recently worked there. I think

this is the right approach. Those of us present here who work in the so-called industrialized northern countries are guests and we wish to listen to you and to learn. We may contribute a little to the discussion. The members of the Advisory Board are very grateful indeed that so many excellent workers from this part of the world have been willing to contribute to this meeting.

We look forward not only to a meeting with good papers and good discussions but also to a meeting where people from different parts of the world can meet and become friends. This will not be so difficult, we belong to one great family, a family which is devoted to children.

I wish you a very good meeting.

H.K.A. VISSER