

Inauguration of the Hong Kong Pain Society & Commemoration of the Global Day Against **Pain in Older Persons**



Monday, 16 October 2006

**Centenary Ballroom,
Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel,
Tsim Sha Tsui**

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Welcome Message

Dr Chen Phoon-Ping, President,
The Hong Kong Pain Society

Dear Colleagues,

It is my privilege to welcome you all to the inaugural meeting of the Hong Kong Pain Society. Tonight we also celebrate the launch of the Global Year Against Pain, and we are very honoured to have Dr York Chow, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, HKSAR and Dr Leong Che-hung, Chairman of Elderly Commission, Hong Kong to share the evening with us.

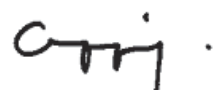
Pain plays an important role in everyone's life. We experience pain ourselves, we encounter it in our family or friends, and we see it in our patient everyday. In many people persistent pain causes significant hardship and suffering. Pain may affect their function, mood and sleep, leading to impaired quality of life and reduced economic productivity.

The "**Global Day Against Pain**" is an initiative of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) with support of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the European Federation of IASP-Chapters (EFIC). The aim of the **Global Day Against Pain** is to raise awareness of a different aspect of pain each year. This year's theme is appropriately "Pain in Older Persons". Pain is a very common problem in older persons and is often under-treated. The management of pain in older persons represents a great challenge to the clinician. A proactive approach in treating these patients is often necessary.

There is much to do in promoting appropriate pain management in Hong Kong. Pain as a multidimensional and multifaceted condition should be treated with a multidisciplinary and multimodal approach. The Hong Kong Pain Society is a multidisciplinary organization and will be a most suitable forum for exchanges among disciplines and to promote local research and education. Through our collective effort I hope we shall be able to conquer pain one day! I look forward to your participation in the coming activities of the HKPS.

Last but not the least, I wish to congratulate the Organising Committee for arranging this meeting at a short notice. It is indeed incredible to be able to organize a meeting like this in a time less than three months. We have planned an interesting programme tonight and I hope you will have an enjoyable evening.

Yours sincerely,



Chen Phoon-Ping
President

The Hong Kong Pain Society

Pain and its Impact

In a review of pooled studies (Harstall et al 2003), the weighted mean prevalence of chronic pain in the population are 31% (range 9.1-54.9%) and 39.6% (range 13.4-55.5%) for male and female, respectively; and that of severe chronic pain in the general adult population is approximately 11%. The prevalence of anxiety and depression in patients with chronic pain is 35.1% and 20.2%, respectively, which is two times the prevalence rates of 18.1% and 10% in the general population (McWilliams et al 2003)

In Hong Kong, a telephone survey of 1,500 adults (Ng et al 2002) showed that the prevalence of persistent pain longer than 3 months is 10.8%. Of those with chronic pain, 38.3% reported adverse influence on their work, and 19.8% had taken sick leave (median 5 day) in the past year. The female gender and people older than 60 years have a higher risk (OR 1.5 and 2.2, respectively). The common types of severe pain are headache (31%), joint pain (15.3%), muscle pain(12.1%).

Pain becomes a disease per se when it is associated with (i) immobility and consequent wasting of muscle and joints, (ii) immune suppression, (iii) disturbed sleep, (iv) poor appetite and nutrition, (v) dependence on medication, (vi) overdependence on family and other caregivers, (vii) overuse and inappropriate use of health care providers and systems, (viii) poor job performance or other disability, (ix) isolation from the society and family, (x) anxiety and fear, and (xii) bitterness, frustration, depression, and suicide. (Breitbart et al 1996, Siddall & Cousins 2004)

The Society

Our Mission

The Hong Kong Pain Society aims to advance professional knowledge and expertise in managing pain through education, training and research; and aspires to improve public understanding towards pain and promote a positive attitude in persons with pain.

Our Objectives

- (a) to promote exchanges of knowledge and foster collaboration among different Specialty Groups who are interested in the research and management of pain;
- (b) to promote training and continued education in the field of pain medicine;
- (c) to promote public education and knowledge of pain and its management;
- (d) to promote research in the science, practice and development of techniques and technologies related to pain medicine;
- (e) to advise relevant regional agencies and organizations on the advances of pain medicine

Our Council (2006 - 2007)

President	Dr CHEN Phoon Ping
Vice President	Dr CHUI Tak Yi
Secretary	A/Professor CHEUNG Tak Fai, Raymond
Treasurer	Dr WONG Ho Shan, Steven
Council Members	Dr CHAN Miu Han, Anne
	Professor CHAN Che Hin, Chetwyn
	Dr CHIN Ping Hong, Raymond
	Dr FUNG Shuk Man, Amy
	Ms MA Lin, Marlene
	A/Professor NG Kwok Fu, Jacobus
	Ms POON Yee Hung, Priscilla
	Dr SHAM Mau Kwong, Michael
	Dr WONG Kam Hung
	Dr HUNG Chi Tim
Honorary Advisors	Dr LEE Tsun Woon
	Dr TSE Kin Chuen, Vincent
	Mr Bronco But (T.S. Tong & Co.)
Honorary Legal Advisor	Mr Bronco But (T.S. Tong & Co.)
Honorary Auditor	Dr Patrick Wong, JP (Patrick L.T. Wong & Co)

Our Logo

The sprouting green shoot symbolizes the restoration of function that the Hong Kong Pain Society aims to bring about in persons with pain through its mission and objectives. The heart over the green shoot reflects the care and commitment of its members from different disciplines in managing persons with pain.

Special thanks to our designer Ms MA Man Ki.

Council Members and Honorary Advisors (2006 - 2007)

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Dr CHEN Phoon Ping 曾煥彬 (President)

Chief of Service, Department Anaesthesiology & Operating Services, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital & North District Hospital

Director, Multidisciplinary Pain Management Centre, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital

Chairman, Board of Pain Medicine, Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

I am a specialist anaesthesiologist who got side-tracked into pain medicine in 1995. I received my training in pain management from Leicester and Oxford, UK and then later in Sydney, Australia. I am a Fellow of the Faculty of Pain Medicine ANZCA and hold the Diploma of Pain Management (HKCA). I believe that pain is a major healthcare issue with significant socioeconomic implications in Hong Kong. It is now time for us to take actions to increase the awareness of this problem so that it can be managed urgently and appropriately. A multidisciplinary approach is most effective way to tackle this multifaceted condition.



Dr CHUI Tak Yi 徐德義 (Vice President)

Chief of Service, Geriatrics and Rehabilitation Unit, Haven of Hope Hospital

Physician-in-charge, Chronic Pain Rehabilitation Program (for Kowloon East Cluster), Haven of Hope Hospital

Consultant Physician, Pain (rehabilitation) Clinic, United Christian Hospital

Vice President, Hong Kong Association of Rehabilitation Medicine

With the prevailing search of "generalisability" and "objectivity" in modern medicine, the recognition of, and the willingness and determination to embrace the "uncertainty" and "subjectivity" in a person in pain is vital for a clinician to achieve the ultimate goal of medicine - the relief of suffering.



A/Professor CHEUNG Tak Fai, Raymond 張德輝 (Secretary)

Associate Professor of Department of Medicine and Assistant Dean of Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

Honorary Consultant of Queen Mary Hospital and Tung Wah Hospital

President of the Hong Kong Neurological Society

Vice President of Hong Kong Stroke Society

Vice Chairman of the Hong Kong Brain Foundation

Executive Committee Member of Asian Headache Foundation

Excited to witness the establishment of this multidisciplinary society with representations from various medical specialties and healthcare disciplines.



Dr WONG Ho Shan, Steven 黃河山 (Treasurer)

Dr Steven HS Wong is the Consultant Anaesthesiologist of the Department of Anaesthesiology, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, HKSAR. He is currently the President of the Society of Anaesthetists of Hong Kong. Dr Wong was graduated from the Medical Faculty of the University of Hong Kong, and has attained the Fellowship of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (Anaesthesiology); as well as the Diploma in Pain Management of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists. His main clinical interest lies in pain management. He is the Head of the Pain Management Team of Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Besides, he is also heavily involved in teaching, in particular on the use of clinical simulation in crisis management training.



Dr CHAN Miu Han, Anne 陳妙嫻

I completed my training for the Fellowship in Pain Management at the Pain Clinic of Flinders Medical Centre (FMC), Adelaide, Australia. It was there that I had the opportunity to practice full time chronic pain medicine and this has proven to be an invaluable experience. FMC was one of the first multidisciplinary pain units established in Australia. The team approach in pain management represents the core value of the unit. This philosophy has deeply influenced my own pain management practices since then. Through the founding of the HKPS, I hope that we would be able to unite the efforts of the various disciplines involved in pain management to promote a better quality of care.



Professor CHAN Che Hin, Chetwyn 陳智軒

Prof. Chetwyn Chan is professor and head of Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is a psychologist and occupational therapist. Prof. Chan's work related pain is mainly on studying how injured workers who suffer from chronic pain could resume a productive life role. The current techniques are to combine cognitive behavioral and exercise approaches together with matching the stages of change for return to work. He publishes widely in the areas of occupational rehabilitation, physical medicine and cognitive neuroscience. He is an advisor to different bureau and governmental departments of health and social welfare.

His inspirations for Hong Kong Pain Society are to assist in promoting innovative and evidence-based practices for the benefits of people suffering from pain.



Dr CHIN Ping Hong, Raymond 錢炳航

Chairman, Rehabilitation Subspecialty Board, College of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Consultant and Director of Spine and Rehabilitation Service, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Director, Spinal Cord Rehabilitation Center, Kowloon Central Cluster, HA.

Clinical Coordinator (Rehabilitation), Kowloon Central Cluster, HA.

Consultant in charge: Special Back Clinic, Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

With a yearly prevalence of 50% of our population, Back Pain qualifies as a major health care concern. With a life time prevalence of 80% of the population, this clinical problem cannot be managed by one single discipline alone. And sure enough, Back Pain is managed around the world by clinicians of multiple disciplines, including practitioners in the field of alternative medicine. My major interest and practice have always been on this subject of Back Pain and I am honoured to be a member of the Pain Society which encompasses even a broader prospective on multidisciplinary cooperation in the area of Pain Management.



Dr FUNG Shuk Man, Amy 馮淑敏

Head of HKW Cluster Clinical Psychological Services, Hospital Authority; Senior Clinical Psychologist of Department of Clinical Psychology, Queen Mary Hospital

Associate Fellow of British Psychological Society since 1997

Graduate Member of Hong Kong Psychological Society since 1987

I have more than 10 years' experience working with patients with acute and chronic pain problems in an acute, general hospital as well as with patients with mental health problems. I look forward to contribute to the better development of pain services in HK, and that the HK Pain Society can contribute to an enhanced understanding in the general public of pain issues and pain management.



Ms MA Lin, Marlene 馬連

Advanced Practising Nurse (Pain Management)

Chronic pain results in prolonged suffering and frustration not only to patients but also to their family. Restoring function of the patient should be the aim of the therapy rather than symptomatic relief. I hope the HK Pain Society can enhance the public and the medical professionals' awareness of pain and pain management approaches.



A/Professor NG Kwok Fu, Jacobus 吳國夫

Associate Professor, Department of Anaesthesiology and Assistant Dean of Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, The University of Hong Kong

The establishment of the Hong Kong Pain Society is a timely multidisciplinary venture to take on the challenge of chronic pain in Hong Kong and I, as an anaesthesiologist with a keen interest in pain medicine, am most excited to be involved.



Ms POON Yee Hung, Priscilla 潘綺紅

Care Manager and Physiotherapist of the Occupational Care Medicine Care Services of the New Territories West Cluster of the Hospital Authority

Vice President of the Hong Kong Physiotherapy Association (HKPA)

Chairperson of the Occupational Safety, Health & Rehabilitation Specialty Group of the HKPA

Ms Poon has been working for patients with musculoskeletal problems since graduation. Pain and the subsequent functional limitations are the main problems faced by this group of clients. She was one of the team members for the design of an intensive rehabilitation program for chronic back pain patients. It is expected to introduce the update knowledge on pain management among various disciplines. Public education on pain management is also expected to be enhanced.



Dr SHAM Mau Kwong, Michael 沈茂光

Consultant i/c, Palliative Medical Unit, Grantham Hospital
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Community Medicine, University of Hong Kong
Honorary Consultant, Hospice & Palliative Care Center, Kiang Wu Hospital, Macau
Honorary Consultant (Hospice), The First Affiliated Hospital of Shantou University Medical College

I have worked in palliative care for twenty years, in which cancer pain management is a top priority. I have been promoting cancer pain management in any location that the patient prefers, including patients' home and acute hospitals. The Hong Kong Pain Society will be a very important professional body in the promotion of pain management.



Dr WONG Kam Hung 黃錦洪

Senior Medical Officer, Department of Clinical Oncology, Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Hon. Secretary, Palliative Medicine Subspecialty Board, Hong Kong College of Radiologists
Hon. Secretary, Hong Kong Society of Palliative Medicine

I have been working as a clinical oncologist for over ten years and am in charge of the palliative care team of my department. Pain is one of the most common symptoms of cancer patients and always requires a multidisciplinary approach for effective management. I believe that the establishment of the Hong Kong Pain Society could enhance the development of effective pain management in cancer patients.



Dr HUNG Chi Tim 熊志添 (Honorary Advisor)

Cluster Chief Executive, Kowloon Central Cluster / Hospital Chief Executive, Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Vice-President (Education & Examination), Hong Kong Academy of Medicine
Convenor, Multidisciplinary Task Group on Pain Management, Hospital Authority
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Anaesthesiology, HKU
Member, Education and Accreditation Committee, Hong Kong Medical Council
Editor, Chinese Journal of Anaesthesiology
Advisory Board, Chinese Edition of Anesthesia and Analgesia

Previously

Chief of Service and Consultant Anaesthetist, Department of Anaesthesiology, Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Co-Chairman, COC in Anaesthesiology, Hospital Authority
Past President, Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

I am looking forward to the Hong Kong Pain Society in bringing quantum leap changes to the scene of pain medicine in Hong Kong, especially in the area of multi-disciplinary and multi-specialty care of patients. The passion of our founding members and their concerted efforts would open up a new chapter in pain medicine, scale new heights and bring good news to our patients suffering from pain.



Dr LEE Tsun Woon 李振垣 (Honorary Advisor)

Hospital Chief Executive, Pok Oi Hospital
Director of Clinical & Ambulatory Care Service, Tuen Mun Hospital
Fellow of Faculty of Pain Medicine of Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, Faculty of Anaesthetists of Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Council Member & Past President of Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, Editorial Board Member of Chinese edition of Anesthesia & Analgesia, Honorary Editor of Chinese Journal of Clinical Anaesthesiology



Dr TSE Kin Chuen, Vincent 謝建泉 (Honorary Advisor)

Hon. Consultant in Palliative care, QEH and PMH
Hon. Advisor, HK Society of Palliative Medicine
Chairman, Oasis of Hospital Authority, Centre for personal growth and crisis intervention

Is pain a curse or a blessing?



Inaugural Meeting and Dinner Programme

5:30p.m.	Cocktail Reception
7:00p.m.	Inaugural Ceremony
7:05p.m.	Welcome Remarks by Dr CHEN Phoon Ping, President, HKPS
7:10p.m.	Speech by The Honourable Dr York CHOW, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, HKSAR
7:20p.m.	Speech by The Honourable Dr LEONG Che-Hung, Executive Council Member, HKSAR
7:30p.m.	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
7:50p.m.	“Past, Present and Future of Pain Medicine” by Dr HUNG Chi-Tim, Cluster Chief Executive, Kowloon East Cluster; Hospital Chief Executive, Queen Elizabeth Hospital
8:10p.m.	“Pain in Older Persons” by Professor Jean WOO, Chair Professor of Medicine, and Head of Division of Geriatric Medicine, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics; The Chinese University of Hong Kong
8:30p.m.	Dinner Commences

Special thanks to Ms Mary Chu, our Master of Ceremony, and the HA Chinese Orchestra.

Invited Guests

Hong Kong Association of Rehabilitation Medicine	Dr Alex Chow Chi Ping
Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine & Sports Science Ltd	Dr Raymond So
Hong Kong Dental Association	Dr Vincent FS Leung
Hong Kong Head & Neck Society	Prof William Wei
Hong Kong Hospice Nurses' Association	Ms Cecilia Kwan
Hong Kong Occupational Therapy Association	Mr Samuel Chan
Hong Kong Orthopaedic Association	Dr James Cheng Chung Kit
Hong Kong Pharmacology Society	Prof Brian Tomlinson
Hong Kong Physiotherapy Association	Ms Polly Lau
Hong Kong Psychogeriatric Association	Dr Felix Chan
Hong Kong Society for Nursing Education	Prof Frances Wong
Hong Kong Society of Clinical Oncology	Dr Gordon KH Au
Hong Kong Society of Palliative Medicine	Dr Lau Kam Shing
Pharmaceutical Society of Hong Kong	Mr Benjamin Kwong
The Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong	Dr Dawson Fong
The Hong Kong Association of Gerontology	Dr Leung Man Fuk
The Hong Kong Geriatric Society	Dr Felix Chan Hon Wai
The Hong Kong Medical Association	Dr Choi Kin
The Hong Kong Neurological Society	Dr Raymond Cheung
The Hong Kong Neurosurgical Society	Dr YW Fan
The Hong Kong Paediatric Society	Dr NS Tsoi
The Hong Kong Society of Community Medicine	Dr PY Lam, JP
The Hong Kong Society of Neurosciences	Prof David Yew
The Hong Kong Society of Rheumatology	Dr Chan Tak Hon
The Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong	Dr SK Lam
The Practising Pharmacists Association of Hong Kong	Mr Billy Chung
The Society of Anaesthetists of Hong Kong	Dr Steven Wong
Department of Psychiatry, The University of Hong Kong	Prof Peter Lee

Speakers Biographies and Abstracts



Dr HUNG Chi Tim

Cluster Chief Executive, Kowloon Central Cluster / Hospital Chief Executive, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

*Vice-President (Education & Examination), Hong Kong Academy of Medicine
Convenor, Multidisciplinary Task Group on Pain Management, Hospital Authority
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Anaesthesiology, HKU
Member, Education and Accreditation Committee, Hong Kong Medical Council.
Editor, Chinese Journal of Anaesthesiology
Advisory Board, Chinese Edition of Anesthesia and Analgesia*

Previously

*Chief of Service and Consultant Anaesthetist, Department of Anaesthesiology,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital*

Co-Chairman, COC in Anaesthesiology, Hospital Authority

Past President, Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

The Past, Present and Future of Pain Medicine in Hong Kong

Pain Medicine is gaining more and more importance lately as evidenced by pain score being identified as the fifth vital sign. Development of Pain Medicine in Hong Kong has come a long way and the inauguration of Hong Kong Pain Society marked a major milestone in evolution. In the early days, doctors of various specialties developed interest in this area and got themselves trained in the technical part of pain management. Because of their involvement in postoperative pain management, anaesthesiologists were often involved in setting up various acute pain programmes in the early part of 1990s in the major acute hospitals. For these anaesthesiology-based programmes, there is the natural tendency to move from acute pain to cancer pain and then to chronic non-cancer pain. All these occurred in the mid-1990s. With time, nurses also got interested in it. To ensure sustainability of services beyond the interested few, there needs to be good succession planning and career prospects in the field of pain management. A training programme on pain management would ensure sustainability of the specialty. Under these circumstances, the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists established the Diploma in Pain Medicine Training Programme in 1997. This is a one year post-fellowship training programme for anaesthesiologists.

Pain management involves multiple disciplines and specialties as different skills are called for to treat different pain syndromes. In recognition of the need to build a team, a multidisciplinary Task Force in Pain Management was set up at Hospital Authority in July 2001 to coordinate the training and services delivery in pain medicine of different centres. Apart from disciplines like clinical psychology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and nursing, doctors from other specialties in addition to anaesthesiology were also invited to join the group. This has paved the way for further collaboration between those interested in pain management.

Elsewhere in developed countries, pain medicine has become a specialty in its own right. Under the Faculty of Pain Medicine in the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, there is a dedicated fellowship training programme in pain medicine which accepts trainees from other Colleges. Setting up a Fellowship training programme through inter-collegiate collaboration should be the way forward in Hong Kong. I am looking forward to the Hong Kong Pain Society in bringing quantum leap changes to the scene of pain medicine in Hong Kong, especially in the area of multi-disciplinary and multi-specialty care of patients. Their concerted efforts would open up a new chapter in pain medicine, scale new heights and bring good news to our patients suffering from pain.



Professor Jean WOO

Professor Jean Woo is Chair Professor of Medicine, and Head of the Division of Geriatrics, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Hon Consultant and Chief of service (M&G), Shatin Hospital, Hospital Authority.

Pain in Older Persons

Pain is a particularly prevalent problem among the elderly population, musculoskeletal pain affecting some 19-41% of people aged 70years and over living in the community. It also has a significant impact on activities of daily living, use of hospital services, insomnia and depression. 30% of residents living in residential care homes for the elderly also experience pain daily. The commonest sites of pain are bones, joints and back. Factors predisposing to pain include chronic diseases such as cancer, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoporosis. Psychological factors also play a role. Chronic pain is not uncommonly neglected by healthcare professionals; at the same time sufferers may accept this as part of ageing. Management include the use of Western drugs, complementary and alternative therapies, management of concomitant psychosocial problems, provision of aids, and consideration of the placebo effect.

Upcoming Events

HKPS Public Talks

Management of Pain in Older Persons

Speakers : Dr TY Chui, Rehabilitation Physician & Mr. Donald Lui, Physiotherapist

Date : 21 October 2006 (Saturday)

Time : 2:30 - 4:30p.m.

Venue : Theatre, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Management of Work-related Pain

Speakers : Dr MC Chu, Anaesthesiologist & Ms Frances Louie, Occupational Therapist

Date : 5 November 2006 (Sunday)

Time : 2:30 - 4:30p.m.

Venue : Duke of Windsor Community Building, Wanchai

Radio Show at RTHK

Every Thursday starting from 19 October 2006 (6 sessions)

Time : 1:00 - 2:00p.m.

19 Oct	Pain in Older Persons	Dr TY Chui <i>Rehabilitation Physician</i>
26 Oct	Chronic Back Pain	Dr PH Chin <i>Orthopaedic Surgeon</i> Mr Alex Wong <i>Occupational Therapist</i>
2 Nov	Prevention of Work-related Pain	Professor Chetwyn Chan <i>Rehabilitation Sciences</i> Ms Ruby Ho <i>Occupational Therapist</i>
9 Nov	Medication-use in Pain Management	Dr Anne Kwan <i>Anaesthesiologist</i>
16 Nov	Cancer Pain Management	Dr Theresa Li <i>Anaesthesiologist</i> Dr KH Wong <i>Clinical Oncologist</i>
23 Nov	Rehabilitation in Chronic Pain	Dr Carina Li <i>Anaesthesiologist</i> Ms Emma Wong <i>Clinical Psychologist</i>

Congratulatory Messages

Australian Pain Society

Congratulations on forming a multidisciplinary society. Your next challenge is to grow your membership and put into action your objectives. The Australian Pain Society is about to review their vision and develop strategic goals for the next 3 years. Your objectives have provided encouragement for us and we are looking to forge alliances with our Asia /Pacific neighbours which is reflected in our 2007 Annual Scientific meeting to be held in Adelaide in South Australia 2-5 April 2007. I wish to extend an invitation to all your members to attend and have attached some preliminary information on the conference.

I have also attached a copy of our May newsletter for you information.

Please extend our warmest regards to all your members, we wish you continued enthusiasm in all your endeavours.

*Amal Helou
President
Australian Pain Society*

Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists

The Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists sends its congratulations to the founding members of the Hong Kong Pain Society.

The formation of a Society that will allow interaction and exchange of ideas between the wide range of Health Care Providers involved in pain management is a great step forward. Multidisciplinary management of patients with persistent pain is now recognised as providing best practice.

The establishment of the Hong Kong Pain Society can only foster better pain management strategies for the patients of Hong Kong.

On behalf of the Board of Faculty may I send our very best wishes for the future of your Society.

*Roger Goucke
Dean
Faculty of Pain Medicine, ANZCA*

British Pain Society

The British Pain Society sends greetings and congratulations to the Hong Kong Pain Society on its incorporation in August 2006. Chronic pain affects people in all countries of the world, and we are delighted that there will be a Pain Society for the people of Hong Kong, to raise the awareness of chronic pain and its effect on people's lives, ability to work, self-esteem and happiness. We hope that you will provide much needed education in pain management for all health professionals, and will raise the standards and understanding of the management of pain. We also hope that you will push the need for pain management up the political agenda, so that resources are made available for all your people. Pain crosses all age groups, and we hope that you will help to make special provision for the very young and for the old and those who are nearing the end of life. It requires hard work and dedication to achieve these things.

We wish you well in your endeavours for now and for the future.

*Joan Hester
President
British Pain Society*

中華醫學會疼痛學分會

首先，熱烈慶祝香港疼痛學會的成立！

疼痛醫學是現代醫學中的一門新學科，歷經二十餘年的穩步發展，我國疼痛醫學已發展成為一個多學科參與、逐步顯示專業特色和深受患者及社會歡迎的臨床學科。1989年國際疼痛研究會中國分會成立，1992年中華醫學會疼痛學會正式成立。

根據IASP會訊2001年第二期刊登的消息，美國國會第106次會議通過決議，將21世紀前十年命名為「鎮痛研究」的十年（Decade of pain control and research）。這項決議將疼痛治療及研究置於醫學研究的前沿，必將大大促進醫學界及公眾對疼痛診療事業的重視。目前中華醫學會疼痛學會主要進行了如下工作：

- 醫療方面：充分利用中華疼痛學會的領導、組織和協調作用，集中全國第一流的疼痛治療專家的特長，進行多學科交流和治療。同時引進國內、外各種先進技術充實臨床，為各類頑固性疼痛患者解除痛苦。
- 疼痛科普方面。
- 專科醫師繼續教育方面：每年舉辦疼痛專科醫師學習班，推廣新技術。
- 疼痛醫學研究方面：進行基礎與臨床結合的研究，以疼痛學會十個臨床中心科研為模式，向全國推行。
- 會員制度的建立。

中華疼痛學會對香港疼痛學會成立寄予厚望，希望香港的同行加強與內地的聯繫並且融入蓬勃發展的中國疼痛診療事業之中，進一步提高國內疼痛診療事業的技術水平和國際地位。

中華醫學會疼痛學分會

Chinese Association for the Study of Pain (Taiwan)

It is my pleasure to congratulate you on the successful establishment of the Hong Kong Pain Society. There is an old Chinese saying: "One generation plants the trees in whose shade another generation rests." Your Society has taken the first step to plant the trees so that Hong Kong patients with pain can enjoy peace and stability under them.

In addition, I hope we can further expand our collaborative programs with you and your society members. We would very much like help all the overseas Chinese patients with pain whether is cancer-related or non cancer-related pain. I hope we can enhance friendship between our societies as well as its important contributions to developing and consolidating bilateral relations in the field of pain.

May your Society embark on a new journey towards the 21st century!

Yu-Chuan Tsai
President

Chinese Association for the Study of Pain (Taiwan)

廣州市醫學會疼痛學分會

值此香港疼痛學會成立之際，廣州市醫學會疼痛學會王家雙主任委員和委員會的多學科專家謹在此向曾煥彬主席、香港疼痛學會、香港地區全體從事疼痛學診療事業的同道致以熱烈的祝賀。

疼痛學會是臨床多學科融合形成的一門新興交叉學科，根據中國科學院院士、中華醫學會疼痛學會主任委員、北京大學神經科學研究所所長韓濟生教授介紹，目前疼痛已列為繼呼吸、脈搏、血壓、體溫之後的第五大生命體證，疼痛學會與相關學科治療「疼痛」既相互配合，又有明確區別分工。我們相信香港疼痛學會的成立將會大大促進香港地區疼痛診療事業的進步。目前廣州地區的疼痛治療水平已經位居我國先進水平，希望今後穗-港兩地的疼痛學會加強交流、合作，共同促進我國疼痛診療事業的不斷發展。

廣州市醫學會疼痛學分會
主任委員
王家雙

Korean Pain Society

As the President of the Korean Pain Society and its 3,000 members, I want to express my great congratulation to your foundation of the Hong Kong Pain Society.

It is very convincing that the multidisciplinary approach is needed for the management of the pain. Your efforts to promote the exchanges of knowledge and foster collaboration among different specialties and disciplines for pain study will be another big corner stone for the patients suffering from pain.

On your special commemoration, again, I would like to give my heartfelt celebration to you and your founder members. I wish you make a great progress and future collaboration with us.

Sang Chul Lee
President
Korean Pain Society

Malaysian Association for the Study of Pain

Greetings from the Malaysian Association for the Study of Pain! Congratulations on your achievement in getting the Hong Kong Pain Society incorporated. I am very happy to note that it will be a truly multi-disciplinary society from the various members that you have on your working committee.

Pain medicine is still in its infancy in Asia but it is gradually gaining some recognition thanks to some of the already established pain societies in this region. I would like to welcome your Pain Society and look forward to joint meetings and future collaborations in the years to go. You already have a strong "pain" presence in Hong Kong and I am sure that your new Society will go from strength to strength for the benefit of all patients who suffer from pain.

Ramani Vijayan
President
Malaysian Association for the Study of Pain

Pain Society of the Philippines

On the behalf of the Pain Society of the Philippines, I would like to congratulate the officers and members of the Hong Kong Pain Society for its incorporation. It is indeed a pleasure that a society is established for the purpose of the advancement in the management, in the research and dedication of patients in pain. I am certain that our two societies will work hand in hand in the pursuit of alleviating pain and suffering in this part of this world.

I look forward in that mutual and lasting relationship of our pain societies.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all you to the First Congress of the Association of Southeast Asian Pain Societies (ASEAPS) on Nov. 29 - Dec. 2, 2006 at Hotel Philippine Plaza with the theme : ASEAN going global : Filling the gap between bench and bedside." The PSP is honored to host the first ever ASEAPS Congress. The Organizing Committee has invited the world renowned Pain Experts to share their knowledge and expertise.

Henry U. Lu
President
Pain Society of the Philippines

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