



**HKU
Med**

School of Clinical Medicine
Department of Medicine
香港大學內科學系

MEDICINE

NEWSLETTER



**FROM RESEARCH TO IMPACT:
A JOURNEY OF EXPLORATION AND REALIZATION**

OCTOBER 2024



<https://medic.hku.hk>



MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON PROFESSOR TSE HUNG-FAT



Welcome to the October 2024 issue of MEDICINE newsletter.

Continuing medical education lies at the core of our Department's mission. Over the past months, we have organized a series of specialized training sessions and events aimed at equipping individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary for their professional advancement.

Meanwhile, our passionate researchers continue to push boundaries, making significant strides in their respective fields. Their dedication to research with real-world applications is evident in the translational impact they are making on society. This issue will present some of our discoveries, innovations and initiatives that are driving meaningful change and progress, shaping a better world.

Thank you for being a part of our journey towards a healthier and more promising future.

LATEST NEWS

TEN OUTSTANDING YOUNG PERSONS 2024

Congratulations to **Professor Gary Lau Kui-kai** (Clinical Associate Professor) and **Professor Loey Mak Lung-yi** (Clinical Assistant Professor) for being awarded among the **Ten Outstanding Young Persons 2024**. This recognition acknowledges their contributions to the field of medicine, excellence in professional endeavour and commitments to the community.

The Ten Outstanding Young Persons Selection, which was founded by Junior Chamber International Hong Kong in 1970, has the theme "Outstanding Young Persons - Keep Striving" this year. **Professor Sydney Tang Chi-wai** (Yu Professor in Nephrology), **Professor Yuen Man-fung** (Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation Professor in Medicine) and a number of previous members of the Department are among the 403 awardees who have been selected to date.





CLINICAL ATTACHMENT DURING GENERAL CLERKSHIP (MEDICINE) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG-SHENZHEN HOSPITAL

The clinical attachment at The University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital (HKU-SZH) during the General Clerkship (Medicine) has begun since October 2024. This initiative, spearheaded by the Department of Medicine, aims to foster medical exchanges and enhance students' understanding of the healthcare system in Mainland China. This clinical attachment takes place during the General Clerkship (Medicine) where small groups of MBBS IV/V students will be seconded to HKU-SZH each week. Students are provided free transportation and accommodation at the hospital premises as arranged by our Department and HKU-SZH.

The program comprises a wide spectrum of activities, including bedside teachings, simulation trainings, hands-on experience of bedside procedures using manikins, as well as visits to outpatient departments, dialysis unit, cardiac catheterization laboratory, endoscopy centre and neurophysiology facilities. The attachment also helps enhance students' learning experience with the vast number of patients and rich case-mix in HKU-SZH. Apart from teaching professoriates from our Department, senior physicians at HKU-SZH also contribute to the teaching of medical students. These exposures will enable our medical students to better appreciate the difference in healthcare setup and culture between Hong Kong and neighbouring regions and help shape their future careers.



Professor Tse Hung-fat (Department Chairperson) extended a warm welcome to students at HKU-SZH.



Professor Tse Hung-fat (Department Chairperson), Professor Patrick Chu Chi-mai (Honorary Clinical Professor) and Dr Eddie Lam Kwok-shing (Senior Lecturer) conducted a briefing for medical students.



Professor Patrick Chu Chi-mai (Honorary Clinical Professor) delivered simulation teaching.

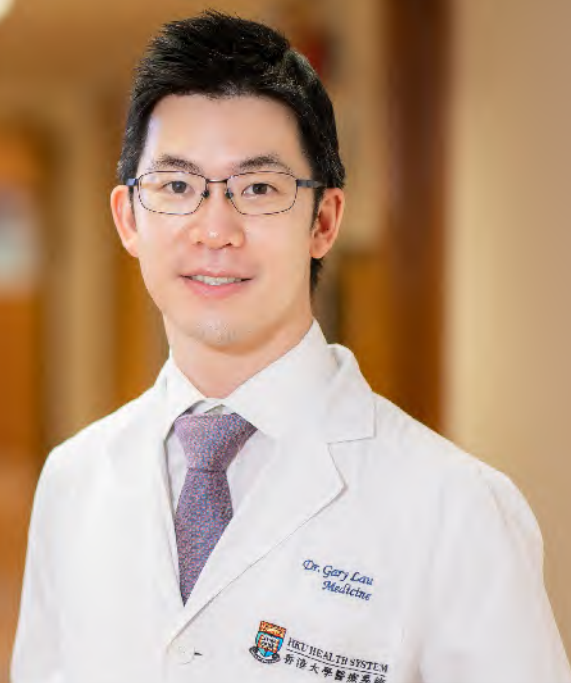


Students practiced in the Simulation Center led by Professor Jo Jo Hai Siu-han (Clinical Assistant Professor).

FEATURE STORY

GARY LAU

ADDRESSING GLOBAL STROKE CHALLENGES THROUGH INNOVATION AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES



Stroke is the second leading cause of death globally and a major contributor to disability and dementia. In Hong Kong, it ranks as the fourth leading cause of death, with approximately 15,000 new cases reported annually. **Professor Gary Lau Kui-kai**, Clinical Associate Professor at the Division of Neurology and Director of the Stroke Research and Prevention Group (known as “HKU Stroke”), has devoted over 15 years to researching stroke. “Our mission is to gain a deeper understanding of the causes of stroke and to develop improved strategies for its prevention and management. We also strive to raise public awareness about stroke and empower families affected by this condition”, he stated.

The Cradle of Innovation

Professor Lau earned his MBBS and Master of Research in Medicine degrees in 2008 from The University of Hong Kong and completed his Neurology training at Queen Mary Hospital in 2015. He went on to pursue his PhD in Clinical Neurosciences (Stroke Medicine) from 2015 to 2017 at The Centre for Prevention of Stroke and Dementia, University of Oxford. Under the guidance of Professor Peter Rothwell, a leading expert in stroke, Professor Lau embarked on his journey to transform stroke prevention and management.

stroke research and innovation with a commitment to stroke advocacy. “Addressing the significant societal impact of stroke, especially the increasing incidence of ‘young stroke’ (occurring in individuals aged 18 to 55 years) in Hong Kong, is a critical issue. A substantial number of stroke survivors experience lasting impairments, and about 1 in 8 may suffer another stroke within 5 years of their initial stroke. Additionally, the psychological toll on stroke patients and their caregivers is significant but often overlooked”, Professor Lau explained.



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Upon his return to Hong Kong from Oxford in 2018, he collaborated with Professor Teo Kay-cheong and Professor Anderson Tsang, who shared his vision, to establish “HKU Stroke”, a specialized group focused on

Translating his vision into action, he led a multidisciplinary team to develop the “WeRISE” app, a comprehensive platform designed to facilitate the monitoring and timely optimization of vascular risk factors in stroke patients. The app also provides a wealth of information on topics such as diet, rehabilitation, speech and swallowing, mood, and resource maps. The primary objective is to enhance recurrent stroke prevention while simultaneously alleviating the psychological burden on patients and their caregivers. Launched in 2021, the app has been widely promoted and utilized by stroke patients and healthcare providers across Hong Kong. The WeRISE app also received the **Smart Ageing Gold Award** from the Golden Age Foundation, recognizing their efforts in shaping a better future for the ageing population.

From WeRISE to SmartRehab

More recently, recognizing the significant gap in rehabilitation services in Hong Kong, Professor Lau collaborated with the Sport AI Laboratory of HKU's Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation to develop "SmartRehab" – an innovative platform that harnesses artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to assist stroke patients in remote rehabilitation. This app delivers rehabilitative services directly to patients' homes, guiding them through exercises to ensure correct and effective performance. Additionally, the portal system of SmartRehab enables therapists to remotely monitor their patients' progress. This personalized approach not only streamlines the rehabilitation process but also encourages individuals to actively participate in their recovery journey.



This innovation was recently honoured with the prestigious **Gold Medal with Congratulations of the Jury** at the 49th International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva. Professor Lau's team was one of only two recipients from HKU to receive this esteemed recognition. In appreciation of his exceptional leadership and pioneering contributions to healthcare innovations, Professor Lau was awarded the **Smart Ageing Leader Award** by the Golden Age Foundation in 2024.



Reducing the Global Burden of Stroke

According to statistics from the World Stroke Organization (WSO), more than 100 million people worldwide are currently living with stroke. Despite this staggering number, many stroke survivors, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, encounter difficulties in accessing rehabilitation due to limited availability of facilities and trained professionals. SmartRehab offers an intuitive and potentially cost-effective solution for stroke rehabilitation, overcoming challenges related to time, distance, and workforce limitations. Through collaboration with the WSO, the team is currently conducting studies using SmartRehab in seven other countries, expanding their impact from local to international levels.

Lastly, Professor Lau expresses his gratitude to his HKU Stroke team members, mentors, collaborators, funders, and most importantly, his patients. He acknowledges, "The success of our innovations would not have been possible without the inspiration from our patients. They serve as a constant reminder for us to continue conducting high-quality research and developing innovative solutions to enhance their quality of life and alleviate the global burden of stroke."



Professor Gary Lau (front row, fourth right) and other HKU research teams at the 49th International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva.

HONG KONG'S FIRST INNOVATIVE MEDICINE DATABASE FOR DISCOVERING SAFE AND EFFECTIVE NEW DRUG LEADS



Hong Kong's impressive longevity stems from its top-tier and effective healthcare system. In pace with global ageing, local chronic disease burden presents ongoing challenges and opportunities for health care improvement. Globally, innovative and breakthrough therapies are booming; however, there is often a lack of awareness about the full range of available treatments and their safety and efficacy profiles, which might result in a time lag between patient needs and system adoption of innovation.

The Promise of Innovative Medicines

Innovative medicine offers new effective treatment options for patients seeking care. Expanding access to these breakthrough therapies is essential for addressing unmet medical needs and improving health outcomes. Horizon scanning is a review exercise that aims to identify pipeline innovative treatments and offer targeted solutions that improve outcomes at the patient and system levels.

SCAN-2030: Revolutionizing Healthcare Decision-Making

In many countries, Health Technology Assessment (HTA) plays a pivotal role in evidence-based decision-making and serves as a tool for informing and guiding healthcare decisions by evaluating the clinical, economic, and social impacts of health technologies. Through a systematic, transparent and unbiased evaluation framework, HTA supports the development of evidence-based guidelines and recommendations, ensuring that patients receive appropriate, effective, and value-based treatments. For policymakers, HTA provides perspectives on financial impacts and expedites the market entry of innovative, cost-effective medications.



Professor Shirley Li Xue (Assistant Professor) is now leading a SCAN-2030 project funded by the RGC/Research Impact Fund (RIF) to strategically prepare Hong Kong's healthcare system for innovation adoption by establishing a robust HTA ecosystem. A key component of this initiative includes AI-driven horizon scanning and the establishment of an **innovative medicine database** - a collaborative effort involving an international and local team of top clinicians, pharmacists, pharmacoepidemiologists, health economists and social policy leaders, who precisely analyze global open-access electronic medical databases to identify promising new medicines. This database, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, presents horizon scanning results in an accessible format, enabling users to track drug registration progress, Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (CPP) approval status, the most up-to-date R&D reviews and clinical trials data. SCAN-2030 covers a global pipeline of innovative medicines for **Depression, Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Prostate Cancer**, with potential expansion into other therapeutic areas in the future.

Embracing the Future

In 2023, the Hong Kong government announced a strategic plan to establish an independent drug regulatory and approval authority to strengthen medical capabilities further. This initiative involves implementing a "primary evaluation" approach, allowing for the direct approval of drug registrations grounded on clinical data. The SCAN-2030 project is expected to serve as a guiding blueprint for the HTA framework, promoting a significant stride forward for Hong Kong's healthcare system.





LIVER SCREENING GOES MOBILE IN HONG KONG

Hong Kong stands at a critical stage with about 410,000 individuals grappling with hepatitis B, a staggering 40% of whom remain undiagnosed. Among them, 70% have yet to seek treatment. This alarming situation underscores the urgent need to identify these hidden cases to fight viral hepatitis, especially when effective treatments and vaccines are readily available.

Led by **Professor Yuen Man-fung** (Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation Professor in Medicine) and **Professor Walter Seto Wai-kay** (Simon KY Lee Professor in Gastroenterology), the "Healthy Liver Mobile Clinic" provides a beacon of hope in addressing this pressing health concern, offering complimentary rapid blood tests for hepatitis B and hepatitis C to the public. This service is not only swift, taking only 10-15 minutes, but also allows participants to receive their results and medical referrals directly on their mobile devices. Launched in July 2024, the mobile clinic will initially visit Tsuen Wan and then extend its services to all 18 districts of Hong Kong by 2029.

This Knowledge Exchange (KE) project, which promotes social awareness about liver disease, has been awarded the HKU Knowledge Exchange Funding for Strategic Impact in 2023/24. Professor Seto is one of the fourteen awardees to receive this support, demonstrating the significant societal benefits this project can bring and reaffirming our dedication to translating knowledge into tangible actions.



NEW FACES

DR EDDIE LAM KWOK-SHING (SENIOR LECTURER)

After spending 32 years in medicine and teaching, I recently retired from my private practice. With more time on hand, I can now explore personal interests and contribute my passion of teaching medicine to others.

I was born in Hong Kong and moved to United States at the age of sixteen, thus I have been receiving my education in the U.S. since high school. I have enjoyed an extraordinarily successful career in Internal Medicine at a private practice setting, along with teaching interns, medical students, and nurse practitioners, both at my clinic and at university settings. Never have forgotten my root, I frequently visited my hometown in Hong Kong throughout the years. I have always wanted to return someday and share my medical knowledge and experiences with the younger generations, especially the HKers.

I am certified in the American Board of Internal Medicine since 1994 and was granted the title of Clinical Associate Professor at University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine in 2009. My scope of practice included primary adult/geriatric medicine in both hospitals and outpatient settings.

Teaching has always been my passion and priority. I have walked the path as a medical student, intern, resident, and teacher. I spent my whole career treating patients, teaching, and making positive impressionable differences to my patients, and students during their path toward excellent patient care. Now that I am fulfilling my passion as an educator, I am honoured and humbled to be part of the village as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Medicine, School of Clinical Medicine, HKUMed.



NEW APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTION



PROFESSOR CHAN KOON-HO has been promoted to Clinical Professor.

PROFESSOR WALTER SETO WAI-KAY

has been conferred the Simon KY Lee Professor in Gastroenterology.



PROFESSOR XU AIMIN

has been conferred the Rosie TT Young Professor in Endocrinology and Metabolism.

CONGRATULATIONS!

IN REMEMBRANCE OF PROFESSOR MOIRA CHAN (1939 – 2024)

We are deeply saddened to hear about the passing of **Professor Moira Chan**, a remarkable academic whose contributions to the field of respiratory diseases and medical education have left a lasting impact.

Upon graduation with MBBS from HKU, Professor Chan joined the Department of Medicine in 1963 and received basic physician training. She left for further postgraduate career at University of British Columbia rising from Teacher Fellow to full tenured Professorship in Respiratory Medicine. She returned to Hong Kong and was appointed Chair Professor of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine through a Distinguished Visiting Scholar Scheme in 1998. Professor Chan was conferred Emeritus Professor at the University of British Columbia and Honorary Clinical Professor of Department of Medicine after her retirement.

Professor Chan's research interests in tuberculosis, lung cancer and asthma have significantly advanced our understanding of these common respiratory diseases in Hong Kong. Her work encompassed basic research on the genetics of asthma, clinical studies on air pollution and asthma management guidelines, and community-based initiatives such as tuberculosis control and air pollution research. She led the local respiratory societies in a research project on the Burden of Lung Diseases in Hong Kong which was published in *Respirology*, the official journal of Asian Pacific Society of Respirology in 2005.

Professor Chan's epidemiological approach to disease prevention and control has led to tangible outcomes with some of her study recommendations influencing government health care policies and chest services in Hong Kong. Her pivotal role in establishing collaborative studies across Vancouver, Hong Kong, Beijing and Guangzhou underscores her dedication to fostering international research partnerships and advancing global health initiatives. In addition to numerous accolades for her seminal contributions, Professor Chan was also awarded the Distinguished Achievement Award by American Thoracic Society in 2008. Beyond her remarkable research and professional achievements, Professor Chan had made significant contributions to the teaching of medical students, including the auditing and evaluation of MBBS curriculum. Her dedication to education and research has undoubtedly shaped the next generation of medical professionals and researchers.

Before her official retirement, Professor Chan made a magnanimous donation to HKU, establishing the **YC Chan Scientist Award** in the Department of Medicine to support respiratory research. This exemplified her generosity and selflessness, further cementing her legacy of nurturing future generations of researchers. The Department of Medicine is also extremely fortunate to have had Professor Chan's tireless work for a historical account in the Department book ***Department of Medicine 1995-2019 Impact. Inspiration.*** Her recent work, ***Rosie Young: A Lifetime of Selfless Service***, vividly illustrated the biography of Professor Rosie Young and showcased Professor Chan's exceptional storytelling talent and commitment to documenting the medical history of Hong Kong.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Professor Chan's family and friends. May her collaborative spirit and profound impact on respiratory health and medical education be remembered by all those whose lives she touched.



FIRST ASIA PACIFIC SYMPOSIUM ON ACUTE MYELOID LEUKAEMIA - from Biology, Translational Research to Clinical Trials and Advanced Practices

10-13 Apr 2024 (Wed - Sat)
Hong Kong



FIRST ASIA PACIFIC SYMPOSIUM ON ACUTE MYELOID LEUKAEMIA

The First Asia Pacific Symposium on Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML), co-organized by the **Department of Medicine and King's College London**, took place from April 10 to 13, 2024 at the HKUMed campus. The event aimed to bring together leading experts, researchers and practitioners in the field of AML to exchange knowledge, showcase recent discoveries, and discuss the evolving landscape of AML diagnosis, treatment and patient care.

It featured a diverse program of 23 insightful lectures facilitated by 27 expert speakers and moderators. These sessions covered various aspects of AML, ranging from biological understanding to the latest advancements in AML research, clinical trials, and advanced therapeutic strategies. The symposium sparked lively discussions that stretched beyond existing paradigms and provided networking opportunities that fostered new collaborations.

With over 100 delegates from the region in attendance, each contributing unique insights and experiences, the event not only deepened our understanding of AML but also highlighted innovative strategies for the diagnosis, treatment and patient care of AML.



Professor Eric Tse Wai-choi (Associate Dean of Research, HKUMed) delivered an opening remark.





Group photo of the officiating guests, Organizing Committee and speakers of the 28th HKMF.

28TH HONG KONG MEDICAL FORUM: ADVANCING PRECISION MEDICINE AND THERAPIES



The 28th Hong Kong Medical Forum (HKMF), with the theme “Advancing Precision Medicine and Therapies”, was successfully concluded on May 4-5, 2024 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. This year’s forum achieved a new milestone by introducing simultaneous interpretation service, expanding HKMF’s reach to the Greater Bay Area (GBA) for the first time.

We were honoured to have **Dr Ronald Lam, JP**, the Director of Health (HKSAR Government), as the Guest of Honour at the Opening Ceremony. The forum featured two named lectures: the **Richard Yu Lecture** “Lessons from Past Outbreaks: Preparation for Next Pandemic” presented by **Professor Yuen Kwok-yung, GBS, JP** (Department of Microbiology, HKUMed) and the **David Todd Distinguished Lecture** “Understanding of an Ancient Virus in the Modern Era” delivered by **Professor Yuen Man-fung, JP** (Department of Medicine, HKUMed).

Over 30 other esteemed speakers from the United States, the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, Australia, Mexico, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and Hong Kong shared their profound knowledge in a wide range of topics in precision medicine and therapies. The event attracted over 2,000 practitioners, physicians, clinicians, trainees, nurses, allied health professionals and medical students from various fields and backgrounds. All enjoyed the enriching experience and gained insights from diverse perspectives.



Dr Ronald Lam, JP
(Director of Health, HKSAR Government)



Professor Walter Seto Wai-kay
(Chairman, Organizing Committee of 28th HKMF)



Professor Yuen Kwok-yung, GBS, JP (left) received a medal of appreciation from Professor Richard Yu Yue-hong (middle).



Professor Lau Chak-sing, BBS, JP (right) presented a plaque of appreciation to Professor Yuen Man-fung, JP (left).



Professor Manju Chandran
Chairperson, Asia Pacific Consortium on Osteoporosis (APCO)



Professor Charles Swanton
Deputy Clinical Director, Francis Crick Institute, United Kingdom



Professor Inna Ovsyannikova
Director of Laboratory-based Studies,
Mayo Clinic Vaccine Research Group, United States



Professor Pan-Chyr Yang
Chair Professor and Former President, National Taiwan University, Taiwan



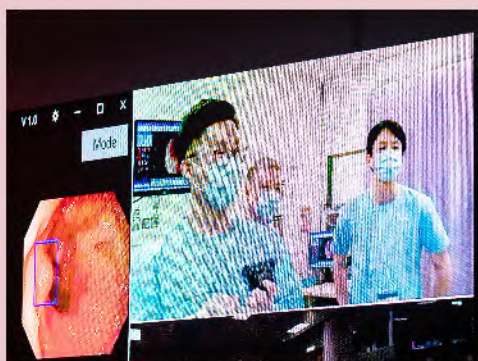
(From left) Professor Walter Seto Wai-kay (Chairman, Organizing Committee of 28th HKMF), Professor Sydney Tang Chi-wai (Deputy Department Chairperson), Professor Tse Hung-fat (Department Chairperson), Dr Ronald Lam, JP (Director of Health, HKSAR Government), Professor Lau Chak-sing, BBS, JP (Dean of Medicine, HKU), Professor Yuen Man-fung, JP, Professor Anskar Leung Yu-hung and Professor Desmond Yap Yat-hin (Deputy Department Chairpersons).



HKU ADVANCED ENDOSCOPY WORKSHOP 2024: THE APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ENDOSCOPY

The HKU Advanced Endoscopy Workshop, co-organized by the **Department of Medicine** and **HKU Endoscopy Centre**, was successfully held on June 29, 2024 at the HKUMed campus. The event showcased the latest innovations in artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted lesion detection and characterization of the gastrointestinal tract during endoscopy, provided updates on AI-assisted endoscopic quality control, and featured live demonstrations of AI usage in endoscopy. **Professor Leung Wai-keung** (Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation Professor in Gastroenterology) and **Professor Thomas Lui Ka-luen** (Department of Medicine, HKUMed) delivered enlightening presentations and shared their expertise with the audience.

Additionally, the event exceeded traditional boundaries by offering a global live broadcast that welcomed healthcare professionals and leading experts from around the world to join in. It effectively promoted global exchange of knowledge and collaboration in the field.



Live demonstration. (From left) Dr Elvis To Wai-pan, Professor Honggang Yu and Professor Yuichi Mori.



Group photo of keynote speakers. (From left) Professor Thomas Lui Ka-luen (HKUMed), Dr James Li (Changi General Hospital, Singapore), Professor Yoshimasa Miura (Jichi Medical Hospital, Japan), Professor Honggang Yu (Renmin Hospital of Wuhan University, China), Professor Yuichi Mori (University of Oslo, Norway), Professor Leung Wai-keung (HKUMed), Dr Elvis To Wai-pan and Dr Michael Ko (Queen Mary Hospital).



CROUCHER SUMMER COURSE 2024: TRANSLATIONAL IMMUNOLOGY

The 5-day intensive on-site course, successfully held from July 15 to 19, 2024 at the HKUMed Campus, garnered the attendance of local and international postgraduate research students, early postdocs, and junior clinical scientists.

Under the theme of "Translational Immunology", the Croucher Summer Course highlighted groundbreaking advancements in the field, acting as a catalyst for forging new connections among faculty members, young academics and postgraduate students. It encouraged interdisciplinary collaborations between clinicians and scientists to translate scientific discoveries into practical applications at the bedside. The program featured a panel of distinguished clinical and academic immunologists, providing attendees a unique opportunity to explore the latest breakthroughs in cancer immunology, autoimmunity, infection and immunity, and immunodeficiencies. Renowned experts in these specialized fields led a blend of focused group discussions, interactive tutorials and hands-on workshops, creating a dynamic environment for knowledge exchange.

Following the resounding success of the inaugural Croucher Summer Course in Translational Immunology, we look forward to hosting its second series planned for 2026.



Professor Lau Chak-sing, BBS, JP (Dean of Medicine, HKU) delivered an opening remark.



(From left) Professor Steven Holland (National Institutes of Health, USA) and Professor Philip Li Hei (Course Director)



VISIT BY PROFESSOR JASON TRUBIANO



Professor Jason Trubiano, Director of the Department of Infectious Diseases & Immunology at Austin Health, has accepted our invitation as **External Advisor** for the application of Research Grants Council (RGC) General Research Fund (GRF) and Early Career Scheme (ECS) 2025/26.

During his visit from July 22 to 24, 2024, Professor Trubiano conducted a **Brainstorming Workshop** on “Examples and Tips for Successful Grant Applications” and offered **personalized consultations** to Principal Investigators (PIs) regarding their RGC GRF/ECS proposals.

He also delivered a **research seminar** with Professor Philip Li Hei titled “Comparing Experiences of Penicillin Allergy Delabelling in the East and West” to examine the differences in the approach to penicillin allergy delabelling between Eastern and Western medical settings.

HAPPY 94TH BIRTHDAY, PROFESSOR YOUNG !

On October 9, 2024, our colleagues came together at the Island Shangri-La Hotel to celebrate Professor Rosie Young's 94th birthday. The evening was filled with warm conversations, laughter and shared memories, showing our sincere appreciation for Professor Young's contributions to our Department, the University and the medical community.



HONG KONG VALVES 2024

HONG KONG VALVES 2024

The "Hong Kong Valves 2024" conference was held on October 19-20, 2024 at the HKUMed campus. The two-day event featured plenary lectures from both overseas and local experts. The **Chalk Talk Series**, presented by renowned professionals, delivered concise concepts about valvular heart diseases in a dynamic style. Live cases from leading centres in Hong Kong and worldwide were showcased, highlighting best practices and advanced techniques using innovative devices from the East and the West.



Additionally, the conference offered **interactive workshops** including a Bioskills Workshop covering aortic root enlargement and valve replacement, an Echo Workshop: From A to Z, a Cardiac Catheterization Skills Workshop for Surgeons and Cardiologists, a Vascular Closure Device Workshop, a 3D ICE Workshop, and an LAAO-PFA Workshop.

In the **Electrosurgery Classroom** and **LAAO and Structural Electrophysiology Pavilion**, experts in cardiovascular medicine guided participants through cutting-edge techniques step-by-step using bench models, all in real-time with audience participation. Clinicians and scientists from around the world also shared challenging cases and scientific abstracts in the event.



Keynote lecture delivered by Professor Alan Yeung (Stanford University Medical Center, Palo Alto).



World-renowned experts were invited to present at the **Chalk Talk Series**, used drawing to simplify complex concepts for our audience.



3D ICE Workshop, LAAO & Structural Electrophysiology Pavilion - A newly featured session with live demonstrations using bench models and simulator.



Participants had the opportunity to take part in **hands-on workshop** focusing on various types of cardiac imaging techniques and interventions.



7th ANNUAL MEETING EDM HK

Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Hong Kong
26 – 27 October 2024 (Sat – Sun)

Where Less Is More

7TH ANNUAL MEETING OF ENDOCRINOLOGY, DIABETES & METABOLISM HONG KONG

The 7th Annual Meeting of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Hong Kong (EDM HK) was held on October 26-27, 2024 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. This two-day event featured plenary and thematic lectures by experts in various fields.

There was an “EDM HK Cases of the Year” session that particularly targeted endocrine trainees and young fellows to share interesting or unusual endocrine-related cases that shed light on our daily clinical practice. The event attracted over 660 local and overseas general practitioners, specialists, nurses and healthcare providers who are actively involved in the management of endocrine disorders to join.



PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES



APRIL 10, 2024

Doctor and You 醫生與你
《腎病及腎小球炎》

Professor Desmond Yap Yat-hin



JUNE 21, 2024

HiEggo 健康旦
《炎症性腸病》

Professor Michael Cheung Ka-shing



JULY 17, 2024

Doctor and You 醫生與你
《哮喘》

Professor Herbert Kwok Wang-chun



JULY 26, 2024

HiEggo 健康旦
《如何提升糖尿病管理成效?》

Professor Paul Lee Chi-ho



AUGUST 9, 2024

HiEggo 健康旦
《心臟病及「通波仔」手術》

Professor Yiu Kai-hang



OCTOBER 8, 2024

HiEggo 健康旦
《掌握類風濕性關節炎的治療目標》

Professor Iris Tang Yan-ki



AWARDS AND HONOURS

Highly Ranked Scholar (by ScholarGPS)

Professor Daniel Chan Tak-mao



Professor Ivan Hung Fan-ngai



Professor Kwong Yok-lam



Professor Walter Seto Wai-kay



Professor Yuen Man-fung



Professor Will Chan Yap-hang

- Best Thesis Award 2024 (Gold Medal), Hong Kong College of Physicians
- Doris Zimmern HKU-Cambridge Hughes Hall Fellowship 2024-25, University Research Committee, HKU



Professor Herbert Kwok Wang-chun

- APSR-Hong Kong Lung Foundation Professor Wah-kit Lam Young Investigator Award, APSR 2024 HK Congress
- Outstanding Author 2024, Journal of Thoracic Disease



Professor Michael Cheung Ka-shing

- Young Investigator Research Grant 2024, Hong Kong College of Physicians
- Best Abstract Presentation Prize and Travel Grant Award, United European Gastroenterology Week 2024



Professor Gary Lau Kui-kai

- Gold Medal with the Congratulations of the Jury, 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva
- Ten Outstanding Young Persons 2024, Junior Chamber International Hong Kong
- Smart Ageing Leader Award 2024, Golden Age Foundation



Professor Leung Wai-keung

- Editor-in-Chief, *Helicobacter* (Impact Factor: 4.3)
- Non-official Member of Research Council, Health Bureau, HKSAR Government



Professor Teo Kay-cheong

Young Investigator Research Grant 2024, Hong Kong College of Physicians



Professor Philip Li Hei

- Silver Medal, Silicon Valley International Inventions Festival 2024
- Richard Yu Lectureship 2024, Hong Kong College of Physicians
- Young Investigator Research Grant 2024, Hong Kong College of Physicians
- Distinguished Research Paper Award for Young Investigators 2024, Hong Kong College of Physicians
- 2022 Top Downloaded Article in Clinical & Experimental Allergy, WILEY



Professor Loey Mak Lung-yi

Ten Outstanding Young Persons 2024, Junior Chamber International Hong Kong



Professor Xu Aimin

State Natural Science Award (Second Class Prize), State Council of the People's Republic of China





NEW RESEARCH GRANT/FUND AWARDED

Funding Source	Principal Investigator	Project Title	Amount Awarded (HKD)
Collaborative Research Fund (CRF) 2023/24	Professor Lau Chak-sing	Integrating Genetic, Transcriptomic, and Clinical Studies for SLE to Achieve Personalized Treatment of The Disease Based on Predisposition, Early Manifestation, and Molecular and Cellular Signatures	\$ 6,476,284
	Professor Tse Hung-fat	Programmable RNA Pseudouridylation for Premature Termination Codon Suppression as Gene Therapy for Cardiac Laminopathy	\$ 2,661,362
Theme-based Research Scheme 2023/24 (Thirteenth Round)	Professor Xu Aimin (Co-Principal Investigator)	Single-cell Multi-omics Study of Atherosclerotic Vascular Disease: Narrowing the Gap Between Bench and Bedside	\$ 1,800,000
	Professor Yiu Kai-hang (Co-Investigator)	Single-cell Multi-omics Study of Atherosclerotic Vascular Disease: Narrowing the Gap Between Bench and Bedside	\$ 1,206,000
RGC General Research Fund (GRF) 2024/25	Professor Daniel Chan Tak-mao	Defining the Role of Annexin-A2 in Epithelial-to-mesenchymal Transition and Tubulo-interstitial Fibrosis in Chronic Kidney Disease	\$ 1,559,463
	Professor Paul Lee Chi-ho	Tirzepatide Versus Semaglutide as an Adjunct to Improve Glycaemia and Cardiovascular Risk Factors Control in Overweight and Obese Patients with Type 1 Diabetes – A Randomized, Crossover, Treat-to-target Study (TACKLE-T1D Study)	\$ 1,553,283
	Professor Philip Li Hei	Recapitulating and Repairing Inborn Errors of Immunity Using a Novel Personalized Stem Cell Platform	\$ 1,461,315
	Professor Xu Aimin	CUB Domain-containing Protein 1 as a Novel Mediator of Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis: Molecular Mechanism and Therapeutic Implications	\$ 1,553,537
	Professor Jacqueline Yuen Kwan-yuk	A Communication-priming Intervention to Improve Shared Decision-making Between Older Adults with Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease and Clinicians	\$ 1,214,852
	Dr Geng Leiluo	β -Klotho as a Novel Anti-ageing Factor by Suppressing Adipose Senescence	\$ 1,057,481
	Dr Wang Baile	Semaphorin 6B as a Novel Glucose-lowering Hormone to Counteract Type 2 Diabetes: Molecular Mechanism and Clinical Implications	\$ 1,558,606

Funding Source	Principal Investigator	Project Title	Amount Awarded (HKD)
Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRP) 2022	Professor Paul Lee Chi-ho	Evaluating the Health Impact of Metabolic Dysfunction-associated Fatty Liver Disease and Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease: Insights from a Contemporary, Prospective Population-based Study of Hong Kong	\$ 1,462,156
	Professor Loey Mak Lung-yi	Clinical Utility of GALAD-assisted Ultrasonography in Detection of Tumor Recurrence after Curative Hepatic Resection or Liver Transplantation for Liver Cancer	\$ 1,494,648
	Professor Teo Kay-cheong	Vitamin D Treatment in Intracerebral Hemorrhage to Enhance Hematoma Resolution (VICToHR): A Pilot Study	\$ 426,473
	Professor Jacqueline Yuen Kwan-yuk	Effects of a Home Based Feeding EnhancEment in Dementia (FEED@home) Intervention on Hospital Readmissions: A Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial	\$ 1,305,512
	Dr Cheong Lai-yee	The Potential Role of L-arginine in Managing Type 2 Diabetes: From Prediction to Therapeutic Treatment	\$ 461,296
Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF)	Professor Michael Cheung Ka-shing	Development of a Novel Biodegradable Endoclip for Endoscopic Procedures	\$ 1,199,990



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Cheung, K.S.*, Li, B.F., Wong, I.Y.H., Law, S. & **Leung, W.K.**** (2024). Benefit and Harm of Aspirin on Mortality from Gastrointestinal Cancers vs Bleeding in *Helicobacter pylori*-Eradicated Patients. *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, 22(9), 1810-1820. (Impact Factor: 11.6)

Leung, R.H.M.*, **Hui, R.W.H.***, Mak, L.Y., Mao, X.H., Liu, K.S.H., Wong, D.K.H., Fung, J., **Seto, W.K.**** & **Yuen, M.F.**** (2024). ALT to qHBsAg Ratio Predicts Long-term HBsAg Seroclearance after Entecavir Cessation in Chinese Patients with Chronic Hepatitis B. *Journal of Hepatology*, 81(2), 218-226. (Impact Factor: 26.8)

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Xue, R., Yiu, W.H., Chan, K.W., Lok, S.W.Y., Zou, Y.X., Ma, J.Y., Li, H.Y., Chan, L.Y.Y., Huang, X.R., Lai, K.N., Lan, H.Y. & **Tang, S.C.W.**** (2024). Long Non-coding RNA *NEAT1*, NOD-Like Receptor Family Protein 3 Inflammasome, and Acute Kidney Injury. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, 35(8), 998-1015. (Impact Factor: 10.3)

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Mak, L.Y.*, **Wong, D.***, Kuchta, A., Hilfiker, M., Hamilton, A., Chow, N., Mao, X.H., Seto, W.K. & **Yuen, M.F.**** (2023). Hepatitis B Virus Pre-genomic RNA and Hepatitis B Core-related Antigen Reductions at Week 4 Predict Favourable Hepatitis B Surface Antigen Response upon Long-term Nucleos(t)ide Analogue in Chronic Hepatitis B. *Clinical and Molecular Hepatology*, 29(1), 146-162. (Impact Factor: 14.0)

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** Staff member as corresponding author

WHAT'S UPCOMING?

30th Medical Research Conference:

Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Innovation and Technology Transfer

Date: November 30, 2024 (Saturday)

Venue: New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon

Keynote Lectures: AJS McFadzean Distinguished Lecture, Rosie Young Lecture

Website: <https://mrc.hku.hk>

29th Hong Kong Medical Forum:

Enhancing Medical Care through Collaboration and Innovation

Date: May 3-4, 2025 (Saturday and Sunday)

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