

The Hong Kong College of Pathologists, Incorporated in Hong Kong with Limited Liability

PATHOLOGUE

NEWSLETTER OF THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS

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Message from the President

I gave me great pleasure in writing this message, as the College Newsletter always has a special place in my heart.

It seems like yesterday when I first joined the College Council and took up the College Newsletter Chief Editor position in 2004. It has come a long way for the College newsletter to evolve from a black-and-white hard copy, to the current colourful electronic soft copy. I still remember the days when the Editorial Board meeting took place in a casual atmosphere in a restaurant in Admiralty, how the name "Pathologue" was proposed by the scholarly Dr LOO Ka Tai, and how the various new ideas were born through members of the Editorial Board. I am happy to see the continuous development of the newsletter over the subsequent years.

The COVID-19 pandemic has revolutionalized the practice of medicine. Various College meetings have been conducted via teleconferencing, and such practice has extended to the participation by External Examiners in various College examinations, and to Trainee Presentation Session in form of a hybrid mode. Later this year, I shall also join the International Liaison of Pathology Presidents (ILPP) meeting in Chicago via teleconferencing. The world is changing fast, and our College will adapt to the change. The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed us to embrace technology in our daily practice: teleconferencing, web-based seminars, the possibility of telepathology, just to name a few. Our College shall keep a close look at the latest outbreak situation and the related policy, and adjust our practice accordingly.

We managed to host our College Conferment Ceremony in 2021 despite the COVID-19 outbreak, taking various infection control precautions. For this year, our Annual General Meeting and Conferment Ceremony have been tentatively planned for 26 November 2022 (Saturday): please mark your diary, and we look forward to seeing you all.

Our profession has been facing manpower shortage for some time. The situation has been escalating, with the expansion of services in various pathology specialties and the attrition subsequent to various reasons. Together with the Academy, our College shall aim to uphold the professional standards while considering different options to address the matter.

We are pleased to see an increasing number of trainees and young Fellows in our College. The recent establishment of the Young Fellows Chapter in the Academy and in our College has provided an excellent opportunity to engage our younger generation in Academy's and College's activities. Young Fellows have brought in new ideas and have helped to organize various activities, and they are the future of our College.

After several years of preparation, our College rolled out the Genetic and Genomic Pathology training programme last year. More and more trainees have now registered for this programme, and we hope many new Fellows will complete this programme in the near future to cater for the needs of this rapidly expanding field.

The establishment of the Genetic and Genomic Pathology programme has brought our College "Into a New Era", and it happens that the year 2021 marked the 30th Anniversary of our College. An anniversary book is currently under preparation, and I thank the team from the Professional & General Affairs Committee for their hard work. I also thank all the previous Presidents for their contributions, and this book will certainly become a valuable item of memorabilia.

As College President, I attended the 4th AMM-AMS-HKAM Tripartite Congress & the 55th Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine on 22-24 July 2022 in Singapore virtually. A summary of the event is included in this newsletter.

There are challenges ahead, and let's ride out the storm together. After all, tomorrow is another day.



Dr. CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander **President** *July 2022*



Report from the President: The 4th AMM-AMS-HKAM Tripartite Congress & the 55th Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, 22-24 July 2022

he 4th AMM-AMS-HKAM Tripartite Congress & the 55th Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine took place on 22-24 July 2022 in Singapore. As College President, I attended the congress virtually.

The congress was themed "Diversity and Community in Medicine", and brought together healthcare experts to share insights into healthcare technological advancements and changing practice in the world of medicine. Important topics in medicine, such as big data, artificial intelligence (AI), genomics, human microbiome, regenerative medicine, COVID-19, diagnostics, as well as postgraduate training have been covered.

At the congress, our past President, Professor CHEUNG Nga Yin, Annie, introduced the work of the Lancet Commission on diagnostics: transforming access to diagnostics. She provided her global view regarding emerging solutions for manpower and training.

For postgraduate training, Dr SO Hing Yu, Educationist of Academy's HKJC Innovative

Learning Centre for Medicine and President of The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, shared his experience and vision towards competency-based medical education.

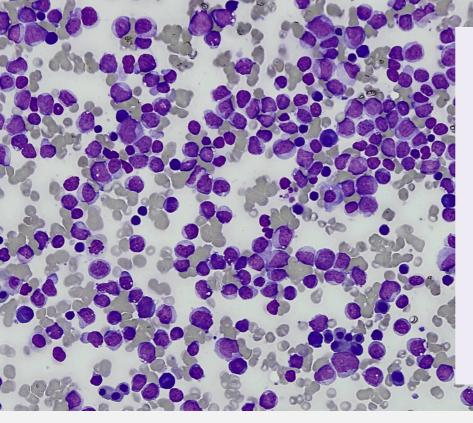
At the Presidents' Round Table, concern was raised on burnout amongst healthcare workers, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Academy President, Professor LEUNG Ka Kit, Gilberto, presented our Academy's endeavour in promoting doctors' well-being to ensure quality patient care.

At the Induction Comitia, Professor SUNG Jao Yiu, Joseph, who is no stranger to us in Hong Kong, delivered an enlightening talk on "Artificial Intelligence in Medicine: Ethical, Legal and Social Perspectives".

These are all issues which our College needs to take note of in the coming future.

Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander President

July 2022



Editorial note:

Measurable residual disease (MRD) monitoring has emerged as an important indicator for risk stratification and treatment planning in patients with haematological malignancies. In the past decade, various techniques in measuring MRD have become available in Hong Kong. In this Topical Update, Dr. YIP Sze Fai provides an overview of the current techniques available for MRD monitoring. We welcome any feedback or suggestions. Please direct them to Dr IP Ho Wan of Education Committee, the Hong Kong College of Pathologists. Opinions expressed are those of the authors or named individuals, and are not necessarily those of the Hong Kong College of Pathologists.

Topical Update: Measurable residual disease (MRD) for Haematological Malignancy

Volume 17, Issue 1, January 2022

The Hong Kong College of Pathologists, Incorporated in Hong Kong with Limited Liability

Dr. YIP Sze Fai

Consultant Haematologist, Department of Clinical Pathology, Tuen Mun Hospital

Introduction

easurable residual disease (MRD) describes the application of assays for detection of submicroscopic level of residual disease burden which cannot be detected by morphology. Numerous studies have observed the association of MRD level and disease prognosis. It provides an objective parameter on the tumour burden, and guide stratified treatment including the application of haemopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). Its ability to monitor disease and to detect molecular relapse enables preemptive therapy to prevent frank disease relapse [1]. For all these reasons, we see an increasing use of MRD in the field of haematological malignancy.

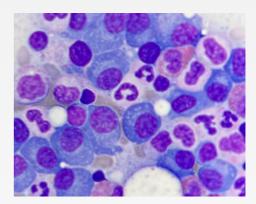
Different technologies are used for MRD measurement

1. Multiparametric flow cytometry (MFC)

FC is commonly used for MRD detection in acute leukaemias. At diagnosis, the leukaemia-associated immunophenotype (LAIP) of the blasts can be determined by using a multitude of fluorochrome-labelled monoclonal antibodies against different cellular markers that aids identification of the leukaemic population as well as detecting the aberrant cellular marker expression. If the LAIP was not determined at diagnosis, a different-from-normal (DfN) approach can be used to detect the abnormal cells, as well as detecting any new or disappearance of known phenotypic aberrancies [1,2]. With technological advancement, more fluorochromes are available and 8 to 12-colour panels are commonly used. Flow cytometry has the advantage of a short turnaround time which can provide timely results for clinical decision making. The sensitivity of MRD detection is at the level of 10⁻⁴ to 10⁻⁵.

2. Next generation flow (NGF) for plasma cell myeloma

Novel Euroflow-based next generation flow (NGF) approach is being developed for highly sensitive and standardized MRD detection, primarily in plasma cell myeloma, using an optimized 2-tube 8-color antibody panel [3]. The NGF approach uses tools and procedures that are developed by the EuroFlow Consortium for a standardized sample preparation, antibody panel (including the type of antibody and fluorochrome), and automatic identification of plasma cells against reference databases of normal and patient BM using Infinicyt software. The sensitivity of MRD detection is close to 10⁻⁶.



3. Quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) technique

a. Detection of leukaemia-specific fusion transcript

The MRD can be measured by detecting the amount of leukaemia-specific fusion transcripts present. The classical example is *BCR-ABL1* fusion in chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML). The sensitivity is higher than that of flow cytometry, reaching the level of 10⁻⁴ to 10⁻⁶. The test is relatively easy to be performed in hospital service laboratory. The MRD is represented in a ratio of normalized copy number of the fusion transcript and the control gene transcript (e.g. *ABL1*). For CML monitoring, an international scale (IS) ratio is developed for standardization of results among different laboratories [4]. Yet, this method is limited to cases with targetable fusion transcripts available for detection.

b. Allele-specific oligonucleotide (ASO) qPCR for immunoglobulin (IG) or T cell receptor (TCR) gene rearrangement

ASO qPCR can be employed to detect the disease-specific sequence of rearranged IG gene or TCR gene in the sample. The sensitivity of this method is 10⁻⁴ to 10⁻⁵. It is applicable to most of the cases of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) and plasma cell myeloma as long as a disease-specific rearrangement can be determined by sequencing. Patient-specific primers would need to be designed for each case. It has a disadvantage that if there

is a clonal evolution, the disease-specific rearrangement can be lost and a false-negative result can be generated.

4. Digital droplet polymerase chain reaction (ddPCR)

In ddPCR, the sample is compartmentalized into very large number of separate small volume reactions. As a result, either zero or one target molecule could be detected inside any individual reaction. Thermal cycling would be performed to endpoint using same primer and probes as qPCR. Any target-containing compartments will become brightly fluorescent while compartments without targets will have only background fluorescence. Total number of 'positive' reactions is equal to the number of original target molecules in the entire volume, and the total number of reactions multiplied by the individual reaction volume equals the total volume assayed. Therefore, ddPCR provides an absolute quantification of the target molecules. The ddPCR has the advantage of very high sensitivity of ~10⁻⁶, does not require a standard curve unlike qPCR, and is tolerant to PCR inhibitors due to small partition volume. The application of ddPCR includes monitoring of *NPM1* and ASO IG or TCR gene rearrangement [5,6].

5. Next generation sequencing (NGS)

NGS is a robust method to perform multiple sequencing in parallel which can also be used for MRD detection apart from the detection of mutations that are of diagnostic, prognostic and therapeutic importance. For MRD detection, the LymphoTrack platform can be used to detect disease-specific IG or TCR gene rearrangements. The sensitivity of the method can be up to 10⁻⁵ or higher [7]. A diagnostic sample would be required for identification of the disease-specific rearrangement. However, this method is also capable of detecting clonal evolution.

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International Pathology Day Virtual Workshop 2021

o commemorate the International Pathology Day 2021, the College organised the International Pathology Day Virtual Workshop 2021 on 18th December 2021 to promote public understanding of pathology. Over 170 students from 15 local secondary schools attended the virtual workshop. A vibrant welcome from Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander, the College President, was extended to the attendees, followed by a brief outline of the history and roles of pathology in Hong Kong. Three topical presentations on popular subjects in pathology, namely genomic medicine, COVID-19, and vaccination, were delivered by Dr IP Ho Wan (Haematology), Dr CHIU Hei Yeung, Kelvin (Microbiology) and Dr LAM Ki (Immunology), respectively. The presentations were well-received, with many relevant questions raised by the attendees in the question-and-answer session. In contrast to the face-to-face workshops held in previous years, the attendees did not have the opportunity to perform hands-on laboratory tests or join live demonstrations this year. Instead, they were invited to join virtual chatrooms to interact with pathologists from various disciplines to learn about discipline-specific technologies or testing principles, and to acquire a more in-depth understanding of the work nature of pathologists.

This Virtual Workshop would not have been successfully run without the preparation by members of the Professional and General Affairs Committee (Dr LEUNG Yuk Yan, Rock, Dr IP Ho Wan, Dr IP Ka Ling, Rosalina, Dr LAM Ki, Dr LAM Tony, Dr LOK Johann, Dr WONG Cheuk Ying, Sally) and volunteers from various pathology disciplines.

Dr IP Ho Wan

Honorary Secretary, Professional and General Affairs Committee



Left:

Snapshot of the International Pathology Day Virtual Workshop 2021 event, with Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander (College President), members of the Professional and General Affairs Committee, volunteer pathologists and some of the attendees.



The 17th Trainee Presentation Session

he 17th Trainee Presentation Session (TPS) took place on 27th November 2021 in the morning. A total of 16 candidates completed their presentations in the Pao Yue Kong Auditorium, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building with live broadcasting on the webinar platform.

We would like to thank our judges Dr TSANG Koon Ho (Department of Pathology, Yan Chai Hospital), Dr LAW Chun Yiu (Department of Chemical Pathology, Queen Mary Hospital), Dr ZEE Sze Tsing, Jonpaul (Department of Pathology, Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital) and Dr. CHEUNG Sin (Department of Anatomical and Cellular Pathology, Prince of Wales Hospital) for spending their precious time with us and giving their invaluable comments with discussion on the presentations. We would like to congratulate all candidates and their supervisors for their excellent work! Dr. LI Xin (Department of Microbiology, HKU) was the prize winner of Best Presentation Award. Her title of presentation was "Asymptomatic Shedding of SARS-CoV-2 in Conjunctival Secretions".

In addition to those who physically attended the TPS session, 26 participants attended via the webinar platform, with an average logged-in duration of 142 minutes. Ten online participants responded to our post-event survey. The TPS was mostly well received by the audience and the majority revealed their preference for a hybrid format for future TPS.

Dr YAU Tsz Wai Vice-Chairman of Education Committee

Above:

Group photo of judges and participants







Above: Panel of judges: *From left to right:* Dr CHEUNG Sin, Dr LAW Chun Yiu, Dr TSANG Koon Ho and Dr ZEE Sze Tsing, Jonpaul Upper left: Introduction by Dr YAU Tsz Wai Left: Q&A session: Dr ZEE Sze Tsing, Jonpaul Below (multiple): Some participants of the TPS









Above: Dr TSANG Koon Ho, Dr ZEE Sze Tsing, Jonpaul, Dr YAU Tsz Wai and Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander



Above and right: Dr LAI Koon Chi, Christopher (right), Chairman of the Education Committee, together with some of our TPS participants





Right:

Prize winner of Best Presentation Award, Dr Ll Xin, presenting on her project on "Asymptomatic Shedding of SARS-CoV-2 in Conjunctival Secretions"

Abstract of Prize Winner of Best Presentation

Award:

Asymptomatic Shedding of SARS-CoV-2 in Conjunctival Secretions Dr LI Xin, Department of Microbiology, HKU

Background

Conjunctivitis is an uncommon presentation of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Detection of SARS-CoV-2 has been reported from conjunctival secretions and conjunctival / ocular swabs of patients with or without clinically apparent conjunctivitis. The prevalence and significance of viral shedding in conjunctival secretions of patients without ocular symptoms is currently unknown.

Objective

To evaluate the presence of SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid and viable virus in conjunctival secretions from patients without ocular symptoms.

Methods

Conjunctival swabs were prospectively collected from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients without ocular symptoms for reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) and viral culture.

Results

A total of 158 conjunctival swabs were obtained from 49 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients. The median duration of illness when the first conjunctival swab was obtained was 10 days (range 2 days to 27 days). Four conjunctival swabs from four different patients (4/49, 8.2%) were positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA by RT-PCR. The Ct values ranged from 32.7 to 37.7 (mean 35.4). Viral cultures were negative for all four RT-PCR-positive conjunctival swabs.

Conclusions

Conjunctival secretion of a minority of COVID-19 patients without ocular symptoms may contain relatively low levels of SARS-CoV-2 RNA, but their infectiousness remains undetermined. Appropriate infection control measures should be implemented during ophthalmological assessment of COVID-19 patients as well as other occasions with possible ocular fluid exposure to prevent potential nosocomial transmission of SARS-CoV-2.



Above:

Dr LAI Koon Chi, Christopher, Chairman of the Education Committee, presenting Certificate of Appreciation to Dr LI Xin



The 30th Annual General Meeting

he 30th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in the afternoon of 27th November 2021. Eight Councillors were elected. Seven of them were in previous Council 2020/21: Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander was elected as President; Dr MAK Siu Ming was elected as Vice-President; Dr CHONG Yeow Kuan was elected as Registrar; Dr LAI Koon Chi, Christopher was elected as Deputy Registrar; while Dr CHAN

Kui Fat, Dr LEUNG Yuk Yan, Rock and WONG Lap Gate, Michael were re-elected as Council Members. One new Council Member was elected: Dr AU YEUNG Kwok Him, Rex.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Council Member Dr CHEONG Renee Constance Yue-Kew for her contribution to College Council.

Above:

30th Annual General Meeting in progress *From left to right:* Dr POON Wai Ming Dr MAK Siu Ming Dr CHAN Ho Ming Dr LUNG David Christopher Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander

Right:

President's Handover Left: Dr CHAN Ho Ming Right: Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander





Members of College Council 2021/22

Front row from left to right:

Dr LUNG David Christopher (Honorary Treasurer) Dr CHAN Ho Ming (Immediate Past-President) Dr MAK Siu Ming (Vice-President) Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander (President) Dr POON Wai Ming (Vice-President) Dr CHONG Yeow Kuan (Registrar) Dr LAI Koon Chi, Christopher (Deputy Registrar) Back row from left to right: Dr NG Hoi Yan, Joshua Dr LEUNG Ying Kit Dr CHAN Kui Fat Dr WONG Lap Gate, Michael Dr CHEN Pak Lam, Sammy Dr AU YEUNG Kwok Him, Rex Dr CHENG Shui Ying, Ivy Absent with apologies: Dr LEUNG Yuk Yan, Rock



The 29th Conferment Ceremony

ue to cancellation of 2020 Conferment Ceremony in view of COVID restrictions, Fellows and Members admitted to the College in 2020 and 2021 AGMs were invited to this Conferment Ceremony. In 2020 AGM, 11 Fellows and 17 Members were admitted to the College. In 2021 AGM, 1 Honorary Fellow, 17 Fellows and 14 Members were admitted to the College. A total of 101 Fellows passed First Fellow Assessment in Genetic and Genomic Pathology in 2019, and 1 Fellow passed

Fellowship Assessment in Genetic and Genomic Pathology in 2021.

Honourable guests included Professor CHAN Siu Chee, Sophia, Secretary for Food & Health, Food & Health Bureau, HKSAR; Professor LEUNG Ka Kit, Gilberto, President of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine; Dr LO Chi Yuen, Albert, Cluster Chief Executive, Kowloon Central Cluster, Hospital Authority; together with Presidents or their representatives from other Sister Colleges.

Right:

Fellows of the College, including Past and Present Presidents

From left to right: Dr CHAN Ho Ming Dr LEE Kam Cheong Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander Dr YUNG Wai Hung, Raymond Prof CHEUNG Nga Yin, Annie Dr MAK Wai Ping







A beautifully designed backdrop by Dr NG Hoi Yan, Joshua, one of our councillors - capturing some of the milestones our College have reached from its inception to 30th anniversary



Conferment ceremony in progress

Shared joy is doubled joy!



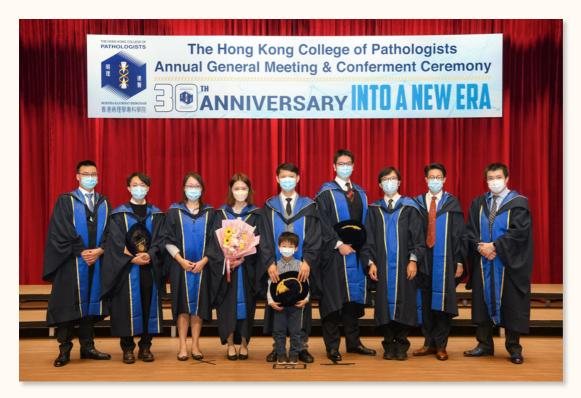
Young Anatomical Pathologists celebrating this happy event



Souvenir for Fellows successful in First Fellow Assessment in Genetic and Genomic Pathology



A take home item: College Handbook



Chemical Pathologists celebrating with their newly admitted Fellows and young ones



#HKCPath #IntoANewEra #Pathologists

Above

A creative photo frame designed by our young Fellows for photo-taking by guests

Congratulations!



Happy photo-taking with friends and family (including young ones!)







Left

From left to right: Dr LAM Wing Yin Dr MAK Wai Ping Dr LEE Kam Cheong

Below

From left to right: Dr YUNG Wai Hung, Raymond Dr WONG Koon Sang

Happy moments and reunion!





Above

From left to right: Dr CHAN Ho Ming Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander Dr MA Shiu Kwan, Edmond

Right

From left to right: Dr MAK Siu Ming Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander Dr LEUNG Ying Kit



Right

From left to right: Prof CHEUNG Nga Yin, Annie Prof LEUNG Ka Kit, Gilberto (President of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine)

Below

From left to right: Dr LUNG David Christopher Prof CHAN Siu Chee, Sophia, JP (Secretary for Food and Health)







Above

From left to right: Dr FOK Pui Chu, Joan (Honorary Secretary of the Hong Kong College of Community Medicine) Dr NGAI Chi Man (President of the Hong Kong College of Otorhinolaryngologists)

Left

From left to right:

Dr SO Hlng Yu (President of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists)

Dr LO Chi Yuen, Albert (Cluster Chief Executive of Kowloon Central Cluster, Hospital Authority)

A heartfelt thanks to our distinguished guests for their support!



Some snapshots of our President presenting souvenirs to our Fellows successful in First Fellow Assessment in Genetic and Genomic Pathology



Dr CHOI Wai Lap



Dr LAM Wing Yin



Dr FUNG Shing Hoi



Dr LAW Chun Yiu



Dr CHEN Pak Lam, Sammy

Dr IP Pun Ching, Philip



Prof CHEUNG Nga Yin, Annie



Dr KAN Chi Hang



Dr LEE Kam Cheong



Dr LO Wing Ip, Anthony



Dr MA Shiu Kwan, Edmond



Dr LEE Han Chih, Hencher

Dr SHEA Ka Ho



Dr SO Chi Chiu, Jason



Dr TANG Wai Lun, Victor



Dr WONG Wing Cheuk



Dr YUEN Wah Fun



Some snapshots of our President presenting certificates to our new Fellows



Dr CHAN Angela Zaneta



Dr CHAN Cheong Kin, Ronald Dr CHANG Lik Chun, John





Dr CHENG Hua Tse, Timothy



Dr CHU Sin Yan



Dr FUNG Ka Kin



Dr HUNG Ling Lung



Dr KAM Lok Sang



Dr LAM Ming Cheung



Dr LAM Yip Cheung



Dr LAU Kwai Cheung



Dr LAU Tiffany Wing-See



Dr LOK Johann



Dr LEUNG Mei Tik

Dr NG Hoi Yan, Joshua



Dr WONG Wing Fung



Dr LI Xiuling

Dr TSANG Lok Man

Dr YEUNG Chun Fai



Dr LIAO Jiawei



Dr WONG Chi Kin, Felix



Dr ZEE Sze Tsing, Jonpaul





Congratulations & Thank You

e would like to express our gratitude to our College Secretary Ms Adrienne YUNG for her support in organizing the event. A big thank you to Dr Victoria TSE for being the Mistress of Ceremonies at the AGM and Conferment Ceremony. We would also like to thank our photographer Ms Amelia YUNG for her excellent work, and our helpers Ms Katrina NG and Ms Zoe YEUNG for their help.



The 29th T.B. Teoh Foundation Lecture

he 29th T.B. Teoh Foundation Lecture was delivered by Dr HO Pak Leung, Clinical Associate Professor of the Department of Microbiology, The University of Hong Kong. The presentation was titled "Hong Kong's Battle Against Antibiotic-resistant Superbugs". Dr Ho's comprehensive presentation provided insights into the many challenges faced in combating antibiotic resistance and ongoing efforts to





Above:

Dr HO together with his audience

Left:

Dr HO Pak Leung delivering the T.B. Teoh Foundation Lecture

Right:

Upper: Vice-President Dr POON Wai Ming introducing the speaker

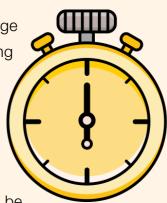
Lower: President Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander presenting a souvenir to Dr HO





Announcement from Training and Examinations Committee: Policy on Fractional Work (Part-time) Training

he Policy on Fractional Work (Part-time) Training of our College has been endorsed by the Education Committee of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. Subsequent to the College Council meeting on 27 January 2022, the College has introduced the policy on 1 April 2022. Interested College trainees are welcome to join the Fractional Work Training on or after 1 April 2022.



The Hong Kong College of Pathologists acknowledges that training may be undertaken on a fractional work (part-time) basis. In order to maintain the integrity of training, the following conditions shall apply:

1 Trainees who wish to undertake fractional work (part-time) training are required to submit a prospective training programme to the Training and Examinations Committee (TEC) for approval. Trainees can apply for retrospective recognition of the whole or part of laboratory fractional work (part-time) training period within 6 months from the commencement of fractional work (part-time) training free of charge. After that, an administrative fee (\$2,000) would be required.

2 The training programme must be approved by the applicant's Educational Supervisor.

B In order to ensure proper exposure in training, trainees are required to work at least 40% of a full-time equivalent, with corresponding pro rata clinical load. The recognised training period will be calculated on a pro rata basis. There is otherwise no limit on the overall duration of fractional work (part-time) training period.

4 The TEC will consider each application on a case-by-case basis.

5 Trainees are required to pay full annual membership subscription fee / trainee registration fee as for full-time trainees. There is no provision for trainees to apply for reduction of fees for fractional work (part-time) training.

6 Trainees are required to submit the annual trainee return.

The <<Policy on Interruption of Training due to Long Leave>> in the <<Regulations on Postgraduate Training and Examinations>> is applicable to trainees undergoing fractional work (part-time) training. Application form for Fractional Work (Part-time) Training can be obtained from our College Website: <u>http://www.hkcpath.org/</u> From Training and Examinations Committee:

Taskforce on Training for Genetics and Genomics & Working Group on Training Issues Related to Hong Kong Children's Hospital

he Training and Examinations Committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Convenor, Chairman and the members in the Taskforce on Training for Genetics and Genomics & Working Group on Training Issues Related to Hong Kong Children's Hospital.

The Taskforce on Training for Genetics and Genomics was established in May 2014 with the single purpose "to propose various training options for Genetics and Genomics either within College or amongst sister colleges, namely the Hong Kong College of Community Medicine, the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the Hong Kong College of Paediatricians and the Hong Kong College of Physicians to Training and Examinations Committee (TEC) and Council for further deliberation".

After years of discussion and development, the First Fellow Assessment was conducted in 2019 and the first Fellowship Assessment in Genetic and Genomic Pathology was conducted in 2021. The Postgraduate Training and Examinations in Genetic and Genomic Pathology training programme was also introduced in 2021.

It is time to conclude this memorial development and the successful implementation of the training programme in Genetic and Genomic Pathology.

Taskforce on Training for Genetics and Genomics (2014 – 2021)

Dr CHAN Ho Ming (Convenor) Dr MAK Siu Ming (Secretary) Prof CHEUNG Nga Yin, Annie (Representative at Academy) Prof CHIU Wai Kwun, Rossa (Representative at Academy) Dr CHAN Chak Lam, Alexander Dr CHAN Yuk Tat, Eric Dr CHOW Yu De, Eudora Dr FUNG Sau Chun, Kitty Dr HO Pak Leung Prof KHOO Ui Soon Dr KWOK Siu Yin, Janette Dr LEUNG Chung Ying Dr MA Shiu Kwan, Edmond Dr MAK Miu Dr SHEK Chi Chung, Anthony Dr SO Chi Chiu, Jason Dr TAM Sidney Dr TANG Wai Lun

n the other hand, the Inspection of laboratories for training as accredited training centres has



been approved by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Education Committee. Four new training centres are being accredited in the Hong Kong Children's Hospital in Anatomical Pathology, Chemical Pathology, Clinical Microbiology & Infection and Haematology.

This has been made possible through collaborative efforts amongst the Training and Examinations Committee, Specialty Boards and colleagues in Hong Kong Children's Hospital. With four new training centres in Hong Kong Children's Hospital, it is anticipated that the capacity for postgraduate training will be increased.

Working Group on Training Issues Related to Hong Kong Children's Hospital

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Dr LAM Woon Yee, Polly (in the capacity of Anatomical Pathology Specialty Board Chairman)

Dr POON Wing Tat (in the capacity of Chemical Pathology Specialty Board Chairman)

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Vice-President

Chairman of Training and Examinations Committee

January 2022

Red Panda

KEY FACTS

In this new column we will discuss one animal or plant and its differential diagnoses

By Dr LO Hui Yin

TERMINOLOGY

- 小熊貓
- Also known as lesser panda
- Ailurus fulgens
 - Ailurus: cat in Greek
 - Fulgens: bright and shiny in Latin
- Subspecies
 - Himalayan red panda (A. f. fulgens) in the Eastern Himalayas
 - Chinese red panda (*A. f. styani*) in Southwestern China

PHYLOGENY

• Red pandas are mammals under the order of Carnivora and suborder of Caniformia.

- They belong to the superfamily Musteloidea, which include Ailuridae (red pandas), Mephitidae (e.g. skunks), Procyonidae (e.g. raccoons), and Mustelidae (e.g. wolverines, otters and weasels).
- Other families under the same suborder include Canidae (e.g. foxes and raccoon dogs) and Ursidae (bears, including giant pandas).

BEHAVIOUR, ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION STATUS

- Solitary and territorial
- Diet
 - Mainly bamboo

- Also fruits,
 plants, small
 animals and
- eggs
- Lifespan
 - \circ Around 8 to 10 years in the wild
 - Up to 21 years in captivity
- Conservation status: Endangered
- There are <10,000 red pandas in the wild

MACROSCOPIC

- Body length up to 63.5 cm
- Tail up to 48.5 cm long
- 3 to 15 kg in weight

IN HONG KONG

• There are 3 red pandas in Ocean Park

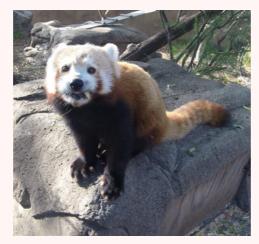
DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSES

- Raccoon
- Raccoon dog
- Red fox
- Giant panda cub

(Left) Himalayan red panda with lightercolouredhead. (Right) Chinese red panda with darker fur

and more distinct tail rings.

Himalayan Red Panda



Chinese Red Panda



Red Panda

Chinese Red Panda on Tree

(Left) Red Pandas are good tree climbers and often rest on trees. (Right) They stand on their hindlegs to appear larger when threatened.



Raccoon*

Chinese Red Panda standing



Raccoon Dog**

(Left)

Raccoons have grey fur, black eye patch and white markings on face, and a grey tail with black rings. They are mainly found in North America. (Right) Raccoon dogs have no rings on their tails.

(Left) Red foxes have reddishbrown fur, white underside, black legs, long snout, and brushy tail without rings (Right) Red pandas are sometimes confused with giant panda cubs due to their Chinese name.



Red Fox



* Photo Credit: U.S. National Park Service / Public Domain ** Photo Credit: Zweer de Bruin / Wikimedia Commons / Public Domain



Giant panda cub



In the eyes of the Pathologist ...

Dr LO Hui Yin (2021) King Penguins (Aptenodytes patagonicus), Various stages Gold Harbour and St Andrews Bay, South Georgia Island

> he king penguin (*A p t e n o d y t e s patagonicus*) is the second largest species of penguin. They are often confused with the emperor penguins, which are the largest penguins. King penguins can be found in the Subantarctic Islands, South Georgia, and the Falkland Islands.

> The chicks of the King penguins are nicknamed "Oakum Boys", as their brown fluffy down resembles the seams of wooden boats in the past. When they are ready for in dependence, they undergo a process called "catastrophic molt", when all of their brown downy feathers are replaced by the shiny adult ones.