World Kidney Day @ Hong Kong 2008

The World Kidney Day is a joint initiative of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF), which was first launched in 2006. The purpose of the World Kidney Day is to raise public awareness about the importance of our kidneys and to spread the message that kidney disease is common, harmful and treatable. The theme of this year’s World Kidney Day is Amazing Kidneys (奇妙的腎).

The Third World Kidney Day @ Hong Kong 2008 cum Renal Patients’ Fun Day (第三屆世界腎臟日 - 腎友闔家同歡嘉年華), jointly organized by the Hong Kong Kidney Foundation, the Hospital Authority & our Society, was held in the Football Field of Kowloon Hospital on March 16, 2008 (Sunday). Dr. York Chow, Secretary for Food and Health of the HKSAR was the officiating guest. Special guests included Mr. KS Tang, Commissioner of Police, Mr. Alan Tam (譚詠麟先生), Mr. Anthony Wu (Chairman of HA) and Dr. C.H. Leong.

Over 1000 renal patients (with family members & friends), medical & nursing staff from Renal Units all over Hong Kong participated in the event. Highlights of the event include Healthy Kidney Line Dance by 1000 people (健康護腎 line dance 8式千人操), Friendly Soccer Match between the “All Star Team” & the “WKD VIP Team” (明星足球隊與世界腎臟日隊足球友誼賽), Penalty shootout match between Renal Centers (腎友十二碼射球爭霸戰), many fun-packed game booths (攤位遊戲) and exhibition on kidney health (腎臟健康展覽). To further increase the public awareness of the importance of kidney health, a full page article on the World Kidney Day was placed in six popular local Newspapers on March 27, 2008.
The Opening Ceremony

The warm up exercise

Healthy Kidney Line Dance by 1000 people (健康護腎 line dance 8式 千人操)

The game booths
The happy faces

The Quiz on kidney disease

致送錦旗

開球禮

明星足球隊與世界腎臟日隊足球友誼賽

腎友十二碼射球爭霸戰冠亞軍 (left: CMC; right: QEH)
Full page article on WKD in six popular local newspapers on March 27, 2008
由演戲家族呈獻，香港腎科學會協辦，好戲獻腎友 2008-愛情音樂劇“花 Far 世界”，於二○○八年四月五日在香港演藝學院上演，當天全場滿座。該音樂劇由張繼聰、姚詠芝、陳潔靈、倫永亮主演，精彩的演出，為近四百名來自全港各腎科中心的病友和家人，帶來一個充滿歡愉的週末下午。

Second Congress of the International Society for Hemodialysis

Our Society is proud to be the Host Organizer of the 2nd Congress of the International Society for Hemodialysis. The Congress will be held in the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Center from August 28 to 30, 2009. The theme of the Congress is “from hemodialysis unit to ICU”. Preparation work for the Congress has already begun.
The composition of the Organizing Committee of the Congress is as follow:

President  Dr. Alex Yu
Vice President  Prof. KN Lai (General)  Prof. Philip Li (Scientific)
Secretary General  Dr. Matthew Tong  Dr. CC Szeto
Treasurer  Dr. Andrew Wong
Publication Committee  Dr. SL Lui  Dr. Sydney Tang
Exhibition Committee  Dr. CB Leung
Social & Cultural Committee  Dr. TH Kwan
Liaison & Accreditation Committee  Dr. KS Choi

Happy Retirement, 區爺 (Dr. T.C. Au)

Dr. TC Au, also affectionately known as 區爺, is the most senior nephrologist in public service. He is currently enjoying his pre-retirement leave. Dr. Au is a highly respected figure among the nephrology community. We have therefore invited Dr. Au’s successor, Dr. TH Kwan to write a special article on Dr. Au for this issue of our newsletter.

Dr. Au graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, the University of Hong Kong in 1972 and received his postgraduate training in Nephrology from the Renal Unit of Guy’s Hospital, London, UK under Professor J.S. Cameron in 1983.

He served in various government hospitals since 1973 and was the Consultant Nephrologist in the Department of Medicine and Geriatrics, Tuen Mun Hospital from 1991 till he retired earlier this year. His senior and respectable status in the renal community is reflected by the way we call him as “Au Yeh” (區爺).

As the program director for basic physician training in NTWC, Dr. Au has significant contribution in training and accreditation for the Hong Kong College of Physicians. From 1994 to 2000, Dr. Au also served the renal community in the capacity of a council member of the Hong Kong Society of Nephrology.
Dr. Au has a profound compassion for the elderly renal patients and is eager to provide decent renal replacement therapy to those who can benefit from the treatment in old age home setting. Within the Central Renal Committee, Dr. Au had been an active advocate for provision of CAPD services to the elderly renal patients in old age home. Dr. Au also spent a lot of his private time visiting the renal patients in various old age homes in Yuen Long, Tin Shui Wai and Tuen Mun region. His affection and warmth towards the renal patients was well received by them.

Dr. Au is exceptionally generous to his medical and nursing colleagues. Apart from his willingness and readiness to settle the bills as a boss, he is always willing to spare his time listening to the feelings and opinions of fellow colleagues and dare to speak out for them.

While Dr. Au spent lots of time enjoying companionship with fellow colleagues during his leisure moments, in time of crisis such as during the SARS epidemics, Dr Au also joined the front line colleagues to fight the battle against the deadly virus inside the SARS wards.

Not surprisingly, his amiable character and sincere attitude has won him lots of friendship and respect from patients and staffs alike. For those who have been working with him for years, surely all would miss him a lot after his retirement.

Dr. Au is happily married to Dr. Nancy Au and they have a lovely family with grown up daughters and son all demonstrating excellence in their career. Surely, with such a wonderful and harmonious family behind him, Dr. Au would enjoy his family life as much as, if not more than, his professional career. We wish Dr. Au a prosperous, healthy and fruitful life after his retirement. His contribution to the local renal community will be remembered and honored forever.

Renal Patients’ Gateball Competition (腎友門球比賽 2008)

This year’s Renal Patients’ Gateball Competition will be held in the Kowloon Park Indoor Sportsground (九龍公園室內運動場) on June 8, 2008 (Sunday) from 1:00pm to 6:00pm.

This year, we have also invited the Renal Patients’ Gateball Team from Macau to join the Game.

Please come & support the event.
Three experienced nephrologists from mainland China have recently visited Hong Kong under the ISN-HK Visiting Fellowship scheme. They are: (1) Dr. Li WANG from Sichuan Provincial hospital, Chengdu; (2) Dr. Hong XU from Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Beijing; (3) Dr. Xiao-hong SANG from First Affiliated Hospital of Xin Jiang Medical University. During their three months’ stay in Hong Kong, they have been attached to one of the major renal centers in our locality. Dr. Wang was attached to PWH; Dr. Xu was attached to QMH & TWH and Dr. Sang was attached to PMH. The three ISN-HK Visiting Fellows have already completed their attachment & have returned to their home towns. We hope that they could applied the new knowledge & experience that they have acquired in Hong Kong to enhance the renal service in their parent institutions.
**HA Commissioned Training**

The HA Commissioned Training on “Improving Bone & Cardiovascular Outcomes in Chronic Dialysis”, jointly organized by the HA Central Renal Committee, Hong Kong Kidney Foundation and our Society, was held in the Lecture Theatre, HA Building on **January 27, 2008**. **Prof. Carmine Zoccali** and **Dr. William Goodman** were the invited overseas speakers. Local expert speakers include Dr. Angela Wang (Dept. of Medicine, QMH), Prof. Sidney Tam (Dept. of Clinical Biochemistry, QMH), Dr. KK Wong (Dept. of Nuclear Medicine, QMH), Dr. KC Lee (Dept. of Pathology, PMH), Dr. HW Chan (Dept. of Medicine, QMH), Dr. Sydney Tang (Dept. of Medicine, QMH), Dr. Hilda Chan (Dept. of Medicine, PMH) and Dr. CY Lo. Nearly 200 doctors and nurses attended the training program.

**Screening Program for Relatives of patients with CKD**

Our Society is going to launch a territory-wide screening program for first degree relatives of CKD patients. The aim of the program is to determine the prevalence of renal abnormalities in these subjects. All major HA Renal Units will participate in the program. The lead investigator of the Screening Program is Prof. Philip Li. Details of the program will be announced soon.
Six Scientific Symposia have been organized by our Society in the first quarter of the year:

(1) **Symposium on “Lanthanum Carbonate (Fosrenol): a new treatment option”**
    Prof. Marc De Broe  
    Langham Place Hotel  
    Jan. 8, 2008 (Tue)

(2) **Symposium on “Strategy for CAN in kidney transplant recipients”**
    Prof. Philip F. Halloran  
    QEH  
    Jan 16, 2008 (Wed)

(3) **Symposium on Outcome of Nocturnal Home Hemodialysis: The Toronto Experience”**
    Dr. Christopher T. Chan  
    Kowloon Shangri-la Hotel  
    15 Feb 2008, (Fri).

(4) **Symposium on Symposium on “PD Management in the increasing trend of diabetes”**
    Dr. Graham Woodrow  
    Royal Plaza Hotel  
    March 6, 2008 (Thur)

(5) **Symposium on “Management of Glomerular Diseases”**
    Profs. LS Li, HY Wang, XQ Yu, T Takeuchi & C.C. Szeto  
    Langham Place Hotel  
    March 8, 2008 (Sat)

(6) **Symposium on “Plasma Cell Dyscrasia and Renal Diseases – An Update”**
    Dr. Nelson Leung  
    QEH  
    March 12, 2008 (Wed)
HKSN Research Grant

HKSN Research Grant for 2008 is now opened for application. This year the Grant will be awarded under three categories, namely: Clinical research, Basic science research and Nursing research. For all clinical or basic science research projects by any full or associate members, the normal maximum award is HK$40,000 but may be up to $60,000 according to the discretion of the Council. Nursing research projects can only be applied by nursing colleagues, and the maximum award is HK$ 20,000. The administrative fee for individual institution could not be reimbursed. Equipment needed for the proposed project should be essential and basic model.

There will be 6 awards for the year 2008. Among which, at least two will be designated to clinical research, one to basic science research, and one to nursing research.

Application must be submitted before 31 May 2008 by post or e-mail to Dr. K S Wong, Consultant, Department of Medicine, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, 3 Lok Man Road, Chai Wan. E-mail: wongks3@ha.org.hk . Information on the application procedure has been posted on the society website: www.hksn.org.

Inter-hospital Renal Meeting

The Inter-hospital Renal Meeting is held regularly in the Lecture Theatre, G/F, Block A, Queen Elizabeth Hospital. PowerPoint slides of the Presentations will be posted in our website. Members of HKSN will be informed of the titles of the presentations by email before every meeting. The schedule of the Inter-hospital Renal Meetings for the next three months is listed as follow:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenting Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 21, 2008</td>
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<td>June 18, 2008</td>
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<td>July 9, 2008</td>
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Upcoming Events / Important Dates at a Glance

Renal Patients’ Gateball Competition
Date: June 08, 2008 (Sunday)
Venue: Kowloon Park Indoor Sportsground

Scientific Symposium: New strategy in managing kidney transplant recipients
Date: June 11, 2008
Venue: Sheraton Hotel

Lecture by Prof. John Feehally (LKEC visiting Professor)
Date: September 10, 2008
Venue: QEH

Annual Scientific Meeting
Date: October 19, 2008 (Sunday)
Venue: Kowloon Shangri-la Hotel

Annual Meeting, Chinese Society of Nephrology
Date: End of November, 2008 (TBC)
Place: Guangzhou
Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology

Our Journal is indexed in EMBASE. Archives of all the articles in our Journal can be searched in our official journal website: www.hkjn.org. The April issue of our Journal has just been released.

New members

The Society warmly welcomes the following new members:

**Full Members:** Dr. KC Lo and Dr. TL Ho

**Associate members:** PC Yu, FS Chung, SF Wan, PF Law, Rita Ho, HS Cheung, YY Leung, KT Yeung, WS Tan, SY Leung, Irene Sham, SK Lau, CM Wong, SY Ng, YL Ho, SY Wu, Clara Law, ML Poon, Susanna Luk, CM Leung.

Sponsorship application to attend local / overseas meetings

Applications for sponsorship to attend local or overseas conferences should be sent to Dr. Sydney C.W. Tang (Membership Affairs: Sponsorship and scholarship) C/o Department of Medicine, Queen Mary Hospital, Pokfulam, Hong Kong at least 4 weeks before the commencement date of the conference. You can FAX the application to Dr. Tang at 2872-5828 or EMAIL scwtang@hku.hk. Application for reimbursement for expenses should be sent to Dr. Tang within 3 months after the meeting. Late applications will not be entertained. A list of forthcoming nephrology meetings can be found in our Society’s web site as well as in the HKJN.

Membership application and Change of Address

New membership application and notification of change of address or personal particulars should be sent to Dr. Samuel K.S. Fung (Membership Affairs: Registration). C/o Department of Medicine & Geriatrics, Medical Officer Room, P3 Ward, Hong Kong Jockey Club Nephrology Centre, Block P, Princess Margaret Hospital, Lai Chi Kok, Kowloon.

New membership application & Change of Address or Personal Details” forms can be downloaded from our Society’s website (http://www.hksn.org/member.htm) For further enquiry concerning your membership status, please contact Ms. Rebecca Wong (Dr. Fung’s Secretary) at 29902035 / 27410752 (e-mail: pmhrenal@gmail.com)

Prepared by Dr. S.L. Lui (Hon. Secretary) & Dr. Andrew Wong (Chairman)