

# CDSHK Autumn Newsletter 2020

2020 Winter Scientific Webinar		
Date: 8 November 2020 (Sunday) Time: 0930 - 1700	EVENIS	
2020 CDSHK Conferment Ceremony	27 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting	

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# President's Message

### Autumn Newsletter 2020 – Message from the President

The Covid-19 pandemic has posed threats and nuisances to all walks of life both globally and locally. Despite many tough measures have been exercised by the Government, there is evidence of hidden transmission links in the community. We still cannot anticipate a lasting restoration of normal social life and activities in the near future. The Council decided to defer the Conferment Ceremony to January 2021 and will reassess again.



The High Court Judgment on a litigation case (as previously announced in 2018 AGM and Spring Newsletter 2020) brought about by a Fellow against the College was received on 18 September 2020. After careful deliberations, the Council decided not to proceed with appeal but rely on a review (now pending) to hopefully reverse the decision. It was appreciated that further protracted engagement might cause the College considerable financial difficulties. For a report on the dispute, please refer to Report on a Legal Case in this Newsletter.

In the midst of these challenges, life has to go on. The College continues to play her important role in training and continual education of dental specialists in Hong Kong. I would like to report some activities as follows:

- 1. Six Specialty Boards (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Paedodontics, Prosthodontics, Periodontology, Endodontics and Orthodontics) which usually run Conjoint Membership Examinations with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh decided to conduct their own intermediate examinations because of impossibility to conduct Conjoint Examinations in 2020. The Specialty Board in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery conducted two diets of intermediate examination in March and September respectively. The Specialty Board in Orthodontics will mount the intermediate examination in December while the three Restorative Specialties plan to organize a joint intermediate examination in the same month. The Intermediate and Exit examination in Paediatric Dentistry will also be held in September/October and November respectively. Exit Examinations in Prosthodontics, Orthodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Periodontics will follow.
- 2. The College has been vigilant in infection control precautions for candidates and examiners during various examinations. As such, various parts of the MGD examination, including Clinic Visitations, were successfully conducted and completed in August. Eleven out of twelve candidates were successful in this diet of MGD examination.

- 3. Video conferences in the form of Zoom meetings have been used in the scientific meetings and various subcommittee meetings of the College. The Exit Examination of Endodontics held in April also used Zoom in the viva examination with participation of the external examiner in London. Such examination arrangement with the external examiner will be expected to occur more frequently in the future.
- 4. On-line educational meetings can be accredited CME/CPD points with prior applications and after some established guidelines were conformed.
- 5. The Secretariat staff had a new staff, Miss Serina So, recruited in April replacing Lilian. Her main job duty is also on CME/CPD matters.

While the College tries every best effort to keep all the activities ongoing, I sincerely urge all fellows and members to keep updates about the Covid-19. The HKAM has specifically designed a Covid-19 corner (<u>https://www.hkam.org.hk/HKAMWEB/pages\_1\_323.html</u>) with much information and useful links relevant to us. The impact of Covid-19 may linger on for some time and let us be united to face challenges and changes together. We should always encourage and support one another with the hope of a better tomorrow.

Wish you all stay healthy and steadfast.

Dr WONG Yiu Kai President

# Report on a Legal Case

The College has been engaging in a lawsuit initiated in 2016 by a Fellow against the College (HCA 2856/2016) (as previously referred to in the 2018 AGM and the Spring Newsletter 2020). The trial was conducted on 2-4 and 6 December 2019, and the Judgment was handed down on 18 September 2020 against the College.

#### Brief Summary of the Dispute

The plaintiff (P) is a specialist and Fellow of the College. In 2015, he was convicted and sentenced by the Dental Council of Hong Kong (DC) for plagiarism charge. Later, the College received a letter from DC asking whether P's Fellowship status would be affected by the conviction. After deliberation in Council, the College, pursuant to Art. 14 of the M&A, asked P for an explanation of his conduct. Art. 14 states:

"If any member violates the constitution of the College or if his conduct is such as, in the opinion of the Council, likely to be injurious to the interests of the College and if the member complained of shall fail to explain his conduct to the satisfaction of the Council, they may declare that such member shall cease to be a member of the College and his name shall be removed from the register of Members. Such Member may however reapply for admission pursuant to these Articles or appeal against the removal to the Council whereupon the Council shall reconsider the matter and give its decision."

In the ensuring correspondence with P's solicitors, Council ultimately took the view that although it has a right to ask questions about possible injurious conduct, P cannot be compelled to give a response, and that in any event, it is highly unlikely that P shall be removed from membership. However, P sought inter alia, to declare Art.14 as unlawful and be struck out as an unlawful article, for a number of legal reasons. Alternatively, P seeks a declaration that it is unlawfully invoked. P's contention is that it might result in P's removal from membership, which might set in motion the domino effect of causing the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM) to exercise its discretion to remove him from fellowship, which in turn might lead DC to remove him from the Specialist Register (SR), pursuant to the Dental Council Ordinance (Cap.156).

One of the other key contentions of the College is that even if Art.14 is hypothetically invoked to remove P from membership, it cannot possibly result in P being removed from the SR because under the statutory removal regime of Cap.156 [ie, sections 12E, 12F and 15A(3)], cessation of memberships of the College and HKAM is not a lawful ground for removal from the SR. The prescribed grounds relate to, e.g., death, cessation of practice, practicing without a certificate, criminal convictions, and professional incompetence etc.

#### <u>Judgment</u>

However, the Judgment held, inter alia, that although Art.14 is not unlawful, it is unreasonably (and hence unlawfully) invoked in that it might cause P to lose his SR status by reason of Section 12B of Cap.156 (which requires a applicant to be a HKAM fellow) and Section 3(3)(a) of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Ordinance (Cap.419) (which requires an applicant to be a College fellow before he becomes an HKAM fellow). The rationale is that invoking the machinery of Art.14 might result in P being punished twice through the back door.

For a copy of the Judgment, see https://www.hklii.hk/eng/hk/cases/hkcfi/2020/2453.html

#### **Review of Decision**

However, the College takes the view that the Court's reasoning is flawed in that Section 12B and Section 3(3)(a) relate only to the application regime for registration under the SR, not a removal regime, and that the College should not be held responsible for DC's possible abuse of the statutory regime by unlawfully removing P from his SR status, purely based on P's loss of fellowship status. On 12 Oct 2020, the College has sought a review by the trial judge to reverse its decision. At the time of writing, the review is still pending.

#### **Resolution not to Appeal**

Further, on 12 Oct 2020, pending a review by the trial judge, Council has resolved not to appeal to the Court of Appeal in any event, considering that our reserves may not be sufficient (1) to discharge the Court's summary assessment of P's costs claim (estimated to be \$3.5m), if the review fails, and (2) to sustain protracted legal proceedings on appeal, win or lose.

#### **Feedbacks**

If members wish to offer any feedbacks or comments, please use the link provided here: <u>https://forms.gle/dN6NFcLF7NMH29ja8</u>. Otherwise, you can communicate by email to the Secretariat (info@cdshk.org), by fax at 2873 6731, or contact any Council Members.

Dr WONG Yiu Kai President



The following new Fellows and Members will be conferred at the coming Conferment Ceremony:

### 9 New Fellows:

Specialty	Name	
	Dr CHEUNG Amelia Wan Tin	張允天
Endodontics	Dr HO Siu Shan Edith	何肇珊
	Dr LAM Siu Hei	林紹曦
	Dr LO Chi Wai	盧智惠
Family Dentistry	Dr CHEUNG Julian T	張讚豪
Oral & Maxillafacial Surgary	Dr AU Ka Li	區嘉莉
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	Dr LEE Tsz Ying Crystal	李芷瑩
Prosthodontics	Dr CHEUNG Chi Hang Alex	張智恒
Prostilodolitics	Dr LEUNG Tsz Man	梁梓文

### 2 New Members:

Specialty	Name	
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	Dr TAM Ching Yan	譚鉦鍁
	Dr YAU Kar Yin	邱家妍

### 10 New Members in General Dentistry (MGD):

Name			
Dr CHAN Ho Yin	陳澔賢		
Dr CHAN Ngo Yin John	陳翶然		
Dr CHEUNG Hiu Ching	張曉晴		
Dr CHOW Kar Wang	周嘉宏		
Dr LAI Chin Hung Gentle	黎展鴻		
Dr LEI Ka Wai	李嘉慧		
Dr LUI Wing Hong	呂永康		
Dr MUI Sau Fung Michael	梅秀峯		
Dr SIN Chung Yin Ronald	冼仲彥		
Dr YEUNG Man Kin	楊汶鍵		



### Spring Scientific Meeting – 24 May 2020 (Sunday)

The COVID-19 pandemic has made year 2020 a challenging one. It unavoidably brought about disruptions to our social activities, economy as well as the educational activities to a vast extent. Yet, despites setbacks such unprecedented pandemic has brought about, the scientific meeting committee has continue to plan and liaise, in order to offer opportunities for our Fellows and Members to get together and learn. With the courteous support from the Council, the first ever Spring Scientific Webinar was held on 24 May 2020. The theme of the webinar is "Dentist Well-Being" and a total of 365 attendants have participated in the webinar. Renowned speaker Dr. Vincent CC CHENG, Chief of Service, Department of Microbiology Hospital Service QMH, was invited to provide us with updates on COVID- 19. Experienced physiotherapist, psychologist and psychiatrist has provided us with new insight into the topic. Furthermore, Dr. Eilly LAU was invited to share her experience in outreach charity dental service. The messages from the speakers echoed beautifully and we hope our attendees had enjoyed the webinar. We will strive to improve and overcome the technical issues. Looking forward to bringing you a better experience in the near future.



*Our President Dr. WONG Yiu Kai presenting souvenir to Speaker Dr. CHENG Pak Wing* 



Dr. Daniel FANG presenting souvenir to Speaker Dr. Eilly LAU



Dr. Alfred LAU presenting souvenir to Speaker Mr. Eugene CHAN



Dr. Haston LIU presenting souvenir to Speaker Dr. Vincent CC CHENG

The pandemic has also led to a change in our meetings being conducted virtually. In our most recent online meeting, our Committee Members evaluated the Spring Scientific Webinar and discussed on the project timelines for Winter Scientific Meeting. Once again, my sincerest gratitude to our committee members for their enthusiasm, as well as the concerted effort and hardwork in inviting speakers and sponsorships. Together, we shall overcome these challenges and we wish to see you again at the Winter Scientific Webinar.



Virtual meeting of the Scientific Meeting Committee, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Top row from left: Dr. HO Fu Tak Tom , Dr. SHE Tsang Tsang Franklin, Dr. LIEW Cho Hwei Julianna; Second row : Dr. WAN Chi Pui , Dr. LIU Wai Ming Haston, Dr. FUNG Ho Tak Marcus; Bottom row: Dr. LAU Sze Lok Alfred, Dr. FANG Tak Sang Daniel , Dr. KI Yung

Dr LIEW Cho Hwei Julianna Scientific Meetings Chairman

# **CME** Subcommittee

Fellows and Members are gently reminded that there is a requirement of non-passive participation in CME activities in each cycle. Self-study of articles from indexed journals is one of the many ways to achieve this requirement. One may like to note that in each issue of Hong Kong Medical Journal and Hong Kong Medical Diary there are one to two articles with self-assessment quiz. By having more than 50% of the answers correct will be awarded one CME/CPD point. You may find this a convenient way to make up the deficiency in CME requirement. Have a try in the next issue of HKMJ or Medical Diary!

Dr CHO Shiu Yin CME Subcommittee Chairman

## COVID-19



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#### Relevant information on COVID-19, please click:

https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/index.html

https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html

https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/enhanced\_sur\_pneumonia\_wuhan\_eng.pdf

https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/statistics\_of\_the\_cases\_novel\_coronavirus\_infection\_en.pdf

https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/102742.html

#### **HKAM COVID-19 Corner**

https://www.hkam.org.hk/hkamweb/pages 1\_323.html

# Condolences

### Dr LEUNG Kei Yan, Peter

Dr LEUNG passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020 in Auckland, New Zealand. He was the College Fellow in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from 1993 to 2018. He was the second dentist appointed as a Consultant Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon in the Government Hospital Dental Service, overseeing the OMS service in Queen Mary Hospital before his early retirement. He was the President of Hong Kong Dental Association from 1986 to 1987.

### Dr SUN Chung San, Frank

Dr SUN Chung San, Frank passed away in early September 2020. Dr SUN was a graduate from HKU Dental School in 1988 and was in private practice. He has been the College Fellow in Family Dentistry since 2005.

The College would like to send our deepest condolences to Dr LEUNG and Dr SUN's families.

# Secretariat

The College Secretariat assists in the daily running of College matters, consists of 4 staff members as follows:

Staff	Title	Contact	Brief Job Duties
Charlotte CHAN	Senior Executive Officer	2871 8891	Training, Membership,
			General Affairs
Julia LAU	Executive Officer	2871 8734	MGD Matters
Cecilia LAW	Executive Officer	2871 8866	General Enquiries,
			Accounts
Serina SO	Executive Officer	2871 8732	CME / CPD Matters

The Secretariat is at your service and provides necessary support for all Fellows, members and trainees. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

