

Chairman's Report

29 October 2000 – 17 November 2001

In the year 2000 to 2001, the Society keeps on the goals set up in the preceding year:

1. Promoting further the academic level of the Society, moving the Society into the international nephrology academic platform
2. Continuing support for patient's activities for the purpose of better rehabilitation and care
3. Strengthening relationship with Nephrologists from Mainland China

I. Academic Aspects

This year's academic aspects of the Society covers the following:

1. Continue and expanding the scope of the **Hong Kong Society of Nephrology Research Grant**

There were 11 grant application submissions this year. Seven were projects were supported by the HKSAN Research Grant, one more than the previous year. The total amount of research grant funding was increased to \$189,600. The external reviewers were Drs. Raymond Krediet (The Netherlands), Yashukiko Tomino (Japan) and Victoria Lim (USA). One of which went to a nursing submission under the intention of the Council to promote research among nurses. The successful applicants were:

Dr. KM Chow	Association of plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 polymorphism genotypes and renal transplant graft rejection, outcome and survival
Dr. FK Li	The role of tight junction complexes in leukocytes transmigration across human peritoneal mesothelial cells (HPMC): Implications for peritoneal defense
Dr. CC Szeto	Endothelial nitric oxide synthase genetic polymorphism and peritoneal permeability
Dr. Sydney Tang	The impact of advanced glycation end products on human renal tubular epithelial cell function
Dr. Angela Wang	Association of genetic polymorphisms of the renin-angiotensin system and serum angiotensin converting enzyme activity with left ventricular hypertrophy, ventricular dysfunction and clinical outcome among

Chinese end-stage renal disease patients on continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis

Dr. Yeung Shing Pharmacokinetic study of Tacrolimus (FK506) in combination with mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) in Asian renal allograft recipients

Ms Janet Li Assessing the Cognitive function among the elderly dialysis patients – a single centre study

The Hong Kong Kidney Foundation has also created research grant to be managed by the Society. Dr. CC Szeto was awarded as the receiver of both the Hong Kong Society of Nephrology Research Grant and Hong Kong Kidney Foundation Research Grant of this year.

2. Scientific Meetings:

7 Nov 2000 Prof. Claude Jacobs, UCLA, USA
“EPO – European Experience”

15 Nov 2000 Prof. Graham McGregor
“Controversies in hypertension therapy”
(Jointly organized with Hong Kong College of Physicians)

8 Feb 2001 Prof. Steven Sacks
“Ascending urinary tract infection and complements – a new paradigm”

12 July 2001 Dr. Herwig-Ulf Meier Kriesche
“Approaches to improving long term renal allograft outcomes”
(Jointly organized with Hong Kong Society of Transplantation)

11 Sept 2001 Dr. Wim Van Biesen
“PD Solutions and the Malnutrition, Inflammation and Atherosclerotic Syndrome. The Role of an Amino Acid Based Dialysis Fluid”

Majorities of these scientific meetings were attended by over 100 members.

3. Inter-hospital Renal Meetings

The inter-hospital renal meeting is a very important platform to share clinical experiences among our members. It regularly covers the most recent development

in clinical nephrology. Two overseas speakers have been invited to speak in the inter-hospital renal meetings:

23 May 2001 Prof. Akira Saito
“Dialysis-related amyloidosis: pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment “

6 June, 2001 Prof. Murray Epstein
“Update on the treatment of hypertension”

Eleven hospitals and 5 private nephrologists have participated in the presentations. Materials of the presentation every year since 2000 have been recorded in CD-ROM cumulatively for distribution to all members. A survey on the preferred venue for future inter-hospital renal meeting will be conducted.

4. Biostatistic Course

The Society has jointly organized a biostatistic course with the Department of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong on 3 November and 1 December 2001 to promote proper knowledge of statistics and to facilitate research among members. Prof. Lo Sing Kai of the Department of Health Sciences, Polytechnic University was invited to be the speaker.

5. Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology

This is the third year of our newly born journal. We maintained two issues per year. We hope that one day our journal can be indexed. This requires our members' enthusiastic support by submitting manuscripts and the hard work of the editorial board:

Chief Editor	Dr. Philip Li
Deputy Editor	Dr. Alex Yu
Assistant Editors	Dr. Li Fu Keung
	Dr. Lui Sing Leung
	Dr. Mak Siu Ka
	Dr. Szeto Cheuk Chun
	Dr. Francis Wong

The journal is now full text on line in its website: www.hkjin.org. The first full text on-line journal in Hong Kong.

The journal has also joined the of the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong search engine “FMSHK MedSearch” which allows search by key words, authors and year of publication of locally published indexed and non-indexed papers. Starting from the volume3 issue 2 (October 2001), the Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology would also appear on the FMSHK Webpage www.fmshk.com.hk/.

6. Nephrology Journal

The Society has become one of the sponsoring societies of the Nephrology Journal, the official journal of the Asian Pacific Society of Nephrology. We have subscribed the journal and distribute it to all members for free.

7. Young Nephrology Investigator Scholarship

We have granted the scholarship to seven members (one doctor and six nurses) to present their research work in international nephrology meetings.

8. Sponsoring members to attend overseas conference

The Council views that attending overseas academic meetings is important to update members' knowledge in nephrology. The Council has been continually supporting members to attend overseas nephrology meetings.

9. Promoting Renal Nursing Academic Levels

It is the Council's goal to promote academic level among our nurse members. The first nursing session in the 16th Annual Scientific Meeting has been very much welcomed by the nurses. In this year's Annual Scientific Meeting, we have invited Ms Rebecca Wingard from Nashville, Tennessee, USA as our Nursing speaker. We also gave special considerations to nursing submissions to the Society's Research Grant Submission.

10. 17th Annual Scientific Meeting

The 17th Annual Scientific Meeting will take a one and half day format. Plenary speakers invited were Prof. William Goodman of UCLA and Prof Hou Fanfan of Guangzhou First PLA Medical University. Other invited speakers included Prof. Laurence Chan of University of Colorado health Sciences center and Dr. Zhao Minghui of Beijing University. A get-together dinner will be arranged to facilitate friendship building with Nephrologists from Mainland China. There were 58 abstract submissions including 11 from Mainland China.

II. Patient Related Activities

The council has continued on promoting patients' rehabilitation and better treatment.

1. The 6th Hong Kong Dialysis and Transplantation Patients Sports Day

The Hong Kong Society of Transplantation has joined us in organizing the Sports Day with the participation of other organ transplantation recipients. The Renal Patients Sports Day was therefore re-named as Hong Kong Dialysis and Transplantation patients Sports Day. It was held on 3 December 2000 at Shing

Mun Valley Sports Ground. CRN and LKEC were also the co-organizers. Fifteen 15 teams participated. The results were (in order of position):

Overall: QMH, UCH, PMH, PWH
Dialysis: UCH, QMH, CMC, TWH
Transplant: QMH, PMH, PWH, UCH

2. Gateball Competition

Gateball is a much-welcomed ball game among our dialysis and transplantation patients and has become an annual joint activity of the Society and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The competition was held on 5 July 2001 at Kowloon Park Indoor Sports Ground. There were 181 competitors and 142 participants. The winners of the open division were Queen Mary Hospital, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital and Prince of Wales Hospital. The winners of the senior division were Prince of Wales Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and Kwong Wah Hospital. The winner for the "Patient-Doctor Friendly Match" went to the Patients' Team again.

3. The 4th Hong Kong Renal Patients Table Tennis Competition

The Fourth Hong Kong Renal Patients Table Tennis Competition, jointly organized with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Community Rehabilitation Network, will be conducted on 10 March 2002 at Wanchai Indoor Sports Ground. Dr. Tsang Wai Kay and Kwan Tze Hoi will be the coordinator.

4. Automated Peritoneal Dialysis program

Currently the Society is responsible for recommendation of allocation of the existing 20 machines from the Hong Kong Kidney Trust Fund.

III. Relation with Our Mainland Nephrologists

The relationship with nephrologists in Mainland China and the Chinese Society of Nephrology is continually strengthening. There has been a number of members being invited to deliver lectures in China, participating various nephrology meetings held in China. Five Council members had represented the Society to attend the Annual Meeting of the Chinese Society of Nephrology on "Integrative Therapy for End Stage Renal Failure" in Wuhan in September 2001. Three had delivered lectures and two had oral presentations, all in Putonghua.

The response of the Chinese nephrologists attending our 16th Annual Scientific Meeting was very encouraging. To continue on the exchange of academic knowledge and building up friendship, we continue to invite Chinese Nephrologists to attend our Annual Scientific Meeting. We have received 11 abstracts from China, three of which were

accepted for oral presentation. We hope that our members can make use of this opportunity to build up relationship with Nephrologists in Mainland China. We also hope that more members from Hong Kong will attend and present in the meetings organized by the Chinese Society of Nephrology in the future, particularly in the coming National Conference of the Chinese Society of Nephrology, which is held once every four years, Shanghai, September 2002.

IV. Public Events

Education to the public is our concern. Dr. Kwan Tze Hoi and Dr. Tsui Hing Sum have delivered public lectures on understanding and preventing diabetic nephropathy in an event organized by the LKEC on 25 March 2001. Dr. Kwan has also spoken to a diabetic patient group on 20 May 2001 and has also written an article in the Diabetic News on “prevention of diabetic nephropathy” on behalf of the Society.

The press conference on “Dialysis in Hong Kong” on 28 October 2000 was well received by the media. The issue of rising trend of renal failure from diabetes mellitus attracted many media’s attention.

Another press conference was held on the Sports Day together with the Hong Kong Society of Transplantation on two issues: (1) lack of organ donors in Hong Kong, (2) role of exercise in renal patients. It had attracted many media and was published in many newspapers and appeared in TV news.

V. International Involvement

The Society is very active in involving internationally in both the Society level and at the members personal level. We should contribute to the nephrology community particularly to the less well developed countries.

1. The First Asian Chapter Meeting, ISPD

The preparatory work for the first Asia Chapter Meeting, International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis (ISPD) has been going on smoothly. It will be held on 13-15 December 2002 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The preliminary response from pharmaceuticals and Asian nephrologists are quite promising. The organizing committee members are:

President:	Wai-kei Lo
Vice-President (General):	Tak-mao Chan
Vice-President (Scientific):	Philip Kam-tao Li
Secretary General:	Alex Wai-yin Yu
Assistant Secretary General:	Cheuk-chun Szeto
Exhibition:	Ka-Foon Chau
Finance:	Andrew Kui-man Wong

Nursing Program:	Matthew Kwok-lung Tong
Publication:	Fu-keung Li
Social and Cultural:	Francis Kim-ming Wong

2. Members involvement in international nephrology communities

To my knowledge, we have several active members involved in some positions in different international nephrology communities. I hope their involvement would bring Hong Kong more prominently into the international scene. I also hope that more members can be involved with various international nephrology organizations in the future to enhance the influence of Hong Kong.

Asian Pacific Society of Nephrology (APSN)

Secretary General	Ignatius Kum-Po Cheng
Council Member	Philip Kam-Tao Tao

International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis (ISPD)

Council Member	Wai-Kei Lo
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VI. Membership

By 30 September 2000, there are 158 members and 521 associate members with a net growth of 11 full members and 68 associate members.

VII. Society Home Page

The society home page is regularly maintained and updated. The web site is at www.fmshk.com.hk/hksnephrol/. The interhospital renal meeting information, major society meetings, registration and abstract submission forms can all be downloaded from our home page.

VIII. The Council

The success of the Society with its wide range of activities lies heavily on the dedicated work of the whole council. I have to thank all council members for their commitment and diligent work to accomplish the task of the Society. Their responsibilities are:

Dr. Philip Li	Hon. Secretary Chief Editor, Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology
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Dr. Alex Yu Wai Yin	Hon. Treasurer Deputy Editor, Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology
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Prof. Chan Tak Mao	Hong Kong Society of Nephrology Research Grant
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Dr. Kwan Tze-Hoi	Public Education and Affairs
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Table Tennis Competition

- Dr. Li Fu Keung Inter-hospital Renal Meeting, CME activities
Society Home Page
Gateball Competition
Assistant Editor, Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology
- Dr. Tsang Wai Kay Membership Affairs: registration
Gateball Competition
Table Tennis Competition
- Dr. Francis Wong Membership affairs: sponsorship and scholarship
Sports Day
Representative to Hong Kong Federation of Medical Societies
Assistant Editor, Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology
- Dr. Andrew Wong Patient Affair
APD program

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to my immediate past chairperson Dr. KF Chau, and our co-opted Council members Dr. KL Tong and Dr. Mak Chun Kee for their valuable opinions and support, and all the Honorary Advisors for their moral support. I treasure the harmonious and forward looking working atmosphere of the Society over the past two years of my chairmanship, and I myself have learned a lot through my chairmanship and my fellow council colleagues.

I anticipate further bloom and greater success with the new Council together with contributions from our fellow members.

Dr. Lo Wai Kei
3 October 2001