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MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

This issue of the HKPGA newsletters recorded important meetings in Psychogeriatrics. Prof. Helen Chiu attended the first World Health Organisation Ministerial Conference in Geneva, and Dr. TK Poon and Dr. SW Li represented HKPGA to join the 10th anniversary meeting of the Taiwanese Society of Geriatric Psychiatry in Taichung consecutively. Dementia is a public health priority worldwide. The call for collaboration between Chinese communities in our region becomes increasingly important. Please do not miss the photos of our Mid-year Scientific Meeting and share the joy of HKPGA members. Lastly, you can update your email address and make your submission via info@hkpga.org and visit www.hkpga.org for archives of the HKPGA newsletters.

WHO Ministerial Conference on Global Action Against Dementia

Prof. Helen Chiu



On March 16-17 2015, WHO organized the First Ministerial Conference on Global Action Against Dementia in Geneva. Nearly 400 participants attended the Meeting, including Ministers of health of various member countries or their deputies, NGOs and foundations, research centres and individual experts. This meeting was also attended by Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of WHO, Mr. Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State of UK, and representatives of OECD. The aim of the Conference was to promote a co-ordinated effort to address dementia care challenges in various countries in the world.

In fact, the UK Government has organized a G8 summit on dementia in 2013 to promote dementia care and services. Some of the points agreed in the G8 dementia summit included:

- To aim at finding a cure or treatment for dementia by 2025
- Increase the amount of funding on dementia research
- Establish a global Dementia Innovation Envoy
- Sharing data and information on dementia research studies

Now the WHO has taken the lead in organizing this high level Conference on Global Action Against Dementia in March 2015.

I was very privileged to be invited by WHO to attend this meeting. During the meeting, representatives of member countries reported on the development of dementia services in their countries. Individual experts in dementia like Prof. Martin Prince presented on data in the global burden of dementia. Findings on some preventive studies in dementia like the FINGER study, were reported.

A Call for Action was drafted and adopted during the meeting. The actual implementation of the Call for Action will be decided in future meetings of WHO. A number of areas were included in the Call for Action. These included: promoting understanding of dementia and reducing stigma; collaboration and advancing research in dementia; putting dementia care as a priority area globally; encouraging countries to develop national dementia care plans; directing efforts to prevention and risk reduction as well as finding effective treatment for dementia; strengthening capacity and leadership.

In addition, it was announced that the UK Government, Alzheimer's Research UK and Drug companies would commit US\$100 million for funding dementia research.

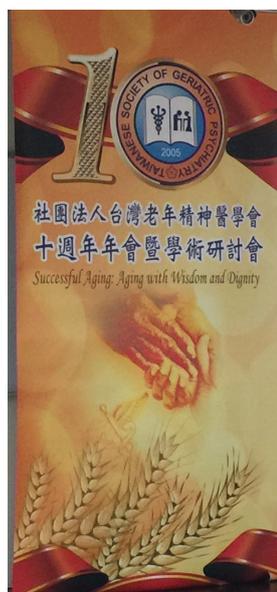
Although this is a short meeting lasting for 2 days, I believe the impact on dementia care is enormous. With the WHO taking up the lead in global efforts addressing issues on Dementia, I hope dementia care and services in Hong Kong will rise to the challenge.



The 10th Annual Meeting of Taiwanese Society of Geriatric Psychiatry (TSGP)

15 March 2015 at Chung Shan Medical University, Taichung.

Dr. T. K. Poon, Kowloon Hospital



Dr. LI Siu-Wah and Dr. POON Ting-Keung represented HKPGA to join this meeting. They were extremely welcomed by the organizer. The theme of this meeting was “Successful aging: aging with wisdom and dignity”. The meeting was a success with wisdoms of the three renowned speakers from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Japan.

Prof. Chen Ching-Yu from the National Taiwan University Hospital shared his “Blueprint for Health Aging Society in Taiwan”; Prof. Chan Cheung-Ming from the Lingnan University (Hong Kong) illustrated how successful aging could be achieved through a policy framework and Prof. Takashi Asada from the Tsukuba University (Japan) presented his centenarian studies on prevention of dementia.

Prof. Hwang Jen-Ping, the first President of the Society chaired a sharing session on the review and forward planning of TSGP: on its service, education and research. TSGP has more than 600 members in Taiwan and is actively involved in local and international professional affairs. It has been affiliated with the International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) since 2006. There are now 16 hospitals in Taiwan being recognised as training centres for Geriatric Psychiatry.



At the meeting, there was a ceremony for Prof. Hwang Jen-Ping and Prof. Lai Te-Jen, the previous and the present President of TSGP. They blew the birthday candles out and led all the participants to join the joyful moment of the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Taiwanese Society of Geriatric Psychiatry. After that, Dr. Li Siu-Wah, immediate Past President of HKPGA, was invited to deliver a congratulation speech. Dr. Li congratulated TSGP on its numerous achievements and also presented a meaningful souvenir to Prof. Lai, represents friendship between the HKPGA and the TSGP.

We wish TSGP a prosperous future - to our friendship forever!





HKPGA Capacity Conference cum Annual General Meeting 2015

Pre-conference Workshop on Mental Capacities

Date: December 4, 2015 (Friday)

Time: 09:00 – 17:00

Venue: Thornton Room & Huthart Room I, 3/F, South Tower of the YMCA-The Salisbury Hotel
No. 41 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Target participants:

- Medical professionals, e.g. psychiatrist, geriatrician, neurologist, family physician....
- Legal professionals, e.g. solicitor and barrister who have clients with mental capacities issues
- Healthcare or social work professionals, e.g. psychologist, occupational therapist, social worker....

Guest speakers:



Prof. Sanford I. Finkel is the Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Chicago Medical School. He has lectured extensively and has contributed over 100 journal articles and book chapters. Prof. Finkel is involved as an expert consultant and witness on contested wills. Most cases involve testamentary capacity, which can be influenced by dementia, depression, psychosis, medication effects, medical problems, and end of life issues. At the same time, many of these illnesses or conditions in and of themselves do not necessarily mean someone lacks testamentary capacity. He has also been called upon to testify as an expert in "undue influence" cases.



Prof. Camelle Peisah is an Old Age Psychiatrist and the Clinical Director of Specialised Mental Health Services for Older People, Northern Sydney Local Health District, Australia. She is the President of Capacity Australia; Conjoint Professor, University of New South Wales; and Chair of the International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) Taskforce/Shared Interest Group on Capacity. She sat for 10 years as a Professional Member of the former NSW Guardianship Tribunal (now NCAT). She is the co-author of the e-textbook "Capacity and the Law".

Local speaker:

Ms. Olivia S.M. Leung is the Honorary Legal Adviser of the Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association. She has been a solicitor in Hong Kong SAR since 10th August 2002. She has extensive negotiation and mediation training received from the Mediation Training Course conducted by The Accord Group, Australia for The Law Society of Hong Kong. She primarily focuses on company matters, corporate and commercial drafting, probate and will and application under Part II of Mental Health Ordinance of Hong Kong.

HKPGA Mid-year Scientific Meeting 2015 (at the Historical Block of the United Christian Hospital)



COUNCIL NEWS

HKPGA is organising a two-day Capacity Conference which consists of a pre-conference workshop on mental capacities and the main capacity conference cum the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in December 2015.

The Capacity Conference cum AGM will be held at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom in Tsimshatsui on December 5, 2015. We are honored to have Dr. Donald Li, President of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine to give an opening speech and a number of overseas experts to share their knowledge and experiences on elderly's mental capacities. Prof. Sanford Finkel from the Department of Psychiatry, University of Chicago Medical School and Prof. Camelle Peisah from the Capacity Australia will be the keynote speakers. There will be an expert forum on the Mentally Incapacitated Person (MIP) under the Mental Health Ordinance (Chapter 136, HK Law) in Hong Kong. Representatives of the Chinese Psychogeriatric Tripartite group will also present related issues in their respective localities.

The AGM of HKPGA will be held at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom on 5 December 2015 at 12:15. We will meet the winner of the HKPGA Young Scientists Award 2015 at the meeting. The Council is calling for nominations of new Council members for the term 2015-2017. Please update your email address via info@hkpga.org in order to receive the last minutes, agenda and nomination form for the coming AGM. Act now and encourage potential members to join us!



EVENTS CALENDAR

<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Oct 13-16, 2015	IPA International Conference 2015 www.ipa-online.org/wordpress/event/2015-international-congress-berlin/	Berlin, Germany
Dec 4, 2015	Pre-Conference Workshop on Mental Capacities	3/F, South Tower, YMCA-the Salisbury, TST
Dec 5, 2015	HKPGA Capacity Conference cum AGM	Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Hotel, TST



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Mr. KP Pang (Kowloon Hospital)

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