

# Annual Report of Hong Kong College of General Practitioners

Dr Siu Leung Chow  
Hon Secretary

H.K.C.G.P. 1980-1981

In his Presidential Dinner on the 9th of November 1980, Dr. Peter C.Y. Lee pointed out (as printed in the December 1980 issue of the Hong Kong Practitioner) that "One very important development of general practice in Hong Kong in the past year was perhaps the visit of Professor Barber who was invited from Glasgow to advise the University of Hong Kong on the establishment of the Undergraduate Programme in General Practice and the setting up of a separate department for the discipline. To implement Professor Barber's report, the HKU has set up a working party comprising its chairman, Prof. Rosie Young of HKU's Department of Medicine, Prof. H. K. Ma who is the chairman of the Syllabus Committee of HKU's Medical Faculty, with two 'outside' members who are the President of the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners and the Director of Medical & Health Services."

Although Professor Barber came to Hong Kong in November 1979, his impact and influence is most evident in the past year and the years to come. In fact, his series of articles on general practice in the United Kingdom contributed to "The Hong Kong Practitioner" are most readable. It serves the useful purpose of revealing a pattern whereby we in Hong Kong can compare our practice with.

Locally, our council member, Dr. Michael Y. K. Lee, as Vocational Training Committee Chairman, also strikes an important note in his plan to involve Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital as a centre for postgraduate general practice training. Dr. Michael Lee has the full support of the Council, which owes him special thanks for his tireless and persistent effort towards this important task.

Financially, the Council must congratulate itself for having Dr. Freddie Lau Yuk-Tong as its Business Manager as the Balance Sheet will show. Be it sufficient to say that now we have surplus accumulated in the past year and that through his leadership of the Permanent Premises Fund-Raising Committee, we have gross more than ½ million dollars. We have fully paid our accounts with the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong and now we are in full possession of our premises on the 8th floor of Duke of Windsor Building. We shall move into our own "home" as soon as the tenants have moved out of the premises. Besides this, we had enough money to reimburse in November all of our past and present Council Members, who had lent to the College generously in the past when our income was not that sufficient. I think, we have to name them one by one and give them special thanks:—

our President — Dr. Peter C. Y. Lee

our past Vice-President — Dr. Chiu Hin-Kwong

our present Vice-President — Dr. Natalis C. L. Yuen

our past Council Members — Dr. Doo Ching-Hoi  
Dr. Tommy Tam Yu-Min



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our present Council Members — Dr. Emmanuel Chang  
— Dr. Choi Ho-Yin  
— Dr. Foo Kam-So  
— Dr. Paul Lam  
— Dr. Lau Kin-Sang

In June, last year, we bid farewell to Prof. M. J. Colbourne, Prof. of Community Medicine, University of Hong Kong on his retirement as one of our censors. He had been such a founding force in the early stage of our College. We wish him every success in his new appointment with the W.H.O. We welcome Mr. Peter Y. C. Au, who came to our assistance as our honorary consultant on data processing. We regret to say goodbye to Dr. Chiu Hin-Kwong and Dr. Tommy Tam who resigned as council members because of personal reasons. We welcome in their places, Dr. Ho Kwok-Kuen and Dr. Henry Wong Chun-Wah. We also welcome our Administrative Secretary, Miss Irene So, who has proved herself capable in every way and is most appreciated by all council members concerned. In farewell to Lt. Col. A. O. Billinghamurst we welcome his successor, Lt. Col. Sammy Bernstein. We would also like to thank Prof. Rosie Young, who acted as our Censor in Prof. David Todd's place during his leave period. The College also shares the honour in the occasion that Dr. Henry F. K. Li, our censor-in-chief was conferred the honour of O.B.E. by Her Majesty the Queen in the 1981 New Year honour list.

We have now more detailed reports of various Committees.

1. *Education Committee* is chaired by Dr. Choi Ho Yin who reports that:—

During the academic year 1980, the Education Committee maintained a level of activity comparable to that of the previous years. There were 104 members qualified for the award of Certificate of Postgraduate Studies and 34 of these collected their certificates from the Director of Medical and Health Services, Dr. the Hon. K. L. Thong and our President, Dr. Peter C. Y. Lee at a ceremony during the College's Annual Social Function. The Committee has been fortunate to have the continuing support of our specialist colleagues who not only participated in our seminars, workshops and lunch-lectures but also regularly contributed articles in our monthly journal, the Hong Kong Practitioner. We are also thankful to the various pharmaceutical firms who either generously sponsored many of our functions or provided audiovisual equipments and materials for our viewing sessions. Due to circumstances beyond the Committee's control, members at times received their copies of the Hong Kong Practitioner later than expected. We apologise for this occasional delay but with the help of our new printer, we hope we shall have less trouble in meeting the deadline. 1980 also saw the departure of three able committee members. Prof. M. J. Colbourne who retired from his university post and is now working overseas for the WHO; Lt. Col. A. O. Billinghamurst, RAMC, Commanding Officer in General Practice, Hong Kong completed his term in Hong Kong and is now working in Germany. Dr. Chiu Hin-Kwong resigned because of other commitments. To them, the Committee expresses its sincere thanks for their past effort and support. Special thanks must also be given to Prof. J. H. Barber of the University of Glasgow who not only gave us invaluable advice while he was in Hong Kong but also writes regularly for our journal.

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The functions and activities of the Education Committee during the academic year 1980 can best be summarised under the following headings:

i. *Self-Assessment Programme:*

There were 154 members participated in this programme. Each participant received a set of multiple choice questions (MCQs) together with a copy of the Hong Kong Practitioner each month. A maximum of 15 points would be awarded for each completed set of MCQs. In order to encourage members to participate other college functions, no members could obtain more than 70 credit points from the self-assessment programme alone.

Below is the list of articles published in the past 12 issues of the Hong Kong Practitioner.

ISSUE	TOPIC	AUTHOR
Jan, '80 Vol. 2 No. 1	1. Infant Diarrhoea 2. Immunity 3. The Evaluation & Management of the infertile couple	Sin Wai Kee Francis Siu K. K. Yeung
Feb, '80 Vol. 2 No. 2	1. Nephritis 2. Dysuria 3. Renal Colic-calculi	C. K. Yeung Andrew S. P. Hua Andrew S. P. Hua Yeung Choi Kit George C. G. Koo
Mar, '80 Vol. 2 No. 3	1. Pulmonary Emphysema 2. Diarrhoea 3. Epilepsy	S. Y. So C. L. Lai Edmund Cheung
April, '80 Vol. 2 No. 4	1. The Annual Report of The Hong Kong College of General Practitioners 2. Cervical Spondylosis 3. Chest x-ray Interpretation	Hon. Secretary Tony Loy F. L. Chan
May, '80 Vol. 2 No. 5	1. Refractory Heart Failure 2. General Management of Hypertension 3. Rheumatic Heart Disease	T. F. Tse S. P. Wong Patrick W. I. Pau
June, '80 Vol. 2 No. 6	1. Cirrhosis of Liver 2. Primary Cholangitis 3. Management of Common Thyroid Disease	Lam Kui Chun Frank C. Y. Cheng William Y. C. Fu

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ISSUE	TOPIC	AUTHOR
July, '80 Vol. 2 No. 7	Workshop on Hypertension:	
	1. Clinical Manifestations of Hypertension	W. I. Pau
	2. The use of Hypotensive Agents	Victor W. T. Yan
	3. Beta Adrenergic Blocking Agents in Treatment of Hypertension	Peter C. Y. Wong
	4. Treatment of Complicated Hypertension	Raymond W. Y. Wu
August, '80 Vol. 2 No. 8	1. Survey on Office Procedure	Epidemiology Committee (H.K.C.G.P.)
	2. Asthma	Sister M. Gabriel
	3. Bronchitis in Children	Y. C. Tsao
Sept, '80 Vol. 2 No. 9	1. Haematemesis & Melaena	William S. C. Chao
	2. Vertigo	Fali J. Shroff
	3. Epistaxis	Buddy Y. K. Wong
Oct, '80 Vol. 2 No. 10	1. Diseases of the Prostate Gland	Joseph H. Y. Fung
	2. Nasal Catarrh	Lun Chi Kan
	3. Epidemiology of Sexually Transmitted Diseases	Fung Ho Wang
Nov, '80 Vol. 2 No. 11	1. Circumcision And Tonsillectomy	Hugh Jolly
	2. Measles	Michael H. H. Mak
	3. Failure to Thrive in Hong Kong Infants	J. H. Hutchison
Dec, '80 Vol. 2 No. 12	1. Glaucomas	C. H. Mok
	2. Acupuncture & Psychiatry	S. W. Wong
	3. The Content of General Practice in the United Kingdom	J. H. Barber

### ii. *Workshop:*

A luncheon workshop on Fertility and Infertility was held in June. Speakers were Drs. C. H. Leong, Yeung Kwok Keung, Clement K. M. Leung and Sung May Lun. This function was sponsored by Schering of Germany and it was well attended. The contents of this workshop will be published in the Hong Kong Practitioner.

### iii. *Seminars/Lectures:*

These luncheon seminars/lectures were usually popular as they not only provided a free lunch and lecture, they also provided an opportunity for friends and

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colleagues to see each other more frequently.

- Feb 14, 1980 'Essential Hypertension' by Prof. Albert Mimran of France sponsored by Servier Far East Ltd.
- May 13, 1980 'Problems of Acute and Chronic Cerebral Vasculopathies' by Prof. R. Montanini of Italy sponsored by Farmitalia Carlo Erba (HK) Ltd.
- July 4, 1980 Special Audiovisual Session on M.S.D. Foundation Teaching Materials by Mr. Karl Sabbage (M.S.D. Foundation, Australia).

#### iv. *Group Luncheon Discussions:*

The topics for discussion were usually suggested by members, they were topics of office practice management rather than medicine orientated. Difficulties in finding a suitable venue limited the number of sessions anticipated.

- May 22, 1980 Office/Staff Management
  - June 19, 1980 Business Management and Investments
- Guest Speakers: Mr. J. G. Roberts, Managing Director, Wardley Investment Services Ltd.  
Mr. Edwin Leong, Manager, Wardley Investment Services Ltd.

#### v. *Viewing Sessions:*

Twenty-two sessions were held first at the Baptist Hospital (April to June) and later the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (September to November). The attendance of these sessions was usually good and was well over 50 per session. The Committee is thankful to both the Baptist Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for providing us a convenient venue for these viewing sessions. We must also thank Roche Far East Ltd for providing the necessary manpower, viewing equipments, viewing materials and refreshments at each session, ICI, Bayer and Schering USA for the films or videocassettes.

#### vi. *Family Outing:*

Members and their families were invited by the Sek Kong Garrison in October to spend one Sunday at the Gurkha Field Forces Headquarters, Borneo Lines, Sek Kong. About 140 attended and everyone who was there, young or old, thoroughly enjoyed this fun-packed day.

#### *Future Trends:*

The Committee hopes more members will attend more of the college functions by further reducing the maximum points permissible on every MCOs return from 15 to



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8. *Hong Kong Practitioner*: Total advertising income for the journal revealed in the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended June 30, 1980 is HK\$118,047.00. An amount of HK\$46,360.00 was due to the College in arrears as at June 30, 1980. The total income was sufficient to cover expenditures including printing cost, postage cost and miscellaneous expenses amounting to HK\$123,816.80.

### *Acknowledgment*

It is appropriate to repeat thanks to the various societies and organizations who had given us assistance in the past year as they had done in previous years. In future, we look forward to help and support of Dr. Kleevens, who is in charge of the Department of Community Medicine in H.K.U, Dr. Peter Preston, our old friend, Director of Post-graduate Medical Education of H.K.U., who had been such a help in our Education Committee meetings and Dr. S. Bernstein, who had succeeded Lt. Col. A. O. Billinghamurst in the Sek Kong group practice. Finally, we must thank the H.K.M.A. for lending us their premises for our Secretariate in the past and also their staff for their tolerance, help and guidance to our young Secretariate. We hope in the near future, we can move to our own premises and give back the H.K.M.A. office space which we had occupied in the past 2 years and many thanks to them.

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12. We intend to work closer with the Epidemiology Committee in the design and evaluation of local surveys and with the Vocational Training Committee in the methods and contents of teaching at the post and undergraduate levels.

2. *Membership Committee* was in the first half of the year chaired by Dr. Tam Yu Min and succeeded by Dr. Lau Kin Sang who reports that the numbers of members of different categories now as compared with last year are as follows:—

Categories of Members	No. of members 31/1/81	23/1/1980
Full Member	225	198
Associate Member	53 (11 new Associate Members, 18 transferred to full membership during the year)	60
Affiliate Member	31	23
Student Member	23 (18 new student members, 1 transferred to affiliate membership during the year)	6
Overseas Member	6	6
Visting Member	2	—
Total	340	293

I want to point out that we had an increase of 27 new full members from last year's 198 to this year's 225, 9 are new members, 18 of them were transferred from associate membership. Last year, associate membership was 60, this year it is 53, the apparent decrease is due to the fact that 18 of them had transferred to full membership and in fact we had 11 new associate members.

Also, the alteration of regulations regarding full membership last year is in fact in the right direction. We hope that more general practitioners and colleagues can benefit from the College activities in the future.

3. *Vocational Training Committee* is chaired by Dr. Michael Y. K. Lee. The Committee, as already mentioned is working towards the establishment of a vocational training centre at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital. Under this committee is a Sub-committee for Undergraduate Teaching under the chairmanship of Dr. Natalis C. L. Yuen. The College has accepted invitations from the Department of Community Medicine to deliver lectures to the undergraduates. As having been previously mentioned, there is

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the newly-found working party in which our President has been elected as a member to study the various ways and means of setting up a Department of General Practice in the University of Hong Kong.

4. *Epidemiology/Research Committee* is headed by Dr. Paul Lam, who had conducted a survey on office procedure in December 1979, with results published in August 1980. Dr. Lam also had the Morbidity Survey conducted in August 1980 and results will be published very soon. It is here that Mr. Peter Au, our Honorary Consultant of Data Processing helping us along because data are being analysed by computer before conclusions are drawn.

5. *International Conference*

In October, the College was represented by Dr. Peter C. Y. Lee, our President, Dr. Henry F. K. Li, our Past President of the Interim Council and Dr. Natalis Yuen, our Vide-President at the 9th WONCA World Conference in New Orleans. Our President was elected as one of the three Councillors-at-large as well as the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Executive Committee of WONCA. The Executive Committee, being functioning committee of WONCA, under which, there are 7 Standing Committees. Dr. Natalis Yuen was elected as a member of one of the standing committees, namely the Undergraduate and Graduate – Vocational Education & Evaluation Committee whereas Dr. Choi Ho-Yin, our Education Committee Chairman will be appointed by the College as a committee member of the Standing Committee of Continuing Medical Education. In fact, Dr. Natalis Yuen will be representing Hong Kong during the coming 5th Combined College Conference in New Zealand in 1981 with its main theme on Vocational Training and Standards. It is believed that during this Conference, the feasibility of formulating a regionally acceptable Vocational Training Programme together with the ultimate aim of securing a regionally acceptable and accredited examining body will be further discussed.

6. *Public Relations Committee* is chaired by Dr. Foo Kam So. The Presidential Dinner was held on the 9th November, 1980. About 150 people attended. The guests of honour, our College Board of Censors, our tutors, our members and spouses enjoyed fellowship in this special occasion. The Annual Ball was held on the 11th January 1981, about 350 attended. We have our guests of honour, Dr. the Hon. & Mrs. K. L. Thong, Dr. the Hon. & Mrs. Rayson Huang, Dr. & Mrs. Henry F. K. Li, Dr. & Mrs. Kleevens, Lt. Col. S. Bernstein, Mr. Philip Yuen and many of our College tutors. We are honoured to have Dr. the Hon. K. L. Thong to present Certificate of Post-graduate Studies of this year in our Annual Ball.
7. *Permanent Premises Fund Committee* is chaired by Dr. Freddie Lau. We raised a net sum of HK\$583,567.44 by the Premises Fund-Raising Raffle held in November 1980. We have to specially thank Mr. Chan Tat Chee, who contributed a total of HK\$500,000.00 to the Premises Fund. The balance of the net purchase price of the premises amounting to HK\$400,000.00 on the 8th floor of the Duke of Windsor Building had been fully paid in January. As soon as the existing tenants had moved out, our Secretariate will be moving to our own "home".



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By the Roving Reporter.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners was held recently. The attendance was so poor as to put officials present to some considerable embarrassment. In answer to direct questions concerning the support and morale of the College, one Council member could manage only a feeble defence like the time of the meeting may not have been the most suitable for the majority of the members who finish surgery consultations late.

The College President Dr. Peter C.Y. Lee was quick to dispel any sluggishness amongst the rank and files with a list of achievements made over the past 12 months. "From every angle, it can be said that we have had a successful year" he said.

He mentioned the WONCA World Conference held in New Orleans in November '80 in which the H.K.C.G.P. was represented by Drs Peter Lee, Henry Li and Natalis Yuen. Dr. Yuen was instrumental in putting forward the concept of standardization of vocational training and examinations for the various participating Colleges around the World.

Dr. Lee was elected as one of the three Councillors-at-large in the Executive of the World Body as well as the Chairman of its Finance Committee. These are indeed feathers in the cap for such a young College as the H.K.C.G.P., just starting to enter the international arena.

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has requested the Hong Kong College to supervise their examination in the written paper for the Fellowship Examination of R.A.C.G.P. here in Hong Kong. This again is an honour the College can be proud of, emphasized Dr. Lee.

Closer to home the College has made great strides, in collaboration with the University of Hong Kong, towards making the establishment of a Department of General Practice at the HKU a reality. Professor Barber, professor of general practice, University of Glasgow, laid the foundation for this as a result of his visit to Hong Kong. The College, through its President is in constant and close contact with him and through him, being guided in many areas of education and research by his advice.

The Education Committee continues to lead the field in local College educational activities with programmed articles in the journal and MCQ (multiple choice questionnaire) for self-assessment, video visual sessions, lectures and workshop which are enthusiastically supported and attended by College members. At present, re-negotiations are being made to retain the use of Q.E.H. for the video sessions, the President indicated.

Dr. Lee also expressed a wish that with maturity and experience, College G.P. members could start writing articles in their areas of special interests so as to focus and bring to the fore pertinent problems as seen in general practice.

Other areas of achievements, though less apparent at this stage are those projected programmes being formulated by the Vocational Training Committee as well as the



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Examination Planning Committee. It is the intention of the College, as things progress, to tighten requirement for membership in the direction of clerking apprenticeship period plus formal examinations. It would therefore be worthwhile joining sooner than later.

The President then touched upon the claims by certain pharmacist representative in the media that they are qualified to treat 'minor' illnesses. This threatens to erode the very standard of good medical practice and as such becomes a concern of this College. He urged College members in particular, and the medical profession as a whole, to oppose and to curb such infringements.

The meeting continued with election of new Council members. The response with nominations was again less than overwhelming. A distinct shyness away from occupying any of the 'drivers' seats seem to be the case.

The President concluded the evening with a note of thanks to the Council and wish the College another, perhaps even more rewarding year.

### Locum wanted

General Practice in Central District,  
10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.  
for 2 weeks from June 28, 1981

Please contact Miss Lai from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Telephone number: 5-220414