

香港藥學會

The Pharmaceutical Society of Hong Kong

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President's Report 2017

Dear Members,

2017 is another busy but fruitful year for The Pharmaceutical Society of Hong Kong (PSHK). I would like to thank all my Council Members as they are committed and wholeheartedly contributed to PSHK. The major objectives of PSHK are “to promote the character, status and efficiency of the pharmacy profession in Hong Kong; to enhance the reputation of the pharmaceutical profession and its contribution to the public health and welfare; to represent the views of the pharmaceutical profession in all matters affecting the interest of the members of the Society; to assist in the promotion or opposition of legislations affecting the pharmaceutical profession”. In order to achieve these objectives, we have been working hard to participate in and organise different functions and activities. The main functions and activities conducted in 2017 are described below:

1. Communication with the Government

Policy address submission

PSHK has been actively communicating with the Government with the feedback and opinions from the profession. During Health Care Voucher (HCV) consultation forum and community pharmacist forum held in March and May respectively, the opinions of members had been collected. With the formation of the new Government cabinet under Mrs. Carrie Lam, PSHK had focused on proposing two initiatives of enhancing pharmacy profession development which were supported by members: Public Private Partnership (PPP) and Health Care Voucher (HCV) Scheme. PSHK proposed to launch the PPP programme for pharmacy services by the deployment of repeat prescriptions scheme. Besides, PSHK proposed to include pharmacists as an HCV service provider for the provision of chronic disease monitoring service to elderly as part of therapy management. PSHK would continue to liaise with the Government on the two initiatives.

Meeting with Drug Office

Besides, PSHK also acted as a communication platform for feedback to the Drug Office on inspection and monitoring issues after holding two forums with community pharmacists

and manufacturing pharmacists respectively. Concerns among community pharmacists including keeping of Martindale in ASPs, record of refrigerator temperature were raised to the Drug Office.

Besides, we had another meeting with Drug Office in December to follow-up on the CPD and GMP inspection issues among APs in local manufacturing industries after the manufacturing pharmacist forum. The trial-run of voluntary CPD for APs will start in 2018. PSHK will look into funding application for providing CPD training activities. The concerns on GMP inspections were also reflected to Drug Office, and they encouraged active communication to facilitate mutual understanding.

PSHK would continue to facilitate bi-directional communication between our members and the Drug Office to reflect the profession's views and concerns.

2. Communication with other organisations in Hong Kong

PSHK believes that collaboration with different parties is a better approach to move forward our profession, therefore we maintain a good relationship with other organisations in Hong Kong. In 2017, we attended the following events:

- HKAPI Annual Dinner on 5 Jan 2017
- CUHK Pharmacy Society Inauguration Ceremony on 25 Jan 2017
- HKU Faculty of Medicine Spring Reception on 7 Feb 2017
- HK General Chamber of Pharmacy Annual Dinner on 2 Mar 2017
- HKU Pharmacy Society Inauguration Ceremony on 17 Mar 2017
- HKU White Coat Ceremony on 1 Sept 2017
- HK Health Services Sector National Day Celebration Dinner on 22 Sept 2017
- CUHK White Coat Ceremony 2017 cum 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner on 4 Nov 2017
- SHPHK 30th Anniversary Gala Dinner on 18 Nov 2017

Besides, to promote multidisciplinary collaboration, it is important to connect with allied health professionals. This year, we were invited by the Hong Kong Society of Professional Optometrists to give a CE Seminar on 'Pharmaceutical Advice on Eye Medicines'. Over 100 optometrists attended the CE seminar. The seminar was ended with a vibrant discussion on eye medicines and the way forward for both professions. It not only enhanced optometrists' understanding of pharmaceutical advice by pharmacists, but also our knowledge of their roles in eye health.

3. Communication with overseas organisations

Forbidden City Forum

For many years, PSHK sponsored pharmacists and students to attend the Forbidden City International Pharmacist Forum in Beijing. This year, the forum was held on 5-7 May and Mrs. Mary Cheng led 5 other pharmacists and 4 pharmacy students to attend. Besides attending the forum, the group also visited the Pharmacy Departments of two Class A tertiary comprehensive hospital namely Peking University Third Hospital and Peking Union Medical College Hospital. Later in July, PSHK also organised a tour in Hong Kong for delegates from Beijing. They visited ACP Medication Management Centre in Fo Tan and The Philanthropic Community Pharmacy of St. James' Settlement in Prince Edward.

FIP (International Pharmaceutical Federation Congress)

In September, we attended the FIP 2017 in Seoul and visited St. Mary's Hospital Pharmacy and the Biosimilar Plant of Celltrion Healthcare. It was a fruitful trip and experts worldwide had exchanged views on developing pharmacy services.

AYPG (Asian Young Pharmacist Group)

In November, we attended the AYPG Leadership Summit 2017 in Kuala Lumpur. Young pharmacists across Asia Pacific gathered to exchange their initiatives and visions on pharmacy advancement. We are glad that our young pharmacist and student chapter was approved to join the AYPG, and honoured to gain recognition from peer pharmacists on our efforts of home visit outreach that our poster presentation on this project got the first prize among young pharmacist presenting category.

4. Communication with the public

This year, PSHK has extended its effort to reach out to the community:

Public Talk

We held four talks to the general public, three of them on pain management and one on osteoarthritis and osteoporosis. The purpose was to educate the public about disease management and improve their health literacy, as well as increasing the recognition of pharmacist's roles.

Young Pharmacist and Student Chapter (YP&SC)

This year, YP&SC organised the Pharmacy Youth Education Scheme (PHAR-YES), home visit outreach and Mini-Pharm Exhibition.

The outreach team was formed by pharmacists and pharmacy students. We organised 6 outreach activities and visited more than 150 elders in the community. It was identified that half of the elders had drug-related problems caused by inappropriate drug storage and non-adherence etc. Pharmacists' roles in educating these elders on correct drug usage and medication safety are important.

On the other hand, it is also important to increase the recognition of pharmacists by other health professions. Therefore, two exhibitions were held in CUHK and HKU respectively to show to other students, especially students of the medical faculty, the roles of pharmacists in a health care team. Students had fun learning about the clinical cases that pharmacists dealt with and the counselling role on out-of-the-counter products of community pharmacists etc.

YP&SC also organised the yearly Pharmacy Youth Education Scheme (PHAR-YES) camp in July. It has attracted more and more secondary students to join the camp.

We will continue to organise educational talk and outreach to contribute to the public health. We encourage our members to participate these events in the future.

5. Communication with members

Forensic Lectures

PSHK organised a series of forensic lectures in April to May 2017 to help pharmacist to prepare for the pharmacy legislation exam for pharmacist registration. I would like to thank Mr TK Lau, Ms Julianna Li, Mr Ken Yuen, Mr Terry Chan, Ms Karena Lee, Ms Brenda Lam, Mr Henry Tsang, Mr Maxwell WONG and Mr Eric Yau for their continuous support for the forensic lecture.

Continuing Education (CE) Seminar

PSHK organised two CE seminars in September. The first one is about cancer immunotherapy, while the second one is about Pathophysiology of GERD and the management of PPI Non-response. We would continue to hold more education seminars for pharmacists.

Consultation and discussion forums

This year, PSHK had held three discussion forums with members from different sectors:

1) Health Care Voucher (HCV) Consultation Forum

This forum was held in April to gather opinions from members about including pharmacists as a service provider of HCV scheme. Discussions were raised on the types of services that could be provided by pharmacists by redeeming with HCV, including usage or purchase of medical device as instructed by pharmacists, or chronic disease management service.

2) Community Pharmacist Forum

Another forum was held in May to discuss with community pharmacist members on their concerns. Their opinions on PPP, HCV, pharmacist manpower and drug office inspection issues were discussed. PSHK has feedback the opinions to the FHB and Drug Office through policy submissions and direct meeting.

3) Manufacturing Pharmacist Forum

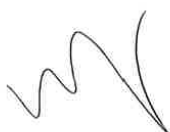
Currently, there is no organisation in Hong Kong that represents APs, and PSHK is willing to bring the concerns and suggestions of pharmacist APs to the governing body for discussion. Therefore, we held a forum for pharmacists working in the local manufacturing sector to discuss mainly on two issues: CPD for APs and GMP inspection. PSHK had also met with Drug Office to feedback on these concerns, and would seek for funding and opportunity to develop CPD training for APs.

Membership Welfare

Members can subscribe the Medicines Complete electronic resource library as before, and enjoy online access to the 19 publications. PSHK members can simply present PSHK membership card and can enjoy most of the benefits from Association of Hong Kong Nursing Staff (香港護士協會). And starting from this year, members can also enjoy benefits from Hong Kong Professional Teacher's Union (香港教育專業人員協會).

Finally, I would like to get your support on FAPA Congress 2020 in Hong Kong which would be held by PSHK. This is the first time for Hong Kong to host such a big event for pharmacists from different Asian countries, and we are sure that it would be a great opportunity for local pharmacists to meet and exchange ideas with pharmacists across Asia.

Once again, I would like to thank all our General Council Members. I wish all of you a happy and healthy 2018. I am looking forward for the continuous support from all of you to work together for the patient, the profession and the society.



Philip CHIU
President
The Pharmaceutical Society of Hong Kong