

Annual Chairman Report 2024

Introduction

The evolution of critical care services in Hong Kong has been profoundly shaped by the unwavering dedication of our local critical care community and the steadfast support from our Society members. Through this collective commitment, we have not only achieved significant milestones but also fostered advancements that enhance patient care and outcomes in critical settings. As we reflect on the past year, it is essential to recognize the collaborative spirit that drives our progress and the shared vision that unites us in our mission to improve critical care.

International Collaborations and Endorsements

In our ongoing efforts to strengthen global partnerships, our Society actively supported the Chinese Society of Critical Care Medicine (CSCCM), the Taiwan Society of Critical Care Medicine (TSCCM), and the Taiwan Society of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine (TSECCM). Our representatives participated in their Annual Congresses held in May and October, where they delivered multiple presentations on cutting-edge topics in critical care. These engagements not only highlighted our commitment to knowledge sharing but also reinforced our role as a key player in the international critical care community.

Moreover, we proudly extended our endorsement to prestigious events such as the World Sepsis Congress and the Emirates Critical Care Conference. These endorsements serve to strengthen our ties within the global network, facilitating collaboration and knowledge exchange that ultimately benefits our patients and healthcare systems.

Educational Initiatives and Seminars

Education remains a cornerstone of our mission, and this year we successfully launched several impactful educational initiatives:

January 2024: In collaboration with the Asia Pacific Collaboration for Training Intensive Care Professionals Networks (ACTION), we hosted an online seminar titled "Preventing Resistance in ICU: The Importance of Antibiotic Dose and Duration." This seminar focused on the critical issue of antibiotic stewardship in intensive care units, drawing participation from numerous local and international critical care professionals. The discussions emphasized best practices for optimizing antibiotic use to combat resistance.

February 2024: Partnering with the Hong Kong Society of Infectious Disease, we organized a talk on "Challenges and Approaches in Managing Complicated Infections." This session featured real-world studies and case reviews highlighting novel antibiotics' efficacy. Additionally, we supported the Coordinating Committee in Intensive Care, Hospital Authority, in organizing a central training program on "ICU Outcome and Resources," further enhancing our educational outreach.

March 2024: We had the privilege of hosting renowned nephrologist Prof. Claudio Ronco for a talk on "Adsorption in Extracorporeal Therapies," facilitated by Jafron and Pacific Medical System. His insights into advanced therapeutic techniques provided valuable knowledge to attendees.

April 2024: In collaboration with Pfizer, we conducted a symposium focused on "Management of Carbapenem-Resistant Infection in 2024." This event addressed one of the most pressing challenges in critical care today, equipping participants with strategies to manage these complex infections effectively.

June 2024: We partnered with Baxter to hold a seminar on "ECCO2R in the ICU: Enhancing Current Practices and Exploring Future Directions." This session enriched our understanding of extracorporeal CO2 removal technology, discussing its clinical applications and potential future developments.

September 2024: In support of the Hong Kong Heart Failure Society Annual Scientific Meeting, our representative delivered a presentation titled "Shock Team - From a CVICU Perspective." This talk highlighted interdisciplinary approaches to managing critically ill patients with cardiovascular issues.

Support for Continuous Education

Recognizing the importance of continuous education, we have actively supported numerous initiatives by providing sponsorships for our members to attend various local and international conferences. Notable events include:

1. Asia Pacific Intensive Care Symposium (August 2024)
2. International Society for Human and Animal Mycology (ISHAM Asia 2024) (August 2024)

3. 24th Annual Congress of the Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Society of Asia (PENSA 2024) (November 2024)
4. Workplace-based Assessment (WBA) courses for intensivists

These opportunities enable our members to stay abreast of emerging trends and innovations in critical care, fostering professional development that ultimately enhances patient care.

Publications

After five years of dedicated effort, we are proud to announce the release of the second edition of "Critical Care Respiratory Medicine." I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Editorial Board for their unwavering commitment and tireless work in producing this essential resource. This new edition includes three important chapters addressing oxygen overuse, aerosol therapy, and unresolving pneumonia—topics that are increasingly relevant in today's clinical practice. The extensive updates throughout ensure that readers are equipped with the latest knowledge and advancements in respiratory medicine. I trust this publication will serve as a reliable reference for practitioners seeking to deepen their understanding of critical care respiratory issues.

Conclusion

As we conclude this report, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all Society members for their continued support and engagement. Your dedication is vital to our mission. I also want to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of council members and organizing committee members who played pivotal roles in making our Annual Scientific Meeting a success. Together, we can continue to advance critical care services in Hong Kong and beyond.

Thank you for your commitment to excellence in critical care. Let us move forward together toward another year of progress and achievement.