

Annual report of HKSCCM 2022

The year 2022 is characterized by the 5th wave of the COVID-19 epidemic, which is rapid and fierce. Hong Kong went through a turbulent epidemic phase posed by the highly transmissible Omicron variant strain in March 2022. More than 1200 COVID-19 patients flooded into Hong Kong's ICUs within a short time, creating a tremendous workload for our critical care community. I want to thank all of you for your great effort to take care of those critically ill COVID patients and supporting their lives.

In the era of social distancing, most meetings, conferences or seminars were conducted virtually. This is our new "norm" and will continue after the pandemic. Our connection with local members and other healthcare professionals remained strong in 2022. Virtual inter-hospital grand rounds were organized once every two months with more than 400 online participants.

In August 2022, the "Practical strategies and the role of newer antibiotic agents" seminar was co-organized with the Society of Infectious Disease and Pfizer with excellent feedback from the audience. While "Sepsis Management Inside the ICU: Current challenges & future advances" was co-organized with The Hong Kong College of Critical Care Nursing (HKCCCN) and Baxter in Sep 2022 with more than 200 participants, including those from Singapore, Taiwan, Australia and Japan. The Advanced Simulation Training in Mechanical Ventilation (ASTiM6), co-organized with HKCCCN, will be conducted at the Hong Kong Jockey Club Innovative Learning Centre for Medicine on Jan 2023. Like last year, our key event, the HKSCCM Annual Scientific Meeting, is organized in a hybrid mode (both on-site and virtual) in response to the unforeseeable COVID-19 situation in Hong Kong.

In collaboration with the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), Taiwan Society of Critical Care Medicine (TSCCM) and Taiwan Society of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine (TSECCM), we put forward several speakers for the SECC-Best of SCCM Congress 2022 Taipei on 15-16 Oct 2022. Furthermore, we are glad to offer our endorsement for the World Sepsis Congress and the Emirates Critical Care Conference.

To keep our Society guidelines up-to-date, the position statements on "The use of hypothermia after cardiac arrest" and "the guidelines on certification of death following the irreversible cessation of brainstem function" were renewed. I am sure these new guidelines will be helpful in your clinical practice.

Lastly, on behalf of the Society, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all our members for their support and, in particular, the council members and the organizing committee members of the Annual Scientific Meeting for their significant contributions along the way! We will face a lot more challenges and hurdles in the coming years. As a Chinese proverb reads, "The going may be tough when one walks alone, but it gets easier when people walk together." So, we must join hands to overcome the crisis. We will make it and become stronger and stronger. Thank you.