

The Hong Kong Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry



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Jan-Mar 2011

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HKAPI 43rd Annual General Meeting (Click [here](#) for more photographs)

Representatives from 23 full member companies and six associated members attended the 43rd Annual General Meeting held on 23 March. Dr. Sian Ng, President of HKAPI gave a review on what has been achieved in the past year.

The Association has further enhanced its position as a key stakeholder in the healthcare community. The President and the Executive Director were invited to be the members of the Advisory Board of the B. Pharm Programme at HKU with Ms. Sabrina Chan being elected as the Chairlady. On a number of occasions, the Board was invited to share our views on various important issues including healthcare policies, pharmacovigilance, healthcare financing model, patent system, clinical trial and research capacity in HK.

As a partner, HKAPI also works closely with the Department of Health, the Hospital Authority (HA) and other stakeholders such as the Customs and Excise Department (C&E), Consumer Council and the Patients' Groups to enhance drug safety. Our opinions on various regulatory issues were addressed. Before new regulations and initiatives were implemented, briefings were provided to our members.

The drug access issues were also addressed through providing our inputs on how to improve the drug enlistment and review mechanism and we are glad to see that the Drug Formulary is expanded to include innovative drugs in nine disease categories.

In combating counterfeit drugs, the industry carried out raids and information exchange with Customs and Excise and the

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Department of Health regularly. The Consumer Council and the Customs and Excise Department will publish names and addresses of the pharmacies convicted for selling counterfeit drugs in the CHOICE magazine starting this February. The Association is very glad to see the launch of this initiative as it can act as a deterrent to counterfeiting.

In the coming year, the Association will continue to work with the government to facilitate the implementation of the 75 recommendations proposed by the Pharmaceutical Review committee; work with HA to ensure the drug budget continues to expand so that patients can be benefitted from innovative drugs; follow up on regulatory changes in medical devices as well as legislation enactment in Macau. The Association will also continue to advocate increase in penalty for offences involving counterfeit drugs and provide our support to enhance HK's capacity in R&D.

In addition to the above, Ms. Phoebe Ho, Vice President of HKAPI also raised two initiatives for members to comment and discuss. It is suggested that a centralized database on internship to be developed for the pharmacy programmes at the University of HK and the Chinese University of HK which can support the human resources development for the industry and contribute to pharmacist education. Secondly, the guidance on the maximum amount for meals in the Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices is proposed to be revised in line with the inflation rate in the past few years.



Dr. Sian Ng, HKAPI President, delivered the President's Report for 2010/11.



Ms. Phoebe Ho, Vice President of the Association discussed the initiative on centralized internship database with members.

Editorial Board

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23 full members attending the AGM and casting their votes.

Board of Directors (2011 -2012)

During the 43rd Annual General Meeting, three new board members: Dr Grace Lau, Mr. Roe Shahaar and Ms Vicky Tse were duly elected to the Board for the term 2011-12.

The 2011-2012 Board of Directors

President: Dr. Sian Ng (AstraZeneca)

Vice President: Ms. Phoebe Ho (GSK)

Immediate Past President: Dr. Anthony Chan (Janssen)

Board of Directors:

Mr. Thorstein Hein (Bayer)

Mr. Richard Holloway (Medinova)

Ms. Kelly Lam (Sanofi-aventis)

Dr. Grace Lau (MSD)

Mr. Daymond Lee (Pfizer)

Mr. Roe Shaha (Eli Lilly)

Ms. Wyeman Tan (Eisai)

Ms. Vicky Tse (Novartis)

Honorary Treasurer: Mr. Andrew Hexter (Abbott)

All the Board of Directors are committed to enhance drug access and the health of patients in HK through their expertise and experience in the pharmaceutical industry.



HKAPI Board of Directors (2011/12) and our Honorary Legal Advisor, Mr. Henry Wheare.

HKAPI 42nd Annual Dinner (Click [here](#) for more photographs)

The 42nd Annual Dinner of HKAPI was held on 25th January. This year, we had great honour to have the presence of Dr. Leung Pak-yin, the newly appointed Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority and more than 200 distinguished guests from the healthcare services sectors including legislators, officials from the health authorities, Customs and Excise, academia, consulate, industry as well as doctors, pharmacists, and friends from the patients' groups.

The Event began with the welcoming speech by HKAPI President, Dr. Sian Ng. On behalf of the Association, Dr. Sian Ng thanked the Hospital Authority and healthcare professionals for working closely with the industry to provide quality healthcare services to the public as well as in the areas of disease management and patient education. The industry is glad to see that the drug budget of the Hospital Authority has increased over the past few years with more drugs incorporated in the HA Drug Formulary (HADF) or with expanded clinical application.

We hope that the Government will allocate more funding on healthcare which is still low compared to other advanced countries and improve drug access through the inclusion of innovative drugs and therapies for curing catastrophic illnesses as this is the major concern of patients,

Hospital Authority may consider using the budget saved from off-patent drugs to further expand the HADF, bring in more innovative drugs for patients and to ensure a fair access to drugs for patients in different hospital clusters.

In Dr Leung's address, he shared with the guests the measures recently undertaken by the Hospital Authority to enhance medication safety. These include new procurement requirements such as the microbiological test of drugs, performance management scheme. On drug access, HA would like to collaborate with the pharmaceutical companies to come up with pragmatic programmes that can bring greater benefit to patients.

Following the speech by Dr. Leung, Ms. Phoebe Ho, Vice President of HKAPI provided the vote of thanks on behalf of the Association. The Association is glad to hear that the Hospital Authority will continue to introduce drugs of proven safety and efficacy into the HA Drug Formulary. The industry will certainly collaborate closely with the healthcare services providers to uphold the standards of medication safety and strengthen the provision of drugs to ensure patients have expedient access to effective and innovative medicine. We are looking forward to working with our partners continuously to further enhance the healthcare system in Hong Kong.

The enjoyable evening concluded with the brilliant performances from Ms. Wyeman Tan, HKAPI Board of Director, Mr. Morris Tan, Posibella and Dr. Lee Ka Yan, and the Association would like to take this opportunity to thank members' support and contributions which make this gala event a success..



The Board of Directors welcomed Dr Leung Pak-yin, Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority



Dr. Sian Ng, HKAPI President, delivered her welcome speech.



Dr. Leung Pak-yin, our Guest of Honour, delivered his speech at the 42nd Anniversary Annual Dinner.



Ms. Phoebe Ho, Vice President of HKAPI, delivered the vote of thanks.



Guests from the Hospital Authority sang the HA 20th Anniversary Theme Song 'The Dawn'.



The guests at the Annual Dinner very much enjoyed the song by Dr. Lee Ka Yan.

The Budget 2011-12

The Financial Secretary announced the [2011-2012 Budget](#) on 23rd February. The Budget proposals on the areas of medical, public healthcare services and mental health services are summarized as follows:

Medical Services

- The Government received 30 development proposals from local and overseas institutions for the four sites reserved for private hospital development at Wong Chuk Hang, Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Lantau. The disposal of the sites in phases will start from end of 2011 or 2012.
- To promote research and development in public health and medical services, the Government will earmark \$1 billion for the Food and Health Bureau to set up a "Health and Medical Research Fund" where the existing Health and Health Services Research Fund and Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases will be subsumed. The new Fund will finance research projects and facilities in areas of advanced medical research such as paediatrics, neuroscience and clinical genetics.
- To advance the development of the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries, the Hospital Authority (HA)

will set up Phase I clinical trial centres in Queen Mary and Prince of Wales Hospitals to conduct preliminary clinical trials for new drugs, with a capital cost of about \$42 million. The clinical trial centre in Prince of Wales Hospital is expected to come into operation in 2011-12. The government will also map out the strategies for promoting different phases of clinical trials for drugs, and strengthening their organisation, management and planning. These measures will lay the foundation of advanced medical research in HK and provide more job and training opportunities for researchers, scientists, medical technology professionals and pharmacists both locally and from overseas.

Public Health Care Services

- The estimated recurrent expenditure on healthcare will be \$39.9 billion, accounts for 16.5 per cent of recurrent government expenditure and the Government is committed to increase it to 17 per cent of recurrent government expenditure by 2012.
- The additional funding will be used to strengthen a range of healthcare services:
 - Expand the coverage of the HA Drug Formulary to enhance the efficacy of treating nine diseases which is estimated to benefit 52 000 patients each year.
 - Conduct comprehensive health risk assessments for patients with hypertension and diabetes, and over 167 000 patients are expected to benefit from this service by the end of March 2012.
 - Enhance palliative care for patients with terminal cancer and end stage organ failure.
 - Enhancement of mental health services with an additional funding of over \$210 million in 2011-12;
 - Shorten the waiting time for specialist services including cataract operations, joint replacement, magnetic resonance imaging services and computerised tomography scanning services
- To enhance the regulation of pharmaceutical products, the Department of Health (DH) has taken measures to strengthen the experience requirements for Authorised Persons of pharmaceutical manufacturers. It also requires all local manufacturers to adopt the enhanced microbiological monitoring model, and has stepped up the inspection and monitoring of manufacturers and wholesalers.
- \$31 million additional funding will be allocated to strengthen the regulation of drugs, including the establishment of a dedicated office on drugs in the Department of Health. The Government will allocate an additional \$8.4 million for the formulation of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and the introduction of pharmacovigilance to raise the production standard of local propriety Chinese medicines manufacturers.

- After an interim review of the three-year Elderly Health Care Voucher Pilot Scheme, the Government will extend the Pilot Scheme for another three years, double the value of health care vouchers to \$500 per person per year to subsidise their use of private primary health care services.

Mental Health Services

- The Case Management Programme targeted at patients with severe mental illness will be extended to five more districts whereas crisis intervention teams will be set up in all HA clusters to handle emergency referrals at the community level and follow up on high risk patients. The Integrated Mental Health Programme will also be extended to cover all HA clusters to provide assessment and consultation services in the primary care setting for patients with common mental disorder.
 - The Early Assessment and Detection of Young Persons with Psychosis Programme will be expanded to cover adults, which will provide services to an additional 600 beneficiaries in 2011-12.
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All Members' Meeting

The Department of Health has started a discussion with the industry regarding the Code of Practice (COP) for the Holder of Wholesale Dealer Licence (WDL) and Pharmaceutical Products Recall Procedure. Apart from this, briefings to the industry on the Undesirable Medical Advertisements (Amendment) Ordinance 2005 (UMAO) were organized.

With respect to these changes in regulations, an all-members meeting was organized on 10th February to discuss with members their concerns on the above as well as to solicit their feedback on the comments and suggestions proposed by the Board of Directors. We have invited Mr. Jack Wong, member of the Regulatory Affairs Taskforce and Mr. Lewis Ho, Honourary Legal Advisor of HKAPI to share with members their views. The Association will submit our comments to the Department of Health after consolidating members' inputs.



Dr. Sian Ng, President (right) and Ms. Phoebe Ho, Vice President, chaired the all-members meeting.



Mr. Jack Wong (First on the Left), and Mr. Lewis Ho, answered questions raised by members.



Ms. Sabrina Chan discussed the Code of Practice for holder of Wholesale Dealer Licence.



About 60 members attended the all-members meeting.

CEO luncheon hosted by the Innovation and Technology Commission

On 22 February, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) hosted a HKAPI CEO luncheon and invited the representatives of the industry to share the views on how to enhance the Research and Development of Biotechnology in HK. Ms. Janet Wong, the Commissioner of ITC introduced the government initiatives on promoting R&D in Biotechnology, including the Innovation Technology Fund Programme, 12 Partner State Key Laboratories in Hong Kong. Mr. Anthony Tan, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks (STPHK) also gave an overview of the focused clusters of the STPHK and the infrastructure and value added services provided to biotechnology companies.

The President and the Vice President of HKAPI thanked the ITC for organizing the meeting so that the industry had an opportunity to share with them our key concerns in bringing more clinical trials and biotechnology research into HK and how the industry, the Government, the Hospital Authority and the academia/research institutions shall all work together to enhance HK's capacity in the arena of Biotechnology.



13 representatives from the HKAPI Board of Director and member companies participated in the luncheon organized by the Innovation and Technology Commission.

Career Fair at Chinese University of HK

The Career Planning and Development Centre of the Chinese University of Hong Kong organized a Career Fair on 17 February and invited the HKAPI to participate. The Career Fair aims to introduce to both undergraduate and postgraduate students the qualifications that are required by different professions, and their respective career paths so that they can equip themselves for the profession. Four of our member companies joined the Career Fair, apart from providing them with information such as company and job profile, member companies also gave a career talk to the students.

During the presentation, a brief overview of the Association, profile of our member companies, as well as different types of job including clinical research, medical affairs, sales, marketing were discussed and students were introduced to the job nature, requirements on qualification, personal attributes. About 100 students attended the talk which enabled them to have a more in-depth understanding of the pharmaceutical industry.



The booth of HKAPI at the Career Fair organized by the Chinese University of HK.



About 100 students from different faculties attended the career talk hosted by the Association.

Highlights of the Operating Team's Diary (Jan - Mar)

Barrier-free City Orienteering 2011

Jan 23

On behalf of the HKAPI, Ms. Sabrina Chan, Executive Director, participated in the 無障礙城市定向 2011 organized by the Community Rehabilitation Network of the HK Society for Rehabilitation and 14 Patients' Groups to understand the needs of the disabled and the importance of having barrier – free access in the city to them.



PhRMA 2011 Asia Managers Annual Conference and Seminar

Jan 26-28

Ms Sabrina Chan, Executive Director of HKAPI attended the Annual Conference organized by the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) held in Singapore. This year, the conference focused on trends in Government pricing and reimbursement policy, IPR and data exclusivity, code compliance as well as Biologics

Press Conference on Naming of shops Involved in Selling Counterfeit Drugs

Feb 15

The Consumer Council together with the Customs and Excise Department is going to publish the names of shops involved in selling counterfeit drugs in the CHOICE magazine starting February this year.

The Association very much welcomes and fully supports this initiative as this naming mechanism can increase the public's awareness on unscrupulous traders of counterfeit drugs and provide a deterrent effect on those pharmacies and dispensaries which are knowingly involved in the selling of counterfeit medicine. The Industry will continue to collaborate closely with the Government on combating counterfeit drugs.

Patients' Organizations New Year Gathering

Feb 19

The President and Vice President of HKAPI attended the Chinese New Year Gathering organized by the Alliance for Patients' Mutual Help Organizations, the HK Society for Rehabilitation, HK Cancer Fund. This annual event let all the stakeholders in healthcare, in particular, different patients' groups, get together and express their views on how to improve the healthcare system in HK while celebrating the Chinese New Year.



Pharmacy Conference 2011

Feb 26-27

Ms. Sabrina Chan, Executive Director of HKAPI, attended the 2011 Pharmacy Conference which aimed to understand the roles of pharmacists and the challenges and opportunities they are going to face in the next ten years under the theme "Against the Breaking Wave".

Forum on the Future Development of the Patent System in HK

Feb 28

A forum on the Future Development of Patent System in Hong Kong which aimed at gathering the views of stakeholders on the current development and future direction of Hong Kong's patent law and systems were organized by the Commerce, Economic and Development Bureau and the Intellectual Property Department on 28 February.

HKAPI was invited to join the panel discussion and Ms. Phoebe Ho, Vice President of HKAPI represented the Association and discussed the concerns of the pharmaceutical industry such as patent linkage, data exclusivity, and our suggestions on how to further develop the patent systems in HK.



Second Annual Symposium on Pharmacovigilance

Mar 4

The second annual symposium on Pharmacovigilance, organized by the Centre for Food and Drug Safety and the Department of Health, and supported by the HKAPI was held on 4 March. Dr. Sian Ng, President of the Association, presented on the topic of pharmacovigilance in the pharmaceutical industry. Apart from explaining the practice of pharmacovigilance adopted by R&D based pharmaceutical companies during the research and marketing phases, suggestions were made on how to improve the existing adverse drug reaction reporting system in Hong Kong.

Meeting with the Medical Device Control Office

Mar 10

The Medical Device Control Office organized a meeting with HKAPI and the HKMDIA to update us on the progress of the medical device legislation. Mr. Richard Holloway, Board of Director and members of the Medical Device Taskforce shared our views on post market surveillance. The two Associations will work together with the Department of Health and make suggestions to the development of recall guidelines for medical devices.

Meeting of the IPRPA Working Committee (2011)

Mar 22

Intellectual Property Rights Protection Alliance (IPRPA) organized its first working committee meeting on 22 March to plan for the upcoming activities and programs. HKAPI is a member of the Committee since mid-2007 which focuses on running educational and publicity initiatives to further promote and protect intellectual property in Hong Kong



New HKAPI Members (Jan – Mar)

HKAPI is pleased to welcome [Johnson & Johnson Consumer \(HK\) Ltd.](#), [Kaplan EduNeering](#), [SchroederLo Associates](#), [Vision Care Industry Group \(VCIG\)](#), who joined as Associate Member in Jan-Mar 2011.


Kaplan EduNeering

Since 1981, Kaplan EduNeering has provided online compliance and learning solutions that deliver tangible results by providing technology-enabled knowledge solutions for assuring regulatory compliance and improving business performance. Kaplan EduNeering's solutions assist companies in addressing challenges including employee training, adherence to corporate and industry governance requirements and risk reduction, while mitigating the financial risks associated with non-compliance, quality deficiencies, poor policy distribution management and inadequate documentation records. More than 450 companies, representing more than 1.5 million users, rely on our technologies, online courses and services every day, including government agencies such as the US FDA.

Kaplan EduNeering is headquartered in Princeton, NJ, and has offices in Houston, TX, Bloomsburg, PA, London, UK, Hong Kong and Beijing China. Kaplan EduNeering is a subsidiary of Kaplan Inc., a leading global provider of educational services to individuals, schools and businesses.

SchroederLo Associates

Every business, no matter the industry, runs on communication. SchroederLo Associates, in conjunction with its US-based partners, works with its clients to help them create greater value through the conversations they have every day, both internally and externally. It also trains for success in those high-stakes activities – such as presentations – in which *what people say* and *how they say it* mean a huge difference to their organization.



Vision Care Industry Group

The Vision Care Industry Group (VCIG) is mainly represented by Johnson & Johnson (HK) Ltd Vision Care and three professional organizations, namely The Hong Kong Society of Professional Optometrists (HKSPPO), The Hong Kong Association of Private Practice Optometrists (APPO) and Hong Kong Optometric Association (HKOA).

The main objectives of the VCIG are to uphold the standard of service provided to the public with respect to the use of contact lenses and related items; and to strive to maintain and enhance the professionalism of the contact lens providers in Hong Kong for the benefits of both the industry and the general public.
