



## THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE

### Academic meeting on 11 May 2006

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### An overview of Suicide and its associated Risk Factors in Hong Kong

Speaker : Dr. Paul YIP  
Director, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention

Date : 11 May 2006 (Thursday)

Time : 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Venue : Lecture Hall  
4/F, Argyle Street Jockey Club School Dental Clinic,  
147J Argyle Street, Kowloon

CME : •1 CME point accredited by Hong Kong College of Community Medicine  
•1 CME point accredited by Hong Kong College of Family Physicians  
•1 CME point for doctors who are not taking CME programme for specialists and have registered with one of the CME programme administrators (Department of Health, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, Hong Kong Doctors Union Ltd. or Hong Kong Medical Association)

If you require an attendance certificate, please inform us at  
[hkscm\\_enquiry@yahoo.com.hk](mailto:hkscm_enquiry@yahoo.com.hk) before 11 May 2006

New venue at  
Kowloon side!

### Social function on 27 May 2006

## Visit to Chemical Waste Treatment Centre

Date : 27 May 2006 (Saturday)

Time : 2:15 to 5:00 pm

Venue : Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) in Tsing Yi

Program : 1.5 hr guided tour : To experience how the operation of CWTC are monitored to comply with the environmental protection requirements

Please contact us by email at [hkscm\\_enquiry@yahoo.com.hk](mailto:hkscm_enquiry@yahoo.com.hk) or by phone at 2149 5163 or 2792 5376 (Dr. Cian CHOW) / 2149 5161 (Dr. Janet KWAN) on or before 13 May 2006 for reservation.

Transportation available at  
Kowloon Tong MTR/KCR  
station to & from CWTC

The only chemical waste treatment  
plant in Hong Kong!!

**First Academic Meeting on 7 April 2006**

# The Community Dimension of Poisonings

We are honored to have Dr Albert CHAN, Director, Hospital Authority Toxicology Reference Laboratory, sharing with us his expert view on poisonings in Hong Kong.

## Abstract of the sharing on 7 April 2006

Everyone is exposed to toxins and therefore the chance of poisoning. Like infectious diseases, poisoning has a high community impact factor. Its presence is easily felt and has attracted much attention. This is reflected by the reporting in the media almost on a daily basis.

Prevention is not straightforward partly because toxins are numerous and there are many carriers. Hong Kong is indeed an international city as far as poisoning is concerned and has a share of unique problems. Problem associated with herbal products is a good example.

Furthermore, collaboration between government departments, health care workers and the community (general public and trades) is a pre-requisite for effective poison control. However, many a time, the problem is not purely medical for there may be a large non-medical dimension. The problem about slimming agents is a good example.

It is important not to overlook a single case because a single case could reflect the tip of an iceberg, a warning from a potential time bomb, a clue to an underlying problem of the system and an opportunity to prevent more cases. Indeed, multi-disciplinary collaboration is essential for poison management and control.

Whether something is a risk or a hazard depends on hard science as well as understanding and perception. The importance of effective and timely risk communication to individual patients, family members and the community cannot be over-emphasized. Problem in this area could easily lead to false alarm, complaint and litigations.



Our honorary speaker, Dr. Albert CHAN (left) and our Chairman, Dr. Ronald LAM (right)

