



新聞稿
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CHINESE UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHES BURNS FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT BURNS TREATMENT

The Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong today (Dec 7) announces the establishment of the BURNS FOUNDATION to help burn patients to receive plastic and reconstructive surgery and rehabilitative treatment at the Prince of Wales Hospital. As a continuing effort to enhance the treatment of burns, the Foundation will also sponsor burns research and burns related educational pursuits including burns conferences. The Burns Foundation is made possible by a generous donation of six million Hong Kong dollars from the Oriental Press Charitable Fund Association. The Burns Foundation will continue to conduct further fund-raising in order to support its non-profit activities.

The Burns Foundation is administered by a board consisting of officials of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and distinguished members of the community. In general, all residents of Hong Kong, Macau and China can apply to the Burns Foundation for financial assistance to pay for part of or all of the expenses related to in-hospital and outpatient treatment of their burns injury related scarring and deformities affecting the face, head and neck, hand, trunk and the extremities. The financial assistance will be provided at a level that allows the successful applicant to receive in-hospital treatment as a semi-private (second-class) patient with designated senior doctors of the Prince of Wales Hospital.

The Department of Surgery, The Chinese University of Hong Kong also announces the pioneering use of the surgical ultrasonic aspirator in the management of burn wound. Using ultrasonic technology, cleansing and debridement of selected burn wound can be carried out with minimal blood loss and maximum preservation of normal healthy skin tissue. While the same technology has been previously applied to liver and brain surgery, the use of ultrasonic aspirator in the debridement of burn wound represents an innovative advance in burn wound management. Surgeons at The Chinese University of Hong Kong have recently reported their favourable experience in treating five burn patients with this new surgical technique at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the College of Surgeons of Hong Kong.

Other previous major achievements of the Division of Head & Neck/Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, Prince of Wales Hospital, included the region's first use of cultured skin in the treatment of a patient with extensive burns in May 1991 and the establishment of Hong Kong's first Skin Bank in November 1992 to provide pigskin, donated skin and cultured skin to facilitate the management of burns patients. The Hong Kong Skin Bank was the world's first comprehensive skin bank that provided a centralized supply of biological dressing, cultured skin and skin substitute for burns treatment. The establishment of the Hong Kong Skin Bank was made possible by a generous donation by the Oriental Press Charitable Association and the Li Tam Doy Hing Burns Foundation.

Over the past 10 years, the Division of Head & Neck/Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery have also been actively carrying out reconstructive burns surgery for burn patients with cosmetic and functional deficiencies after burns trauma. For example, patients with burn alopecia have been reconstructed with expanded hair-bearing scalp flap; patients with neck contracture leading to inability to raise their heads have been improved with free flaps reconstructed by microvascular technique, and patients with burnt ears have been reconstructed with autogenous cartilage graft. Patients and their relatives who have benefited from the Hong Kong Skin Bank and the reconstructive surgery at the Prince of Wales Hospital have shared their experience and feeling in receiving the treatment at the press conference today.

The establishment of the Burns Foundation at the Prince of Wales Hospital is expected to enable many unfortunate burn victims to receive high quality comprehensive burn care that includes updated reconstructive surgery and rehabilitation.

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