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**1st Asian Pacific Workshop on Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery**

**November 21 - 23, 1996**

**Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, Hong Kong**

Keyhole surgery of the chest (or thoracoscopic surgery) is a relatively new approach to the management of a variety of chest conditions. It allows patient to leave hospital earlier with much less pain compared to conventional surgery. It is accepted by many to be the approach of choice in the diagnosis and treatment of pleural diseases, treatment of spontaneous pneumothorax (collapsed lung) and lung biopsy.

The medical faculty at the Chinese University of Hong Kong has been a leader in the development of thoracoscopic surgery, interventional bronchoscopy and more recently, minimally invasive coronary surgery in which coronary bypass can be performed through a small incision in the left chest on a slowed down beating heart, hence avoiding the need of a heart lung machine with all its intrinsic disadvantages.

To make this new approach more widely available in Hong Kong and other countries, regular teaching workshops are organised by the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The forthcoming meeting will consist of experts from the Faculty of Medicine at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, together with leading experts from US, Japan and Taiwan to demonstrate state-of-the-art procedures to an international audience of 270 from all over the world.