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新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

The Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club recently approved a generous donation of \$8.0 million to The Chinese University of Hong Kong to fund the continuation of a research project undertaken by the University's Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre.

This is the second donation The Chinese University has received from the Jockey Club for its cardiovascular drug and tranquillizer research project based on Chinese herbs. The first donation of over \$6 million was made in 1985 and will be exhausted by September 1988. Under the direction of the principal investigators - Dr H M Chang, Dr C M Lee and Dr H N C Wong, the research aims to evaluate the true efficacy of certain selected Chinese herbs and to identify their active components and modes of action. Much progress has been made in the last three years and the University is grateful to the Jockey Club for this second grant which will enable the research team to complete the pharmacological characterisation of the active components already identified in the herbs.

Apart from conducting this project, the Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre is currently engaged in research on fertility regulation and immunomodulatory drugs. It has also established a unique computerized data base on Chinese medicines to facilitate cross reference, retrieval and link-up with western computerized medical and scientific database.

Rapid advances in biochemistry, biotechnology & pharmacology have provided new powerful tools for researchers to evaluate the true efficacy of Chinese traditional medicines and to identify their active principles, which was impossible just 10 years ago. The Research Centre is staffed by a multi-disciplinary team comprising biochemists, biologists, chemists, clinicians and pharmacologists drawn from the University's various departments. They have strived hard to place traditional Chinese medicine on a scientific basis and the results of their research, largely supported by the Jockey Club, are expected to benefit millions of Chinese people living in Hong Kong and China.

Attachment: A brief summary on the activities of the CUHK Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre

14 JUL 1988