



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

The Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong congratulates Queen Mary Hospital (QMH) in setting up a cleft-lip and palate centre, but would like to correct news reports that QMH's new clinic was the first of its kind.

The first cleft-lip and palate clinic was set up at the Prince of Wales Hospital as early as June 5th 1989, and in this 2½ years, has successfully operated on and satisfactorily treated over 120 children. Situated at Li Ka Shing Outpatient Clinic, it is open on alternate Mondays and is the single largest referral centre in Hong Kong for this unfortunate birth defect which has about 150 new cases per year.

The clinic at the Prince of Wales Hospital is staffed by paediatric surgeons, ENT surgeons, speech therapists and dental surgeons. The surgeons are all experienced and skilled in this type of plastic and reconstructive surgery. The clinic coordinates all the necessary treatment by various specialists so that no patient will be left with sub-optimal management.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong welcomes the fact that University of Hong Kong's Department of Surgery is now recognising the importance of such a multi-disciplinary approach. We hope they will in time fully utilise their enormous resources by incorporating the experts at their Prince Philip Dental Hospital in their combined clinic.

For the record, the Medical Faculty of The Chinese University of Hong Kong was the first to introduce combined clinics which allow patients to be treated by different specialists at the same time. The Combined Hepatoma Clinic involved oncologists, hepatologists, radiologists, radiotherapists and surgeons to treat liver cancer, while the Combined Endoscopy Unit (for gastrointestinal illnesses) involves physicians and surgeons. Both were set up in April 1984. There are also combined clinics for head and neck malignancies and other conditions.

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Attachment: Documentary evidence that the combined cleft lip and palate clinic was set up in June 1989 and is functioning on alternate Mondays at Li Ka Shing Outpatient Clinic of the Prince of Wales Hospital.

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