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FIRST ACHIEVEMENT OF "QUALITY ASSURANCE" PROGRAMME OF
CUHK FACULTY OF MEDICINE AT
THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL

The Quality Assurance Committee of the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong is pleased to announce its first achievement since the adoption of quality assurance programme at its teaching hospital, namely, the Prince of Wales Hospital, in July, 1990.

The quality assurance programme, an ongoing review of the quality of patient care in the Accident & Emergency Department has succeeded, under the guidance of Dr. Dickson Chang, Consultant of the Department, in providing better health care services to patients. The mean patient waiting time for consultation has dropped from 57 minutes in January to 15 minutes in October this year. Over the same period, patient attendance has increased from 370 to 420 per day. This is made possible despite of the 'no camp beds' policy.

According to Dr. Chang, a task force comprising of both doctors and nurses was formed to co-ordinate the programme. Health care standards were formulated. Through monitoring actual performance against such standards, corrective changes were made in achieving the set goals.

Prof. Teik E. Oh, Chairman of the Quality Assurance Committee, who is also Dean of the Faculty of Medicine as well as Chairman of the Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, stated that while all clinical departments of the Faculty of Medicine are co-ordinating their own quality assurance programme, the encouraging achievement at the Accident & Emergency Department with its resources given is definitely of the highest possible standard in an acute government hospital of the size of the Prince of Wales Hospital. Prof. Oh emphasized that it was through the concerted efforts from all government and university medical staff, nursing and supporting staff that the quality assurance scheme could be carried out effectively in the Accident & Emergency Department and its merits clearly demonstrated.

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