

新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

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Press Statement by the Faculty of Medicine of
The Chinese University of Hong Kong on

Children Liver Transplantation
and

Setting up of the 'Paediatric Liver Transplant Support Group'

Three years old Lam Ching-yi, the living proof of the first successful paediatric live-related liver transplant in Southeast Asia, is rejoining her family today (July 24) after eight weeks of hospitalization. The Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong Kong also announced today the founding of the 'Paediatric Liver Transplant Support Group', the first of its kind in the territory.

Ching-yi received the liver transplant unprecedented in Hong Kong on May 28, 1993 at the Prince of Wales Hospital and has now gone through the critical period. She is being discharged today. The Prince of Wales Hospital has become one of the few medical centres in the world which can perform this operation.

The success at the Prince of Wales Hospital brings hope to other children in Hong Kong who are waiting for such an operation. Previously, they would have to go overseas for such sophisticated transplantation. This causes major disruption to the family and the expenditure may not be always affordable to the average family.

Doctors at the Chinese University of Hong Kong realize that peer group support is complementary to the medical advances they can offer. We therefore take the lead to help in setting up the 'Paediatric Liver Transplant Support Group' with the following goals:

1. To provide opportunities for patients and their families to exchange information and experiences related to paediatric liver transplant.
2. To strengthen support and care for patients who have received or are awaiting liver transplant.
3. To raise public awareness in relation to organ transplants.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong is honoured to have Mrs. Elizabeth Wong, Secretary for Health and Welfare and Dr. E.K. Yeoh, Director of Operations of the Hospital Authority, to be the special guests of honour at today's ceremony. Other children who have received liver transplant overseas and the children who are potential recipients also attended the meeting.

It is estimated that the Support Group will comprise 30 members as there are over 20 children at present who are potential candidates for liver transplantation.

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Issued on behalf of the Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong Kong by the University's Information Office.

For press enquiries, please call Ms Annie Lam of the Chinese University's Information Office at 609 7267.