



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

TO NEWS EDITOR
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 8, 1994

Medical Faculty Launches Pioneering Endosurgery Laboratory

The Chinese University of Hong Kong has established an Endosurgery laboratory at the Prince of Wales Hospital to train doctors in skills of laparoscopic and thoracoscopic surgery.

Since surgeons at the Prince of Wales Hospital first introduced laparoscopic cholecystectomy in 1990 to Hong Kong and South East Asia, it has now replaced traditional open surgery as the treatment of choice for patients with gallstones. The technique has since been applied by doctors at the Prince of Wales Hospital to successfully treat other diseases such as peptic ulceration, colonic cancer, lung diseases, oesophageal cancer and many other conditions.

This leading edge maintained by Hong Kong in minimally invasive surgery, sometimes called "Key hole surgery" has revolutionised surgical practice in recent years. Operations are now performed through small puncture holes rather than big incisions. The patient suffers less pain, the recovery is faster and the hospital stay much shorter. Because of these advantages these operations are much preferred by the patients.

Endoscopic surgery requires different manual skills compared to traditional open surgery. The lack of three dimensional vision, the lack of tactile feedback and operating from looking at a TV monitor makes manipulation difficult for those who are not used to the technique. To perform laparoscopic surgery without prior training is unsafe. Such skills are essential for doctors in all branches of surgery in the future. The Chinese University, which has taken a leadership role of introducing laparoscopic surgery in Hong Kong and pioneered many new endosurgical operations, recognises the need to disseminate these skills rapidly, not

only amongst doctors practicing in government hospitals but also amongst surgeons already in private practice.

To help doctors overcome these difficulties the staff at the Chinese University has developed and refined a set of exercise for use in a laparoscopic model. Trainees have found these exercises most useful in helping them acquire basic laparoscopic skills. The Department of Surgery has also conducted many training workshops over the last few years and trained over 180 surgeons from Hong Kong and overseas in laparoscopic and thoracoscopic techniques.

The new Endosurgery laboratory at the Prince of Wales Hospital is established with the support of the Hospital Authority, Olympus Optical Co. Limited and Johnson & Johnson Medical Hong Kong. It is equipped with state-of-the-art endosurgery equipment. Training programme in both basic and advanced endosurgical techniques have already begun in the laboratory for doctors of the Prince of Wales Hospital. The emphasis is on small group teaching and personal proctoring by experts in endosurgery. The laboratory will provide training for general surgeons, thoracic surgeons, urologists and gynecologists who require endosurgical techniques in their daily work. Such training programmes will also be offered to doctors in other hospitals, including those in private practice.

Note to Editors:

Mr. Sydney Chung, Reader in the Department of Surgery of CUHK's medical faculty, would be happy to provide more information about the new laboratory and what they aim to achieve. Interviews with patients can also be arranged. Mr. Chung's telephone number is 636-2625.