香港中文大學 THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG





To Editors
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CUHK Organizes International Workshop on Helicobacter pylori

The Chinese University of Hong Kong will host an International Workshop on Helicobacter pylori with the Hong Kong Society of Digestive Endoscopy on 1-2 December, 1996. Leading international experts in Helicobacter research, including the discoverer of the bacterium, Dr. Barry Marshall, have been invited to share their latest findings with more than 400 doctors from Hong Kong and Asian countries.

Half of the world's population is infected by Helicobacter pylori, a bacterium that resides in the human stomach. Helicobacter pylori is now known to be the most important cause of peptic ulcers and chronic inflammation of the stomach. It also significantly increases the risk of development of cancer in the stomach. The discovery of the bacterium and its relations to peptic ulcers has changed the treatment methods of the disease. Treatment of Helicobacter pylori infection can cure peptic ulcers and may reduce the chance of developing stomach cancer.

In Hong Kong, every 10% of the population in their life time will have peptic ulcers. 90% of duodenal ulcer patients and 70% of stomach ulcer patients are infected by Helicobacter pylori. Clinicians and research workers at the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong have pioneered the use of antibiotics in the treatment of peptic ulcers since 1992. Since then, there has been a dramatic decline in the incidences of peptic ulcers and ulcer complications.

The opening of the workshop will be officiated by Professor Arthur K C Li, Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Dr. E K Yeoh, Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority. This will be followed by the scientific sessions given by world renowned experts.

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