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The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Society of Digestive Endoscopy will jointly organize an International Workshop on Therapeutic Endoscopy at the Prince of Wales Hospital from December 9 to 11. Doctors from the Prince of Wales Hospital together with leaders in the field of endoscopy from all over the world will be demonstrating their techniques. Experts from U.S.A., England, Australia and Japan have been invited. A whole range of new techniques will be demonstrated including endoscopic sphincterotomy and removal of bile duct stones, endoscopic stenting for malignant biliary strictures, injection sclerotherapy for bleeding oesophageal varices, laser treatment for oesophageal tumours, endoscopic haemostasis for bleeding ulcers and colonoscopic polypectomy.

RESS RELEASE

Fibreoptic endoscopy is the frontier of gastroenterology. In the past decade there has been major breakthrough in using endoscopy for treatment rather than diagnosis. Conditions that needed surgery in the past can now be treated with endoscopy, with much less suffering on the part of the patient.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong has established a Combined Endoscopy Unit at the Prince of Wales Hospital since 1984, and has made major contributions to the development of therapeutic endoscopy. Several new methods of endoscopic therapy, applicable to diseases prevalent in Hong Kong, have been successfully researched by doctors in the Unit. For example, recurrent pyogenic cholangitis is caused by stones in the bile ducts. These can now be removed by a new endoscopic technique without resort to open surgery. Another technique they pioneered is the injection of haemostatic agents to stop bleeding from peptic ulcers, a very common disease in Hong Kong.

The 3-day International Workshop will be attended by over 100 specialists in gastroenterology from all corners of the earth. This will be followed by an International Symposium on Therapeutic Endoscopy at the Sheraton Hotel on December 11 and 12. Specialists from various countries will have a chance to share their experience on therapeutic endoscopy.