

新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

TO NEWS EDITOR
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HONG KONG HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTENSIVE CARE

Is there life after brain death? When should doctors withdraw artificial life-supporting equipment? How should trauma in tragedies such as the one in Lan Kwai Fong be best handled?

These are but some of the topics to be dealt with in **Critical Care '93**, the first-ever international conference on intensive care to be held in Hong Kong, from March 12 (Friday) to 15 (Monday) at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

As the 7th Congress of the Western Pacific Association of Critical Care Medicine (WPACCM), the biennial event is being co-hosted by the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in commemoration of its 30th Anniversary, and by the Hong Kong Critical Care Society (HKCCS).

The event will bring together 400 intensive care specialists, anaesthetists, surgeons, physicians, paediatricians, nurses, allied health professionals and health administrators from around the world.

"Intensive care for the critically ill is high-tech care, which requires specially-trained doctors and nurses and modern technology," said Professor Teih E. Oh, President of both WPACCM and HKCCS, and Chairman of CUHK's Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care.

"People have higher expectation of medical services as standards of living improve. The sickest -- suffering from trauma, road accidents, severe infections, cardiac arrest, pneumonias and major operations such as open heart and cancer surgery -- should no longer be managed in ordinary wards by doctors and nurses untrained in intensive care," he said.

The Congress will provide a forum for exchange of ideas for improvement of quality of intensive care in the region, Prof Oh added. Major themes for discussion include: organ transplant, infections, trauma and medical ethics in dealing with the dying.

Note to Editor:

The Secretary for Health and Welfare, Mrs. Elizabeth Wong, will officiate at the opening ceremony of Critical Care '93 at Convention Hall, Level 2, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai at 8:30 a.m. on March 13 (Sat).

You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the event.

For further information, please contact Mrs Shirley Kwok or Miss Annie Lam at 609-7294 or 609-7267 respectively.