ACADEMY FOCUS

OCTOBER 2026





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Submissions

In future issues, **academy*focus*** may feature work submitted by Fellows, for example, conference or seminar reports, book reviews, or photographs. If you would like to share your work in **academy*focus***, please contact the Editorial Board at focus@hkam.org.hk.

All submissions are subject to editorial review and approval. Information supplied, whether or not included in **academy*focus***, may be posted on the Academy website.

Deadline

The deadline for contributions for the January 2027 issue of **academy*focus*** is 1 December 2026. Please send any submissions by e-mail to focus@hkam.org.hk.

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Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building
99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong
(852) 2871 8888 - hkam@hkam.org.hk - www.hkam.org.hk
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WELCOME MESSAGE



PROF. PHILIP KAM-TAO LI

PRESIDENT, HONG KONG ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

Dear Fellows and colleagues,

The Academy continues to support our Fellows through ongoing efforts to improve medical education and explore artificial intelligence (AI). The Quadripartite Medical Education Conference (QMEC) 2026 took place from 4 to 6 September 2026, bringing together around 600 participants for a lively exchange of ideas. Under the theme "Shaping the Future of Medical Education", the conference featured 38 speakers, including six from outside Hong Kong, across three plenary symposia and six parallel sessions. Speakers explored responsible AI integration, competency-based education, professionalism, patient safety, research and educational leadership. Further details can be found in the JCIMED section of this issue. The publication of the Academy's position statement on AI in postgraduate medical education, together with the launch of the Basic AI Competency Course for Medical Professionals, marks a further step in our ongoing engagement with AI.



If you have any comments or suggestions, or if you would like to contribute to the **academy*focus***, please contact the Editorial Board at focus@hkam.org.hk.

Jointly organised by the Academy's Task Force on Laws for Healthcare Practitioners and the Hong Kong Advocacy Training Council, with support from the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law of The University of Hong Kong and the Law Society of Hong Kong, a hybrid Medical Law Conference was successfully held on 29 August 2026. The conference introduced the fundamental principles of medical negligence and provided an update on recent legal developments. A live demonstration illustrated and analysed the conduct of examination-in-chief and cross-examination of expert witnesses in civil court proceedings. The conference also examined professional responsibilities relating to expert witness opinions and the mandatory reporting of child abuse. Over 400 participants attended the conference, and positive feedback were received.



Since the introduction of the Advance Decision on Life-sustaining Treatment Ordinance (ADLSTO) by the Government in 2024, the Academy has been releasing the *Best Practice Guidelines on Advance Medical Directives* and organising two seminars on advance medical directives. As the Ordinance became effective on 31 July 2026, another well-received seminar was organised on 4 October 2026 to discuss some of the major changes in practices in the post ADLSTO era.





Established in 2013, the Council Dinner with Distinguished Young Fellows recognises outstanding young Fellows nominated by Academy Colleges. Including 25 award recipients in 2026, 370 Fellows have received this honour. On 17 September, Honorary Fellow Professor Rosie Young, Past President Professor Raymond Liang and Council members joined the dinner and shared their insights.

The Academy's Wellness and Social Committee has been actively promoting Fellows' wellbeing through a variety of engaging initiatives. One of the highlights was the TeaTimeTalk at the Academy, held on 20 September 2026, which brought together Fellows and medical students and featured two distinguished speakers, Professor Rosie Young and Dr. Anthony Lee. To support the fitness journeys of Fellows, specialist trainees and Academy staff, the Academy launched its first HKAM Running Class, led by professional coaches, aiming to offer participants the opportunity to enhance their running techniques, build endurance and achieve their fitness goals. A wellness outing to Zen Organic Farm in Ta Kwu Ling was held on 17 October 2026, giving Fellows, specialist trainees, their families and friends an opportunity to unwind in the countryside. Check out the Fellows' Well-being section of this issue for highlights from these events.

I was also pleased to represent the Academy in attending different events organised by other professional bodies, including the Global Health Summit 2026, lunch with Dr. Javid Abdelmoneim, International President of Médecins Sans Frontières, the 2026 Chinese Doctors' Day Celebration, Hong Kong Institute of Allergy 30th anniversary dinner, and reception of the Hong Kong Medical and Health Sector in Celebration of the 77th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China etc, to gain fresh perspectives, exchange ideas and connect with colleagues and partners. I look forward to staying connected with you all as we continue to learn and grow together.













FEATURE ARTICLE
LEADING THE FUTURE: HONG KONG ACADEMY OF MEDICINE POSITION STATEMENT ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Academy has taken a decisive step in shaping the future of specialist training with the publication of its new position statement on artificial intelligence in postgraduate medical education. Released in the *Hong Kong Medical Journal* on 7 October 2026, this landmark statement addresses the growing influence of artificial intelligence (AI) on clinical practice and medical education, and sets out a coordinated vision for safe, effective and ethical integration of AI into postgraduate specialist training.

AI is no longer a distant prospect—it is already transforming how clinicians make decisions, collaborate and deliver patient care. As the statutory body overseeing specialist training in Hong Kong, the Academy recognises both the opportunities and responsibilities that come with this technological shift. The position statement underlines the Academy's commitment to equipping trainees, educators and institutions with the competencies, guidance and safeguards needed for an AI-enabled healthcare environment.

Developed through an extensive literature review, stakeholder engagement and consensus-building among College leaders and experts, the statement is built around five interdependent domains:

1. Artificial intelligence literacy and capability expectations;
2. Curriculum and pedagogical strategies;
3. Artificial intelligence innovations for medical assessment;
4. Faculty development; and
5. Governance, policy, and institutional readiness.

Within each domain, the document outlines practical recommendations for developing AI literacy among clinicians, redesigning curricula for the realities of AI-assisted care, ensuring fair and transparent assessment, preparing faculty to lead and supervise responsibly, and building robust governance structures to protect learners and patients.

While AI brings new tools and efficiencies, the position statement emphasises that human judgement, professionalism and patient-centred values must remain at the heart of medical education. The aim is not just to keep pace with technology, but to ensure that its adoption strengthens clinical reasoning, supports equitable learning and upholds the highest standards of care.

Fellows, trainees and educators are encouraged to read the full position statement (https://doi.org/10.12809/hkmj2615533) for detailed recommendations and to join the conversation on how best to prepare for a future where AI is an integral part of medical training and practice.





FELLOWS ACROSS BORDERS

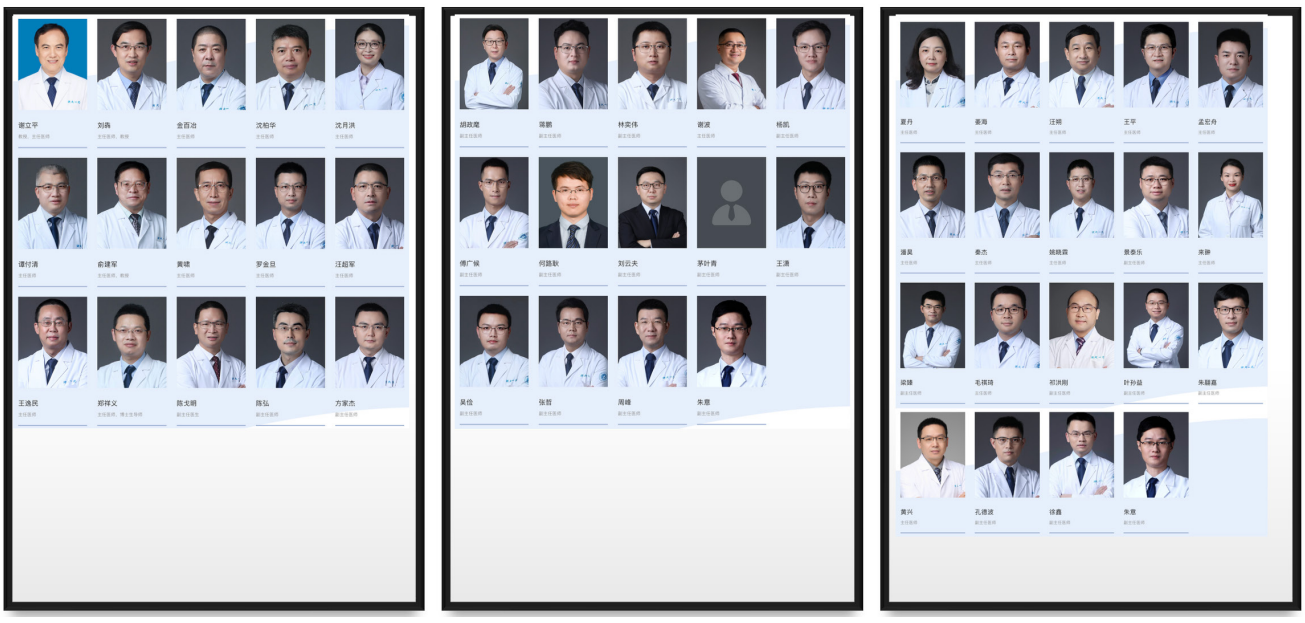


DR. **FRANCIS CHUN-HIM WONG**
FELLOW, THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF HONG KONG

Bridging Horizons: My Two-Week Urology Attachment at the First Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University

As a member of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, I had the privilege of participating in a two-week attachment at the Urology Department of the First Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University 浙江大學醫學院附屬第一醫院 (ZJU-FAH), also known as 浙一, in Hangzhou. This experience, facilitated by the Academy, offered an invaluable glimpse into one of China's leading medical institutions. It not only broadened my clinical perspectives but also highlighted the potential for cross-regional collaboration in advancing surgical excellence. Below, I share my reflections on this enriching journey.

ZJU-FAH stands as a beacon of medical innovation and patient care in Chinese Mainland. According to the Fudan University Hospital Management Institute's China Hospital Rankings, the hospital consistently ranks among the top 10 nationwide for its comprehensive capabilities. It has also ranked among the top 5-6 in recent SCImago health and medicine sector rankings for China, underscoring its research and clinical prowess. The Urology Department, in particular, is a national powerhouse and is widely regarded as being ranked 8th in overall urology strength across Chinese Mainland, based on hospital data and aligned with Fudan specialty reputation rankings. The department boasts a large, dedicated team of over 50 surgeons and specialists—excluding various overseas and cross-regional attachment Fellows, trainees, academic researchers, and support staff—fostering a highly collaborative environment that manages an immense caseload with remarkable efficiency and precision.



Over 50 specialists across three campuses, supporting one of Chinese Mainland's leading urology departments

What struck me most was ZJU-FAH's status as a high-volume centre. The hospital spans multiple campuses, including Qingchun 庆春院区, Zhijiang 之江院区, and Yuhang 余杭院区, forming a network that supports an extraordinary operational scale.

At one of its main centres, up to 230 surgeries are scheduled daily across various specialties in 40 state-of-the-art operating theatres (OTs).

This volume far exceeds that of typical Hong Kong centres, allowing for unparalleled exposure to diverse cases. In urology specifically, the team routinely conducts parallel sessions in multiple rooms, starting at 8 a.m. and extending until 9-11 p.m. Each room often performs five robotic surgeries per day—at least double the daily output of many Hong Kong urology units. This high throughput is managed with precision, thanks to the surgeons' exceptional skills. I observed intricate procedures, including robotic partial nephrectomies, prostatectomies, and cystectomies; endourological procedures such as prostate enucleations and percutaneous nephrolithotomies; and many more, all executed with speed and safety, reflecting years of accumulated expertise in a demanding setting.

The OT facilities at ZJU-FAH are designed to support this intensity while prioritising staff wellbeing. Integrated within the OT complex are dedicated canteens offering meals, spacious rest areas with comfortable seating, and even reclining armchairs that convert into flat beds for brief respites between cases. These amenities help ensure surgeons remain focused and energised throughout long shifts. Technologically, the setup is impressive: autonomous robots shuttle equipment between rooms, minimising delays and reducing manpower needs; smart lockers securely store personal belongings with digital access; and interactive OT dashboards provide real-time updates on schedules, patient status, and resource allocation. Such innovations streamline workflows and enhance safety, making the environment both efficient and forward-thinking.



Dedicated canteen within the operating theatre complex, supporting long surgical days



Autonomous robot shuttles equipment between rooms





Real-time interactive operating theatre dashboards for schedule and resource management

Beyond the clinical immersion, this attachment prompted reflections on the strengths of different medical systems. Chinese Mainland's approach, as exemplified by ZJU-FAH, excels in high-volume surgical training, where quick, efficient procedures performed safely help build robust skills. The large team size enables seamless cross-coverage, rapid acquisition, and adaptation of advanced technologies, including various robotic platforms —not only overseas systems but also locally developed multi-arm and single-arm robotic platforms currently in trials or clinical use. The hardware infrastructure is top-tier, with minimal waiting times for procedures, and technologies such as mobile phone–based imaging systems accelerate reporting and accessibility. Academically, policies encourage research and mandatory overseas exchanges for career progression, supported by dedicated research staff and students. Surgeons enjoy high social status, with thoughtful provisions such as rest and meal areas to support work-life integration. On the patient side, timely treatment, universal health checks, and freedom to choose providers are key advantages, while partial government subsidies help triage needs effectively and promote early detection to ease long-term burdens.

At the same time, Hong Kong's system shines in fostering strong, trusting doctor-patient relationships, thanks to the ability to dedicate more time and attention to each individual patient. This allows for in-depth consultations, shared decision making, and personalised treatment plans and surgical planning. Our research training emphasises comprehensive surveillance, complete and accurate data management, and encourages thorough, high-quality reporting through positive incentives. Work intensity remains balanced, supporting better work-life harmony for clinicians. Medically, we prioritise arranging surgeries only for patients with clear, evidence-based indications where the expected benefits are substantial and meaningful.

Each system has its unique strengths, shaped by distinct contexts and priorities. As a Hong Kong surgeon, I felt well prepared by our rigorous training to engage meaningfully in this high-stakes environment, contributing observations while learning from their efficiencies. This exposure was profoundly enriching, reinforcing my belief that we in Hong Kong are well equipped to collaborate confidently with our mainland counterparts. By fostering more exchanges, joint research, and shared best practices, we can build a stronger, more integrated surgical community across regions—ultimately benefiting patients on both sides.

In conclusion, my time at ZJU-FAH was a testament to the power of cross-regional learning. I am grateful to the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine for this opportunity and to my gracious hosts there for their mentorship. Let us continue bridging these horizons for the advancement of urology and beyond.



JOCKEY CLUB INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Quadripartite Medical Education Conference 2026: Shaping the Future of Medical Education

Under the theme "Shaping the Future of Medical Education", the Quadripartite Medical Education Conference (QMEC) 2026 was held from 4 to 6 September 2026 at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building. As the first medical education conference jointly organised by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine of The University of Hong Kong, and the Hospital Authority, the event marked a significant milestone in cross-institutional collaboration, which attracted around 600 healthcare educators, healthcare professionals, trainees, and educational leaders from Hong Kong and beyond.

The Conference opened with welcoming remarks by Prof. Philip Li, President of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and Chairman of the Advisory Committee of QMEC, and Prof. Chung-mau Lo, Secretary for Health. Members and representatives of the Advisory Committee, including Prof. Chak-sing Lau, Dean of Medicine of The University of Hong Kong, Prof. Samuel Wong, Associate Dean (Education) of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Dr. Libby Lee, Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority, also delivered remarks, highlighting the strong partnership among the four organising institutions in advancing medical education in Hong Kong.

Key sessions and discussions focused on preparing medical education for a rapidly changing future; harnessing AI and digital innovation; advancing competency-based and learner-centred education; strengthening professionalism, quality and patient safety; and promoting research, collaboration and educational leadership. Participants exchanged best practices, explored emerging trends, and identified common priorities for healthcare education. By fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, the conference laid the foundation for future partnerships that support innovation, educational excellence, and the development of a future-ready healthcare workforce.



Sharing the Journey Towards Competency: Highlights from the 4th CBME Seminar

On 4 September 2026, the Academy hosted the 4th CBME Seminar as a prominent pre-conference event of the Quadripartite Medical Education Conference (QMEC) 2026. For the first time, registration was open to all interested participants—not just invited College Fellows—attracting a diverse, interdisciplinary audience of doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, overseas delegates, and medical students.

The seminar opened with remarks from Academy President Prof. Philip Li, who emphasised the critical importance of institutional readiness and collective effort. The Academy Vice-President (Education and Examinations) and the Academy Educationist then outlined the seminar's objectives, setting a collaborative tone for the day. A highlight of the seminar was the sharing by eight College representatives, who presented their progress, practical insights, and lessons learned in implementing competency-based medical education (CBME) within their institutions. The Educationist concluded the structured programme with "The Way Forward for CBME," outlining strategic priorities for ongoing curriculum evaluation and system-wide advancement.

The 4th CBME Seminar reflects the Academy's commitment to driving forward competency-based education in partnership with its Colleges, educators, and the wider healthcare community.







Certificate Course on Sports and Exercise Medicine

Following the successful conclusion of the Sports and Exercise Medicine Summit on 14 March 2026, the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine is pleased to launch the Sports and Exercise Medicine Certificate Course, a new training initiative designed to support the long-term development of Sports and Exercise Medicine in Hong Kong, with its commencement of the inaugural course on 17 October 2026. The Certificate Course aims to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary training for healthcare and sports professionals, equipping participants with the essential knowledge and skills required to enhance athlete care and promote safe participation in physical activity across diverse populations.

The Sports and Exercise Medicine Certificate Course will continue in 2027. Healthcare professionals and interested individuals are encouraged to stay tuned for future course announcements and enrolment details, which will be published on the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine website.





Empowering Medical Professionals: Launch of the Basic AI Competency Course

The Jockey Club Institute for Medical Education and Development (JCIMED) is pleased to announce the launch of the Basic AI Competency Course for Medical Professionals. Now available on the eHKAM Learning Management System (eHKAM LMS), this 2.5-hour, self-paced online course is designed to cut through technological jargon and provide practical, clinically relevant AI knowledge for today's healthcare professionals.

The course comprises three concise modules, delivering foundational insights into AI concepts, clinical applications, Agentic AI, and Software as a Medical Device (SaMD). Participants will explore how these emerging technologies can support data-driven decision-making across different specialties, and gain strategies for integrating AI into medical education and lifelong learning. Importantly, the curriculum also addresses critical frameworks for AI ethics, governance, and risk management.

Key features of the course include:

- 2.5 hours of online, self-paced video lectures;
- three modules covering core AI topics and governance;
- assessments with 5-10 multiple-choice questions per module; and
- CME/CPD accreditation for successful completion.

The Basic AI Competency Course is now open for self-enrolment via the eHKAM LMS. Fellows and trainees who have not yet registered for an eHKAM ID can find registration instructions on the Academy website. For further details or assistance, please contact jcimed@hkam.org.hk.



FELLOWS' WELL-BEING



WHAT'S NEW

TeaTimeTalk at the Academy

The Academy's Wellness and Social Subcommittee hosted TeaTimeTalk at the Academy on 20 September 2026 in the foyer of the Academy Building, bringing together Fellows and medical students for an enriching afternoon of conversation, reflection and inspiration.

The event featured two distinguished speakers, Professor Rosie Young and Dr. Anthony Lee, who shared memorable stories, personal reflections and valuable lessons drawn from their remarkable professional journeys. Through their insights, participants gained valuable perspectives on professional development, leadership and the importance of maintaining passion and dedication in medical practice.





HKAM Running Class

To promote a healthy and active lifestyle, the Academy has launched its first HKAM Running Class. Commencing on 6 October 2026 and continuing through early December, the programme comprises 10 training sessions on the Tuesday evenings at Aberdeen Sports Ground. Led by professional coaches from a reputable athletics club and supported by the captains of the HKAM Running Team, Dr. Louis Cheung and Dr. Debbie So, both emergency medicine specialists and the Secretariat, the programme offers participants a valuable platform to refine running techniques, strengthen endurance and pursue personal fitness goals within an encouraging and supportive community.





Organic Farm Visit

The Academy recently organised a wellness outing to Zen Organic Farm, an expansive 250,000 sq ft farm in Ta Kwu Ling, on 17 October 2026, offering Fellows, specialist trainees, their families and friends an opportunity to reconnect with nature and experience sustainable living first-hand. Participants enjoyed a guided tour of the organic farm, where they learned about eco-friendly farming practices and the journey of fresh produce from field to table. The visit also featured hands-on harvesting of seasonal crops, as well as wood-fired pizza-baking and salad-making experiences, which were warmly received by participants of all ages.





Self-Assessment Tool

Take **Copenhagen Burnout Inventory questionnaire** to know more about the levels of burnout.

Mindfulness Practices

The Academy has maintained a strong commitment to advancing doctors' well-being through a variety of focused initiatives. Dr. Chiu Ling, a certified instructor of the Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) programme, and Dr. Eric Lee, Associate Professor (Clinical) at the Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, recorded audio clips on mindfulness practices for daily and workplace use to reduce stress and enhance well-being. These recordings are available on the Well-being website to support regular mindfulness practice. For details, please visit: **https://well-being.hkam.org.hk/mindfulness_workshop/**

