



**HKU  
Med**

School of Clinical Medicine  
Department of Obstetrics  
& Gynaecology  
香港大學婦產科學系



100<sup>th</sup>

**A Century of Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynaecology**



3	Foreword
4	Congratulatory Messages
14	Preface
15	Our Past to Present
43	Our Teams
44	<i>Division of Obstetrics and Maternal Fetal Medicine</i>
49	<i>Midwifery and Nursing Team</i>
54	<i>Division of General Gynaecology</i>
59	<i>Division of Gynaecological Oncology</i>
65	<i>Division of Reproductive Medicine</i>
71	<i>Service at The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital</i>
77	<i>Service at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong</i>
79	Our Great Leaders
109	Our Teaching and Training
119	Our Research
133	Our Benefactors
135	Our Memoirs and Reminiscences
147	Then and Now
151	Our Centenary Celebrations



## A Century of Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

婦產光輝 百年傳承

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*Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN*

*Department Chairperson and Clinical Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
School of Clinical Medicine, LKS Faculty of Medicine  
The University of Hong Kong*

The year of 2025 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Department, counting from the year when Prof. Richard Edwin TOTTENHAM took up the founding headship of the Department in 1925. Our centenary is not merely a milestone counted by the passing years, but a living testament to the resilience, dedication, and vision of countless individuals who have shaped our journey over a remarkable century.

The story of this Department mirrors the evolution of women's healthcare in Hong Kong itself. Our predecessors not only established modern Obstetrics and Gynaecology amid the adversities of the past century, including the World War II. The swift recovery and advancement that followed the war exemplified the foresight of our past leaders, who brought the standards of local women's health provision to be on par with global benchmarks.

Research and innovations have always been our Department's core values. Our Department has consistently led in introducing new developments to Hong Kong's medical landscape. Milestones such as the pioneering use of HCG monitoring for molar pregnancy, the implementation of Down syndrome and thalassaemia screening, the birth of Hong Kong's first babies conceived from intracytoplasmic sperm injection and pre-implantation genetic testing, mark but a few of our many firsts. Beyond these tangible achievements, we have laid robust foundations for future progress, building the infrastructure and nurturing a spirit of inquiry that led to high-quality research, which not only has a local impact but also a global footprint.

Education and training are cornerstones of our mission. Our Department has been playing a pivotal role in creating the landscape for the obstetrics and gynaecology specialty in Hong Kong. From medical student teaching to subspecialty training, we helped secure recognition for our doctors at an international level. Today, these commitments extend beyond Hong Kong's borders, fostering new collaborations across Mainland China and further afield. The active involvement of our members in professional organisations — locally and globally — demonstrates the breadth and depth of our influence, from the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong and Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong, to the World Health Organisation, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, and Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

This year's centenary celebrations, including the launch of the G.R.O.W. webinar series for professionals and the general public in alternative months, the heartfelt 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Walkathon in October, culminating with our landmark HKU O&G Centenary Conference in December, have all been dedicated to bringing our community together, linking our past, present, and future.

This monograph is both a tribute to those who came before us and an inspiration for those who follow. It records our journey, honours our achievements, and preserves the stories of all who contributed to our collective legacy.



# Congratulatory Messages



*Prof. Chung Mau LO, BBS, JP*

*Secretary for Health  
Health Bureau*

*The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of  
the People's Republic of China*

香港大學婦產科學系百周年紀念特刊

精研勵學  
匡育護生

醫務衛生局局長盧寵茂





*Prof. Xiang ZHANG, JP*

*President and Vice-Chancellor  
The University of Hong Kong*

### ***100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology***

My warmest congratulations to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology as it celebrates a century of excellence, innovation and commitment to women's health in Hong Kong.

The city has undergone remarkable transformations over the past one hundred years, and the Department has grown with it - from its early days of teaching "midwifery and diseases of women", to an internationally acclaimed academic Department that brings together cutting-edge research, clinical advancements and global perspectives in women's healthcare.

The Department is committed to undergraduate medical education and helping its students develop the necessary knowledge, clinical skills and professional sensitivity for supporting women and their families. It also conducts research in the areas of gynecological oncology, reproductive medicine, perinatology and prenatal diagnosis. While collaborating with other institutions locally, nationally and internationally, it serves as a tertiary referral centre in Hong Kong for patients with complicated gynecological problems, endocrine problems, subfertility, gynecological malignancies, high-risk pregnancies and prenatal issues. I am confident that the respect and recognition accorded to the Department will continue to grow as a result of its outstanding and forward-looking teaching, clinical services and research.

As we celebrate the Department's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we honour not only its contributions to its discipline and women's healthcare, but also its vital role in enhancing the wellbeing of patients' families and society at large. May this milestone mark the beginning of further growth and success for the Department and all its members.

# Congratulatory Messages



*Prof. Chak Sing LAU, BBS, JP*

*Dean*

*Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine*

*The University of Hong Kong*

## ***A Century of Excellence in Obstetrics & Gynaecology: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Monograph***

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to all members, past and present, of our Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on this centenary celebration.

The roots of the Department are deeply entwined with those of HKUMed as a whole. A century ago, good health was precarious for many in Hong Kong: infectious diseases were common and Western medicine was not yet widely accepted. It was in this challenging environment – and at a time when HKU was facing grave financial difficulties and a shortage of expertise in many key fields of medicine – that the Department was officially born. During the early 1920s, the China Medical Board came to our rescue and established three foundation Chairs in Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Soon after establishment, the Department began its trajectory towards modern, evidence-based practice, and has since been at the very heart of women's health in Hong Kong.

Reflecting on this remarkable journey, I am reminded of the admonition of 管仲：「十年樹木，百年樹人」 – **'it takes ten years to grow a tree, but a hundred to nurture a person'**. Talent cultivation is indeed a long game. Across a tumultuous century – through World War II, epidemics, and sweeping social changes – the Department has weathered many storms, producing outstanding graduates who have been vigilant guardians of women's health while advancing the field through rigorous research and innovation.

These endeavours have yielded profound and measurable improvements in women's health. Notably, Hong Kong's maternal and perinatal outcomes now rank among the world's best.

In my humble opinion, the Department has been able to fulfil its mission of care and excellence despite adversities because it always adheres to a guiding principle: to aim ever higher. This means staying well-informed, adaptable, and forward-looking. The same mindset will, I am sure, serve the Department well as AI and new technologies reshape our field, and will bode well for future growth.

I very much look forward to witnessing the new frontiers that our Department members will cross. The past 100 years merit hearty congratulations. May the next century be even more fruitful!



***Prof. Ranee THAKAR***

*President*

*Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (United Kingdom)*

***Congratulations on the Centenary of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the University of Hong Kong.***

As President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), I am delighted to congratulate the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of The University of Hong Kong on this remarkable achievement that celebrates 100 years of excellence, innovation, and dedication to women's health. Over the past century, the Department has shaped the future of obstetrics and gynaecology, advancing medical knowledge, improving patient care, and empowering generations of clinicians, researchers, and leaders.

This milestone anniversary not only honors a distinguished legacy but also inspires continued progress in advancing women's health for the next century and beyond.

The close connection that the RCOG has had with the Hong Kong University over many years is a source of pride for the College and we look forward to many future collaborations and continued close involvement.

Warmest congratulations on this historic occasion.

# Congratulatory Messages



*Dr. Danny Tse Ngong LEUNG*

*President*

*The Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists*

***Congratulatory Message on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, The University of Hong Kong***

On behalf of the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (HKCOG), I extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Hong Kong on its centenary.

For 100 years, the Department has been the pioneering force in O&G in Hong Kong. You laid the foundation for modern women's healthcare. Your legacy of innovation is extraordinary, from pioneering prenatal diagnosis, establishing assisted reproduction and gynaecological oncology services, to setting the highest standards for clinical care, specialist training, and academic research. The theme of your centenary conference, "G.R.O.W.", perfectly captures your global leadership in Reproduction, Obstetrics, Oncology, and Women's health.

The HKCOG shares a special bond with the Department. Through the hard work and leadership of Prof. Ho Kei MA, Professor Emeritus of your Department and our founding President, our College was established in 1988. Throughout the years, the unwavering support from numerous members of your Department has played a vital role in our College, with many having served in leadership positions.

We look forward to celebrating with you at the Walkathon in October and the Centenary Conference in December 2025.

Congratulations once again on a century of profound impact. We are excited to see you continue to G.R.O.W. in the years to come.



*Mr. Henry Hung Ling FAN, SBS, JP*

*Chairman  
Hospital Authority*

### ***A Century of Excellence in Obstetrics & Gynaecology: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Monograph***

I am honoured and privileged to extend my heartfelt congratulations on behalf of the Hospital Authority (HA) to the University of Hong Kong's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The dedicated and gifted professionals at the Department exemplify academic and clinical excellence, driving transformative advances in women's health with their groundbreaking achievements in education, research, and patient care. Their legacy of innovation has inspired generations of healthcare professionals and contributed to the development of obstetric and gynaecological services in Hong Kong and across the region.

This historic milestone gives us an opportunity to look back on past achievements of the Department, and ahead to the continued advancements in a new century. As a highlight of a series of celebratory events, the Centenary Conference brings together global experts to share latest development, discuss innovative practices, and explore the future of the field. It exemplifies our shared mission — to build a healthier society through compassion, knowledge, and service.

The HA greatly treasures our longstanding partnership with the Department and our shared achievements in deploying clinical expertise and medical advances for the good of women in Hong Kong. As the department celebrates its centenary, we look forward to joining hands in shaping the future of women's health for generations to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Department on 100 years of unwavering dedication, and to wish the Centenary Conference every success.

# Congratulatory Messages



*Dr. Libby Ha Yun LEE*

*Chief Executive  
Hospital Authority*

## ***A Century of Excellence in Obstetrics & Gynaecology: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Monograph***

I am delighted to convey my warmest congratulations to the University of Hong Kong's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on its centenary. This remarkable milestone is testament to the dedication of generations of medical professionals committed to safeguarding and improving the health and lives of Hong Kong women.

For many years, Hong Kong has rendered a very high standard of medical care for women, with our maternal mortality ratio, perinatal and infant mortality rates amongst the lowest in the world<sup>1</sup>. This underscores the unfailing efforts and significant contribution of the Department in promoting high standard in patient care, teaching, and research in the field of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Hong Kong. Over the past century, the Department has been at the forefront of medical breakthroughs through its pioneering research and initiatives. Its contribution in advancing women's health has earned it an unparalleled reputation for excellence across the region and beyond.

Our centennial companion has nurtured thousands of competent medical professionals, and ensured world-leading standards of clinical training in partnership with the Tsan Yuk Hospital and Queen Mary Hospital. While we are grateful for this valuable partnership, we look forward to an even stronger tie between the Department and the Hospital Authority in the many years to come.

Medical science never stands still, and as we celebrate the Department's many achievements, we can look forward with anticipation and expectation to another century of exceptionalism as it continues to lead, inspire, and innovate in the mission to set new standards in women's maternal and reproductive health.

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<sup>1</sup> Public Urged to Show Concern for Maternal and Child Health to Echo World Health Day <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202504/07/P2025040700473.htm>



*Dr. Theresa Tak Lai Li*

*Cluster Chief Executive (Hong Kong West Cluster) and Hospital Chief Executive  
(Queen Mary Hospital / Tsan Yuk Hospital)*

## ***A Century of Excellence***

As Queen Mary Hospital approaches its centenary in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, it is my privilege and honour to reflect on the journey thus far and to cast our vision forward.

Over the decades, our O&G service has evolved from modest beginning into a vanguard of maternal and women's health care, training, and research — embodying the motto of excellence that underlies this monograph.

The roots of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Hong Kong traced back to Tsan Yuk Hospital, where pioneering clinicians established antenatal care, midwifery training, and gynaecological surgery. These formative years laid the foundation for the clinical excellence, academic rigor, and compassionate care that would later define our service. As the Department transitioned to Queen Mary Hospital in 2001, it expanded in capacity and scope, engaging in antenatal screening, operative obstetrics, evolving anaesthetic techniques, as well as subspecialty development. All these have transformed the Department into providing a comprehensive tertiary service capable of managing complex maternal and women's health needs.

In recent years, our O&G development has become increasingly intertwined with advances in medical technology, evidence-based protocols, quality assurance, and subspecialty training. Partnership with the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong ensures that generations of trainees, both local and international, gain exposure to cutting-edge care. Simultaneously, the commitment to research and innovation has allowed us to contribute to international literature, implement novel therapies more rapidly, while refining patient-centred care.

Looking ahead, the Department is at a strong position to further advance prevention and early detection in maternal-fetal medicine, expand access to fertility and women's wellness services, strengthen personalised and equitable care, and lead translational research that addresses local needs within a global context. The next century of O&G at Queen Mary Hospital will be defined not only by technological progress but by compassion, equity, rigorous scholarship, and unwavering commitment to the health of every mother and woman we serve.

To all those past and present who have contributed to this journey - your dedication, which has my deepest salute, shapes our legacy and will continue to guide our future.



# Congratulatory Messages



*Prof. Kenneth Man Chee CHEUNG*

*President and Hospital Chief Executive  
The University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital*

## ***A Legacy of Excellence, A Future of Innovation: Celebrating a Century of HKU Obstetrics & Gynaecology***

On behalf of the **University of Hong Kong Shenzhen Hospital**, it is with immense pleasure and profound admiration that I extend our warmest congratulations to the **Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at The University of Hong Kong** on the momentous occasion of its **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**.

For a century, the Department has been nothing less than a beacon of excellence, a pioneer in women's healthcare, and a cornerstone of medical education in Hong Kong and the wider region. Your journey, marked by visionary leadership and groundbreaking achievements, is an inspiration to us all. From its foundational years with pioneers like **Prof. Daphne Wai Chan CHUN**, the first HKU graduate to be appointed Chair Professor in the Faculty, who introduced fetal monitoring and achieved internationally renowned low mortality rates, to the transformative leadership of **Prof. Ho Kei MA**, who developed the renowned subspecialties in Prenatal Diagnosis, Assisted Reproduction, and Gynaecological Oncology, the Department has consistently pushed the boundaries of what is possible.

The Department's legacy is one of firsts. It was **Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN** who became the first in Hong Kong to be accredited as a Subspecialist in Gynaecological Oncology, pioneering minimally invasive surgical techniques. This trailblazing spirit, carried forward today under **Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN**, has cemented the Department's status as a global leader. The theme for this centenary, "**G.R.O.W.**", perfectly captures this enduring commitment to advancing **Global Reproduction, Obstetrics, Oncology, and Women's health**.

The establishment of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the **University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital** in 2012, spearheaded by Prof. NGAN, stands as a powerful testament to the Department's expansive vision and its commitment to propagating its world-class model of care. It is a privilege to continue this collaborative mission, bringing unparalleled expertise and compassionate care to the Greater Bay Area.

As you celebrate this historic milestone, we look forward to your next chapter with great anticipation. We are confident that the Department will continue to lead, innovate, and inspire for the next 100 years.

Please accept our sincerest congratulations and best wishes for a memorable Centenary Conference and Gala Dinner.



***Ms. Hei Kiu CHAN***

*Department Operations Manager  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Queen Mary Hospital*

## ***A Century of Excellence***

It is with immense pride and heartfelt joy that I extend my warmest congratulations to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on reaching this remarkable milestone — the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of unwavering dedication to women's health, maternal care, and groundbreaking advancements in our field. As the Department Operations Manager, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the profound impact of our collective efforts over the years, and it is an honour to contribute to this commemorative monograph.

Reflecting on a century of excellence, our Department has stood as a beacon of innovation and compassion since its inception. From pioneering surgical techniques and revolutionary prenatal care protocols to leading research in reproductive health and gynecological oncology, we have transformed the landscape of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Our commitment to evidence-based practices has not only improved outcomes for countless mothers and families but has also set global standards in patient safety and holistic care. I am continually inspired by the stories of resilience — from the early days of establishing specialised maternity wards to the modern era of integrating advanced technologies like minimally invasive procedures and personalised medicine.

In my role overseeing nursing operations, I am particularly grateful for the integral part that our nursing teams have played in this legacy. Nurses are the heartbeat of our Department, providing round-the-clock support, empathy, and expertise that bridge the gap between medical science and human experience. Whether it's guiding expectant mothers through labor, offering counseling in challenging gynecological cases, or coordinating multidisciplinary teams during emergencies, our nurses embody the spirit of excellence that defines us. This centenary is a testament to the collaborative synergy among physicians, nurses, midwives, and support staff, fostering an environment where every voice contributes to superior patient-centered care.

As we gather for the Centenary Conference in December 2025 and Gala Dinner in January 2026, let us celebrate not just our past achievements but also the promising future ahead. With emerging challenges in women's health — such as addressing disparities in access to care and embracing digital health solutions — we are poised to lead with the same passion and innovation that has carried us through the last hundred years.

Here's to another century of excellence, compassion, and transformative impact. Congratulations once again to the entire Department — may our shared journey continue to inspire and heal.

# Preface

The Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the University of Hong Kong was established one hundred years ago. This past century has seen the field of obstetrics and gynaecology in Hong Kong make great leaps and bounds in not only its praxis, but also in terms of scientific knowledge and in the training of its practitioners, with the Department remaining firmly at the centre of its development.

It is, especially in the hustle and bustle of daily practice, easy to forget the footprints of those who have forged the path ahead for us and also to lose sight of where we are heading. This monograph is crafted to commemorate the efforts and achievements of those who have come before us and of those who are in service now. This monograph will also detail the current structure and scope of our departmental services and activities. It will illustrate our present efforts in both the provision of clinical services and the advancement of scientific knowledge in promoting and preserving the health and well being of women locally, regionally, and globally.

No centenary tribute would be complete, however, without a nod to the touch of humanity which is essential in the service of our patients. We have included many heartfelt memories of those who have dedicated themselves in serving this Department over the past hundred years, to whom we are most grateful. It is our hope that the efforts in compiling this monograph are worthy of this momentous milestone and earnestly await another century of excellence in Obstetrics and Gynaecology with anticipation.



# Our Past to Present

# Our Past to Present

## A Century of Pioneering Excellence: History of the Department

For a century, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at The University of Hong Kong (HKU) has stood as a global beacon of innovation, transforming women's health through groundbreaking clinical care, inspirational education, and trailblazing research. From its humble origins to its current position as a leader in the field, our journey has shaped obstetrics and gynaecology practice in Hong Kong and beyond.

### Roots in Visionary Beginnings

While the Department's formal establishment dates to 1925, its gestation was laid four decades earlier. The Hong Kong College of Medicine for Chinese, founded in 1887 as the colony's first tertiary medical institution and HKU's direct progenitor, included "Midwifery and Diseases of Women" in its earliest syllabi, with teaching delivered at Alice Memorial Hospital. In 1922, with support from missionary funds and Chinese philanthropy, **Dr. Alice D. HICKLING**, Hong Kong's first female doctor, was appointed Founding Director of Tsan Yuk Hospital (TYH). Her bold foresight laid the groundwork for specialised maternity care in the region.

### The Founding Era

The Department's formal inauguration in March 1925 was marked by the appointment of **Prof. Richard Edwin TOTTENHAM** as HKU's first Professor of Obstetrics. As our founding Head, he made history that June by performing Hong Kong's first Caesarean section, a pioneering milestone that set the stage for generations of lifesaving advancements.

Following Prof. TOTTENHAM's departure, **Dr. Doraisamy Kumara SAMY** served as Acting Head for several months before **Prof. William Charles Wallace NIXON** assumed the headship in November 1935. In 1937, with the opening of Queen Mary Hospital (QMH), gynaecological teaching and clinical activities were relocated there while obstetrical services remained at TYH.

### Building Resilience through Turbulent Times

**Prof. Gordon KING** assumed leadership in 1938, serving an extraordinary 18-year term. As the University's wartime leader, he evacuated medical students to Mainland China during World War II, ensuring uninterrupted education. Post-war, in 1945, the Faculty reopened swiftly, and our Department soon earned recognition from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) as a specialist training centre. A surge in post-war demand for maternity services led to a transformative donation from the Hong Kong Jockey Club to fund the construction of the modern TYH, which opened at its current site on Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun in 1955. Equipped with expanded beds and delivery suites, the new facility was designed to meet the post-war baby boom.



## A Trailblazing Woman at the Helm

In 1957, **Prof. Daphne Wai Chan CHUN** shattered glass ceilings as HKU's first homegrown graduate to be appointed Chair Professor in the Faculty of Medicine. A masterful pelvic surgeon, she introduced a system of obstetric audit, an early precursor to modern quality assurance practices. She established the Department's international reputation for achieving low maternal and perinatal mortality rates. During her tenure, the practice of foetal monitoring was introduced into clinical practice. Prof. CHUN also pioneered research on gestational trophoblastic diseases and launched a territory-wide hCG follow-up programme for hydatidiform mole patients, offering free hCG assays to other hospitals. This remains a flagship area of expertise for the Department to this day.

## Subspecialties Take Flight

**Prof. Ho Kei MA** assumed headship in 1972. She spearheaded the development of subspecialties within the Department. With a donation from Mrs. WU Chung, the Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory commenced services in TYH in 1981. It was the first public laboratory in Hong Kong to offer prenatal cytogenetic analysis, pioneering genetic diagnosis for conditions such as thalassaemia, haemophilias, muscular dystrophies, and spinal muscular atrophy. Besides, the assisted reproduction programme was launched in QMH in 1986, achieving Hong Kong's first successful delivery via in vitro fertilisation in 1988. The Gynaecological Oncology Division was also recognised for subspecialty training by the RCOG in 1991. These three programmes have since maintained leading role in Hong Kong's healthcare landscape.

## Global Research Leadership

**Prof. Pak Chung HO** succeeded Prof. MA as Head of Department in 1995. As an internationally renowned reproductive specialist, he led the team in advancing both basic science and clinical research in the field, particularly in medical abortion, emergency contraception, and assisted reproductive technology. As the new medical campus at Sassoon Road opened in 2001, some of our research laboratories were relocated there, enabling the expansion of laboratory-based research. Under Prof. HO's leadership, the clinical and basic science research activities in the Department reached unprecedented heights. In 2004, we achieved Hong Kong's first successful delivery for a thalassaemic couple through preimplantation genetic testing. In addition, the subspecialty training in the Department has further developed. Our subspecialty training programmes in Reproductive Medicine and Maternal-Fetal Medicine were recognised by the RCOG in 1998 and 2001 respectively.

## Advancing Cancer Care and Education

**Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN** assumed headship in 2009. She has led the Department to pioneer the application of laparoscopic and robotic-assisted surgery in gynaecological cancers. The first robotic-assisted hysterectomy for endometrial cancer in the Department was performed in 2010. She has also propelled impactful biomolecular research, and the team has yielded high-impact publications. Prof. NGAN has led the Department to be actively involved in the curriculum reform for undergraduates and has continued to refine the teaching and assessment methods throughout the years. Innovations include flipped classrooms and simulation training. When The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital (HKU-SZH) commenced in 2012, Professor NGAN established the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology there and served as the Chief of Service until early 2025.

# Our Past to Present

## Bridging Borders into the Future

**Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN** has led us as Head since 2021. Prof. CHAN is a world-renowned gynaecological oncologist. Prof. CHAN has prioritised training, knowledge exchange, and regional collaboration with Greater China. We have forged deep ties with Mainland China through visits, attachments, and exchanges throughout the past years. Building on this foundation, the Department has contributed significantly to the development of specialist and subspecialist training in obstetrics and gynaecology across China. Under the leadership of Prof. CHAN, the Department is actively engaged in the Queen Mary Hospital Redevelopment Project, as well as the accreditation under China's International Hospital Accreditation Standards.

More than a century since the first obstetrical bed in Tsan Yuk Hospital was set up, we are now poised to relocate the obstetric wards to the new Clinical Block in QMH, marking a new chapter in our legacy of compassionate, cutting-edge care.

This centenary is more than a moment of reflection - it is a source of inspiration. We honour the unbreakable spirit of our pioneers and celebrate achievements forged through unwavering dedication. As we embark on our next century, the Department remains a torchbearer of innovation and excellence in obstetrics and gynaecology, illuminating our paths to better women's health in Hong Kong and worldwide.

### Succession List - Heads of Department

1925 – 1934	Prof. Richard Edwin TOTTENHAM
1935 – 1937	Prof. William Charles Wallace NIXON
1938 – 1956	Prof. Gordon KING
1957 – 1972	Prof. Daphne Wai Chan CHUN (秦惠珍教授)
1972 – 1995	Prof. Ho Kei MA (馬鍾可璣教授)
1995 – 2008	Prof. Pak Chung HO (何柏松教授)
2009 – 2021	Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN (顏婉嫦教授)
2021 – present	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN (陳嘉倫教授)

## Present Set-Up of the Department

### Mission & Vision

- To contribute to the education of medical students, with a specific focus on Obstetrics and Gynaecology;
- To pursue cutting-edge research and assume a leadership role in the development and evaluation of novel advances in Obstetrics and Gynaecology;
- To provide a structured training programme for research postgraduates in the field; and
- To deliver tertiary-level quality clinical services and professional training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Hong Kong

### Staff

The Department comprises personnel from both HKU and the Hospital Authority (HA), who collaborate within an integrated framework to deliver clinical services, provide undergraduate and postgraduate education, and conduct high-impact research.

Currently, our HKU-based clinical and academic team includes four Professors, seven Associate Professors, four Assistant Professors, three Research Assistant Professors, and seven Postdoctoral Fellows. Meanwhile, our HA-affiliated clinical team consists of eight Consultants, nine Associate Consultants, three Resident Specialists, and fourteen Residents.

## Staff List

### University Staff

<i>Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN</i>	Department Chairperson and Clinical Professor
<i>Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN</i>	Chair Professor (Part-time)
<i>Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG</i>	Tsao Yin-Kai Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Clinical Professor
<i>Prof. Kui LIU</i>	Professor
<i>Prof. Ka Wang CHEUNG</i>	Clinical Associate Professor
<i>Prof. Jennifer Ka Yee KO</i>	Clinical Associate Professor of Practice
<i>Prof. Raymond Hang Wun LI</i>	Clinical Associate Professor
<i>Prof. Siew Fei NGU</i>	Clinical Associate Professor of Practice (Part-time)
<i>Prof. Ka Yu TSE</i>	Clinical Associate Professor of Practice
<i>Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU</i>	Associate Professor
<i>Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE</i>	Associate Professor
<i>Prof. Kelly Ka Wai PANG</i>	Clinical Assistant Professor of Practice
<i>Prof. Paul Yu Wing TONG</i>	Clinical Assistant Professor of Practice
<i>Prof. Sofie Shuk Fei YUNG</i>	Clinical Assistant Professor of Practice (Part-time)
<i>Prof. Haonan LU</i>	Assistant Professor
<i>Dr. Andy Chun Hang CHEN</i>	Research Assistant Professor
<i>Dr. Erica Tsz Ying LEUNG</i>	Research Assistant Professor
<i>Dr. Dongteng LIU</i>	Research Assistant Professor

### Hospital Authority Staff

<i>Dr. Kit Sheung CHAN</i>	Consultant (Part-time)
<i>Dr. Maggie Mei Chi CHENG</i>	Consultant
<i>Dr. Mandy Man Yee CHU</i>	Consultant (Part-time)
<i>Dr. Edmund Hing Cheung HON</i>	Consultant (Part-time)
<i>Dr. Amelia Pui Wah HUI</i>	Consultant
<i>Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN</i>	Consultant
<i>Dr. Paulin Wai Sze MA</i>	Consultant
<i>Dr. Mimi Tin Yan SETO</i>	Consultant
<i>Dr. Aaron Hey Yin CHAN</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. Heidi Hiu Yee CHENG</i>	Associate Consultant (Part-time)
<i>Dr. Stanton King Dat HO</i>	Associate Consultant



# Our Past to Present

## Hospital Authority Staff

<i>Dr. Theodora Hei Tung LAI</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. Thomas Kwok To LI</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. May Hiu Mei LUK</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. Carmen Shu Man NG</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. Vivian Wai Yan NG</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. Evelyn WONG</i>	Associate Consultant
<i>Dr. Francesca Kit Yan LAI</i>	Resident Specialist
<i>Dr. Joan Kar On WAI</i>	Resident Specialist
<i>Dr. Flora Ho Ying WONG</i>	Resident Specialist
<i>Dr. Dorothy Tsoi Yan CHAN</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Phoebe Tin Yan CHAO</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Samantha Tsz Sam HONG</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Harriet Nga Yau KWOK</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Christy Tsz Ching LAM</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Barry Ming Chak LAW</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Mandy Man Kei LEE</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Evon Yin Fong LEUNG</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Justin LI</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Kitty Ka Wai MA</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Natalie Chor Yee NG</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Margaret Yuk Man TEH</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Michelle Meiyao WU</i>	Resident
<i>Dr. Charlotte Grace Shan Yi YU</i>	Resident

## Senior Nursing Staff

<i>Ms. Hei Kiu CHAN</i>	Department Operations Manager
<i>Ms. Lee Man YEUNG</i>	Midwife Consultant
<i>Ms. Suet Yee CHOW</i>	Associate Midwife Consultant
<i>Ms. Ka Man KWONG</i>	Associate Midwife Consultant
<i>Ms. Iris Hiu Tung CHAN</i>	Ward Manager
<i>Ms. Polly Pui Yee HO</i>	Ward Manager
<i>Ms. Zarina ISMAIL</i>	Ward Manager
<i>Ms. Pamela Sin Ying KWOK</i>	Ward Manager
<i>Ms. Wai Sin TANG</i>	Ward Manager

## *Emeritus Professors*

Prof. Ho Kei MA

Prof. Pak Chung HO

Prof. William Shu Biu YEUNG

## *Honorary Teachers*

(excluding current HA staff at QMH and TYH, who are already listed above)

### Honorary Professors

Prof. Celia Hoi Yan CHAN

Prof. Kristina GEMZELL-DANIELSSON

Prof. Hefeng HUANG

Prof. Peter Chung Kwor LEUNG

Prof. Yuanqing YAO

### Honorary Clinical Professors

Prof. Pak Chung HO

Prof. Terence Tzu Hsi LAO

Prof. Wing Cheong LEUNG

Prof. Tin Chiu LI

Prof. Grace Wai King TANG

### Honorary Clinical Associate Professors

Dr. Victoria Yu Ka CHAI

Dr. Carina Chi Wai CHAN

Dr. Ben Chong Pun CHAN

Dr. Kuen Ting CHAN

Dr. Daniel Lin Wai CHAN

Dr. Joseph Woon Tong CHAN

Dr. Toby Yuen Mei CHAN

Dr. Danny Ka Leung CHENG

Dr. Edith Oi Ling CHENG

Dr. Willy Cecilia CHEON

Dr. Vincent Yuk Tong CHEUNG

Dr. Carmen Ka Man CHOI

Dr. Cathy Hoi Sze CHUNG

Dr. Vivian Wai Hang CHUNG

Dr. Mimi Tze Man FUNG

Dr. Arabinda GHOSH

Dr. Wing Wa GO

Dr. Clement Wing Chiu HO

Dr. Philip Kin Hoi HO

Dr. Lau Cheung HO

Dr. Edmund Hing Cheung HON

Dr. Winnie HUI

Dr. Winnie Wing Yan HUNG

Dr. Meliza Choi Wah KONG

Dr. Shui Fan LAI

Dr. Ka Wai LAM

Dr. Siu Keung LAM

Dr. Helena Sze Wing LAM

Dr. Mona Wai Cheung LAM

Dr. Winnie Nga Ting LAU

Dr. Wai Lam LAU

Dr. Grace Yuk Fung LAU

Dr. Jessica Yun Pui LAW

Dr. Milton Ka Hong LEONG

Dr. Ares Kwok Ling LEUNG

Dr. Kwok Yin LEUNG

# Our Past to Present

## Honorary Clinical Associate Professors

Dr. Tsin Wah LEUNG

Dr. Ivy Chiu Fai LI

Dr. Dominic Fuk Him LI

Dr. Wai Hon LI

Dr. Angeline Linna LIAUW

Dr. Sue Seen Tsing LO

Dr. Ingrid Hung LOK

Dr. Teresa Wei Ling MA

Dr. Charles Ka Ming MOK

Dr. Tong Yow NG

Dr. Charas Yeu Theng ONG

Dr. Noel Wan Man SHEK

Dr. Po Lam SO

Dr. Chark Man TAI

Dr. Kar Fai TAM

Dr. Kwok Keung TANG

Dr. Flora Oi Shan TANG

Dr. Grace Pui Yin TANG

Dr. William Wing Kee TO

Dr. Sing Wing TSANG

Dr. Hei Yee TSE

Dr. Grace Ching Yin WONG

Dr. Daniel WONG

Dr. Shell Fean WONG

Dr. Assumpta Sze Man WONG

Dr. Tin Son WONG

Dr. Wai Ming WONG

Dr. Amelia Wai Yu WONG

Dr. Alice Yuen Kwan WONG

Dr. Mandy Chun Hung YU

Dr. Florrie Nga Yui YU

Dr. Pong Mo YUEN

Dr. Cherrie Wai Kuen YUNG

## Honorary Clinical Assistant Professors

Dr. Joyce CHAI

Dr. Lucia Lo Ka CHAN

Dr. Diana Man Ka CHAN

Dr. Cindy Mei Yun CHAN

Dr. Sarah So Ching CHAN

Dr. Constance Wing Kei CHAN

Dr. Vivian Wing Yin CHAN

Dr. Viola Ying Tze CHAN

Dr. Kwan Yiu Queenie CHEUK

Dr. Sze Yan Charleen CHEUNG

Dr. Wai CHEUNG

Dr. Crystal Wing Lam CHEUNG

Dr. Christopher Pak Hey CHIU

Dr. Wan Kam CHIU

Dr. Carmen Diana CHUNG

Dr. Karen Ka Wun HO

Dr. Winsom Yau Bong HO

Dr. Ying Christina HUI

Dr. Catherine Man Wai HUNG

Dr. Ka Wai KONG

Dr. Thomas Kam On KOU

Dr. Carina KWA

Dr. Gladys Shuk Tak KWOK

Dr. Sonia Wai Man LAI

Dr. Carman Wing Sze LAI

Dr. Mei Ting LAM

Dr. Yuk Ki LAM

Dr. Samson Chin Ho LAU

### Honorary Clinical Assistant Professors

Dr. Martin Ka Wing LAU

Dr. Betty Yuen Ting LAU

Dr. Tracy Ho Ying LAW

Dr. Diana Ho Yin LEE

Dr. Helena Hui Ling LEE

Dr. Menelik Man Hin LEE

Dr. Holly Victoria LEWIS

Dr. Kandice Ellen LI

Dr. Elizabeth Yan Yu LI

Dr. Helen Hui Xin LIANG

Dr. Ka Lai LIU

Dr. Noella Lok Yan LO

Dr. Ellen Man Wa LUI

Dr. Teresa Man Kee MA

Dr. Annisa Shui Lam MAK

Dr. Tomoko MATSUZONO

Dr. Sophia Yin Kwan MOK

Dr. Dorothy Yuet Tao NG

Dr. Wing Man PUT

Dr. Wendy SHU

Dr. Miranda Jing Man SHUM

Dr. Ching Ting TAM

Dr. Emily Hei Man TAM

Dr. Kai Yeung TSE

Dr. Hei Lok WAN

Dr. Ho Yan Eric WAN

Dr. Queenie Ho Yan WONG

Dr. Catherine Ka Yan WONG

Dr. Keedon WONG

Dr. Pui Ying WONG

Dr. Yiu Fai WONG

Dr. Wai Yan YEUNG

Dr. Po Ming YU

### Honorary Assistant Professors

Dr. Dandan CAO

Dr. Yong Gang DUAN

Dr. Kevin Ka Wai LAM

Dr. Keith Cheuk Lun LEE

Dr. Libing LUO

Dr. Yue XU

Dr. Jingyi YANG

### Honorary Senior Lecturer

Dr. Simona CICERO

### Honorary Tutors

Dr. Shan Wen DENG

Dr. Juan HUANG

Dr. Ying WANG

### Honorary Clinical Tutors

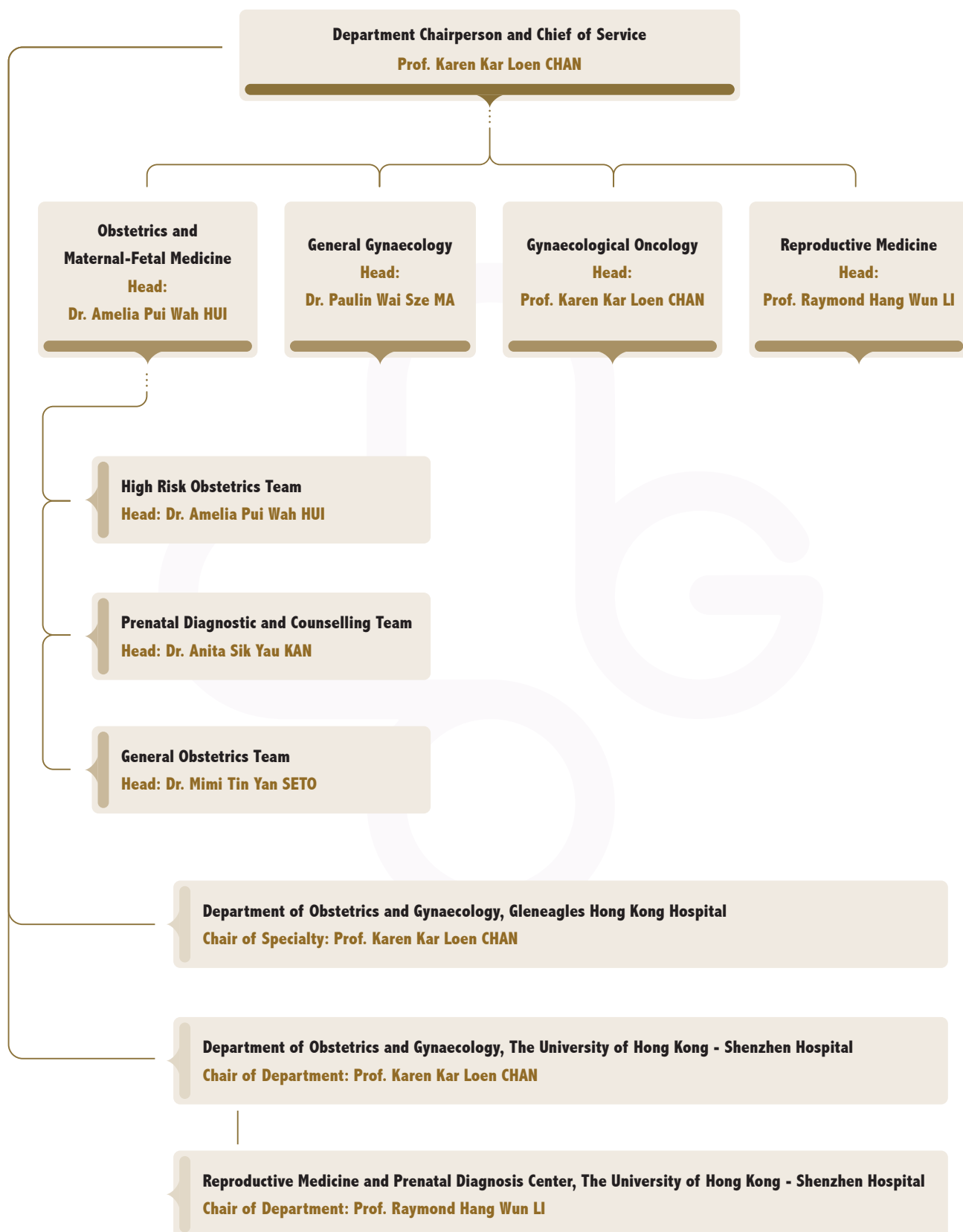
Dr. Lorraine CHAN

Dr. Tiffany Hiu Yan SUM

Dr. Viola Ling Yin TSANG

# Our Past to Present

## Organisation of Department



## Service and Teaching Premises

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at HKU delivers clinical care, teaching, and research across a network of leading healthcare institutions. QMH and TYH serve as our core teaching hospitals, while we have overseen the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at HKU-SZH since July 2012.

In addition to providing general secondary-level obstetric and gynaecological services, the Department functions as a tertiary referral centre in Hong Kong for complex gynaecological conditions, reproductive endocrine disorders, subfertility, gynaecological malignancies, high risk pregnancies, and fetal abnormalities.

### *Queen Mary Hospital*

As a flagship teaching and clinical site, QMH houses over 60 gynaecology beds and more than 80 maternity beds for inpatient care. Annually, the Department handles over 6,000 gynaecological admissions, performs more than 3,000 major and minor gynaecological operations, and supports over 2,500 deliveries, solidifying its role as a cornerstone of women's healthcare in Hong Kong.



### *Tsan Yuk Hospital*

Originally established as a dedicated maternity hospital, TYH underwent a strategic evolution following the transfer of obstetric inpatient services to QMH in November 2001. Today, it serves as a specialised centre for outpatient and ambulatory care, housing general obstetric clinics, an obstetric day centre, prenatal diagnosis and counselling services, the Wu Chung Prenatal Diagnosis Laboratory, and the HKU O&G Translational Research and Diagnostic Laboratory. Its focus on accessible, patient-centered care complements the tertiary services provided at QMH.





# Our Past to Present

## ***The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital (HKU-SZH)***

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at HKU-SZH operates with a collaborative team of Hong Kong-based and local Mainland China staff. The Hong Kong-based staff take primary responsibility for the development, teaching and research activities, while a dedicated local team is responsible for the clinical operation and delivers day-to-day patient care. This partnership fosters knowledge exchange and aligns clinical practices with international standards, extending the Department's impact beyond Hong Kong.



## ***Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong (GHK)***

As a private teaching hospital of the HKU Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine and its exclusive clinical partner, GHK has hosted obstetric and gynaecological services managed by our Department since its inception. Services are delivered by HKU clinical professorial staff and affiliated private practice specialists, offering general obstetric and gynaecological care as well as subspecialty services in gynaecological oncology, maternal–fetal medicine, and reproductive medicine. The hospital also supports the Department's academic mission through regular clinical audits, continuing medical education (CME) activities, research collaborations, and clinical attachments for medical students.



## ***Other Teaching Sites***

Undergraduate teaching in obstetrics and gynaecology is further extended to Kwong Wah Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, United Christian Hospital, and The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (FPAHK). The FPAHK is our longstanding strategic partner. Professorial staff of the Department serves leadership roles in the Association, and we have collaborated for decades in teaching, staff training and research, reinforcing our commitment to advancing women's health.

## Professional Contributions

Beyond our core commitments to clinical service, teaching, and research, the staff members of the Department play an active and influential role in advancing the obstetrics and gynaecology profession and serving the community. Leveraging their expertise, members of the Department contribute to policy development, professional standards, knowledge dissemination, and public health initiatives at local, national, regional, and international levels. Below is an overview of these multifaceted contributions, structured to reflect our commitment to leadership, collaboration, and impact across diverse contexts.

### Local Professional Bodies

Our Departmental staff contribute to key initiatives of the following professional bodies through leadership roles, advisory services, and community partnerships:

- Family Planning Association of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Academy of Medicine
- Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- Hong Kong Gynaecological Endoscopy Society
- Hong Kong Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology
- Hong Kong Society for Reproductive Medicine
- Hong Kong Society of Cytogenomics
- Hong Kong Society of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Reproduction
- Hong Kong Society of Gynaecological Oncology
- Hong Kong Society of Medical Genetics
- Hong Kong Society of Robotic Surgery
- Medical Council of Hong Kong
- Midwives Council of Hong Kong
- Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong
- Osteoporosis Society of Hong Kong

### Regional Professional Bodies

The Department extends its influence across the Greater China region and Asia Pacific, collaborating with regional partners to advance the science and clinical practice of obstetrics and gynaecology through the following organisations:

- Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Asia Oceania Research Organisation on Genital Infections and Neoplasia
- Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction
- Asian Gynecologic Oncology Group
- Asian Medical Education Association
- Asian Society of Fertility Preservation
- Asian Society of Gynecologic Oncology
- East, South East Asia & Oceania Region of the International Planned Parenthood Federation
- Society of Asian Robotic Surgery

### International Professional Bodies

As a globally recognised leader in obstetrics and gynaecology, the Department plays a pivotal role in shaping international standards and driving global research agendas on the world stage through participation in the followings:

- International College of Surgeons
- International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics
- International Gynecologic Cancer Society
- International Planned Parenthood Federation
- International Society for the Study of Trophoblastic Diseases
- Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- UICC TNM Expert Advisory Panel on Gynecologic Cancer
- World Health Organisation



# Our Past to Present

## Cultivating a Thriving Living Community

Over the past decade, our Department has evolved into a close-knit, intergenerational community that extends well beyond the confines of hospital wards. Celebrations and reunions feel like cherished family gatherings, moments where colleagues share stories, express gratitude, and reaffirm our core values of compassion, integrity, and professionalism. Public forums, charity walks, and health promotion campaigns connect us with patients, their families, and the broader Hong Kong community, bridging the divide between caregiver and recipient. Many of our staff members also serve as expert witnesses in medico-legal cases and regularly respond to media enquiries on health and social issues, thereby extending their professional expertise to the wider community. Within the Department, interprofessional retreats, structured mentorship programmes, and collaborative debrief sessions foster mutual support. As we embark on our second century of service, this network of deep, meaningful relationships remains our greatest strength.



Staff members participated in World Patient Safety Day 2025 at Queen Mary Hospital to promote patient centred care and safety culture

## Community & Public Engagement

Our Department remains deeply connected with the public through a variety of community-focused activities. Whether through patient centred celebrations, charity initiatives, or public education efforts, these engagements help bridge the gap between healthcare professionals and the communities they serve. By sharing expertise in public forums, media channels, and awareness campaigns, our staff members continue to advocate for women's health and promote a culture of safety and wellbeing.



Prof. Karen CHAN delivered a public education talk focusing on cervical and endometrial cancer care



Celebration Party of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Assisted Reproduction Programme



Prof. Karen CHAN and Prof. Jennifer KO took part in a media interview to share professional insights on women's health topics



The Globe athon charity walk in 2018 to support women's health awareness

### Departmental & Staff Community Moments

Meaningful relationships within the Department are nurtured through gatherings that bring colleagues together across generations. Retirement dinners, milestone anniversaries, and team building activities offer opportunities to reconnect, honour contributions, and strengthen collegial bonds. These shared experiences reflect the supportive and collaborative culture that underpins our Department's enduring sense of community.



The performance by the singing team was one of the highlights of the Tsan Yuk Hospital Centenary Dinner



Colleagues took part in a team building activity in February 2025 to strengthen collaboration and staff engagement



# Our Past to Present



Staff and guests came together at the farewell dinner in honour of Prof. Grace TANG in 2016



Retirement dinner of Prof. Pak Chung HO and Dr. Chin Peng LEE in 2013



Valedictory lecture by Prof. Hextan NGAN



Senior staff meeting



Department's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner in 2015





Visit by Prof. QIAO Jie from Peking University in 2024 for academic collaboration

### *Academic, Research & Professional Exchange*

Collaboration and continuous learning are integral to our professional identity. Through academic workshops, international exchanges, clinical retreats, and interdisciplinary meetings, our staff engage in knowledge sharing that advances research and clinical practice. These initiatives reinforce our commitment to excellence while cultivating partnerships with regional and global academic communities.



Clinical service and training retreat 2025



Conference at HKU-SZH

# Our Past to Present

## Timeline

# 1922

### 17 October 1922

Tsan Yuk Hospital was inaugurated at the intersection of Western Street and Third Street, offering maternity and gynaecological services alongside teaching programs.



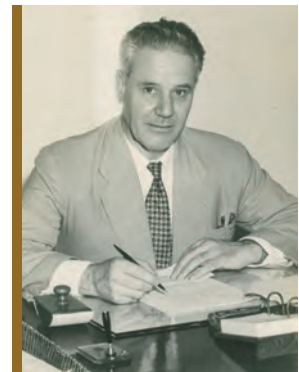
# 1935

### November 1935

Prof. William C.W. NIXON took up the post of Head of Department.



# 1938



Prof. Gordon KING was appointed Head of Department.



### March 1925

Prof. Richard E. TOTTENHAM was appointed as the first Chair of Midwifery, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

# 1925



### April 1937

Queen Mary Hospital was officially opened. Gynaecological teaching and clinical services were relocated there, while obstetrics services remained at Tsan Yuk Hospital.

# 1937

# 1955

## June 1955

The new Tsan Yuk Hospital located at 30 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun was officially put into operation.



# 1942

During the Second World War, Prof. KING led the faculty and staff to relocate to Chongqing, China, where teaching activities were continued.

The War ended, and the faculty was re-established in Hong Kong.

# 1945

Our Department became a recognised centre for specialist training by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

# 1956



Prof. Daphne Wai Chan CHUN assumed the post of Head of Department.

# 1957



# Our Past to Present

## 1972

Prof. Ho Kei MA succeeded as Head of the Department.



## 1986



The Assisted Reproduction Unit at Queen Mary Hospital was officially launched and began providing services.

## 1991

### February 1991

The Department was recognised as a subspecialty training centre in Gynaecological Oncology by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG).



The Prenatal Diagnosis and Counselling Service and the Mrs. Wu Chung Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory were established at Tsan Yuk Hospital.



Queen Mary Hospital achieved the first successful delivery of a baby conceived through in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) in its history.

## 1988

## 1981

# 1995

Prof. Pak Chung HO succeeded as Head of Department, and concurrently served as Chief of Service of Queen Mary Hospital.



# 1998

July 1998

The Department was recognised as a subspecialty training centre in Reproductive Medicine by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG).



The Lady Helen Woo Women's Diagnostic and Treatment Centre at Tsan Yuk Hospital was officially inaugurated.

Gynaecological outpatient services were relocated to Block S of Queen Mary Hospital.



# 1996

# 2000



# Our Past to Present

## 2001

### April 2001

In-patient obstetric services were relocated from Tsan Yuk Hospital to Queen Mary Hospital.



### November 2001

The Department was recognised as a subspecialty training centre in Maternal-Fetal Medicine by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG).

## 2003

### July 2003

The Department was recognised as a subspecialty training centre in Reproductive Medicine by the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (HKCOG).

### November 2002

The Department was recognised as a subspecialist training centre in Gynaecological Oncology by the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (HKCOG).

### December 2004

Hong Kong's first successful delivery of a healthy baby to a thalassaemia couple was achieved through assisted reproductive technology combined with preimplantation genetic testing (PGT)

## 2002



## 2004

## 2008

The Department was recognised as a subspecialist training centre in Maternal Fetal Medicine by the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (HKCOG).

Robotic surgery was officially adopted for the treatment of gynaecological cancers at Queen Mary Hospital.



## 2009

### January 2009

Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN succeeded as Head of Department, and Chief of Service in Queen Mary Hospital



## July 2012

The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital was established, with Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN concurrently serving as Head of its Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology .



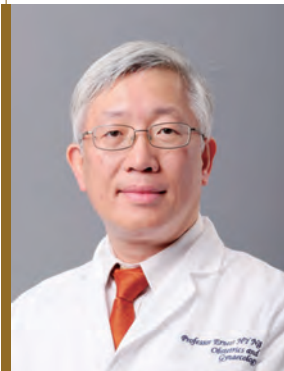
High-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) was introduced at Queen Mary Hospital for the treatment of uterine fibroids and adenomyosis.

## 2012

## 2015

### April 2015

Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG assumed the post of Chief of Service, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Queen Mary Hospital.



## 2017

### 21 March 2017

Obstetrics and Gynaecology services at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong were officially launched. As an exclusive clinical partner within the HKU health system, the hospital's clinical governance is overseen by the Department.



### December 2016

The Department was recognised as a training site for the joint subspecialist training programme in urogynaecology by the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (HKCOG).

## 2016

### January 2018

Queen Mary Hospital was awarded the "Baby Friendly Hospital" designation by the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative Hong Kong Association (BFHIHKA), becoming the second public hospital in Hong Kong to receive this international recognition.



## 2018

## 2021

Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN succeeded as Head of Department and concurrently served as Chief of Service in Queen Mary Hospital.



## 2020

Hong Kong's first vaginal Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (vNOTES) for endometrial cancer was successfully performed at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong.

The Centre of Assisted Reproduction and Embryology (HKU-QMH CARE) at The University of Hong Kong Queen Mary Hospital become the first fertility centre in Hong Kong to receive international accreditation from the Reproductive Technology Accreditation Committee (RTAC) of Australia and New Zealand.



Tsan Yuk Hospital celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## 2022



# Our Past to Present

## 2023

### March 2023

The Gynaecological Oncology Centre at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong was officially established.



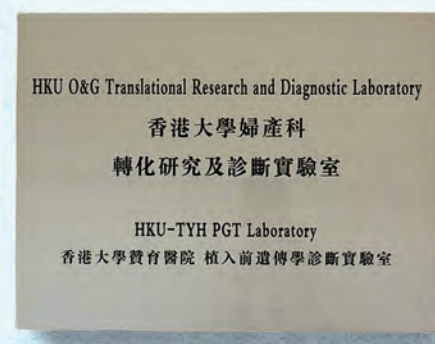
### April 2023

Our hospital became the first birthing hospital under the Hospital Authority to implement the “GO ELECTRONIC” initiative in the Labour Ward, which includes the development of e-intrapartum documentation, an electronic intrapartum fetal monitoring system and an electronic partogram.

## 2025

### May 2025

The HKU O&G Translational Research and Diagnostic Laboratory was established at Tsan Yuk Hospital.



### August 2024

Our unit was the first obstetrics unit in Hospital Authority to adopt the “LifeStart” bedside resuscitaire, which facilitates delayed cord clamping in preterm neonates.

Obstetric services are being relocated from Block K to Clinical Block 1 of Queen Mary Hospital.



## 2024

## 2026



## Department Photos



1960

1980



1990



1975



1985



1995





# Our Past to Present

2000



2005



2010



2015



2025



A blurred photograph of a hospital hallway. On the right side, a patient bed with blue and white components is visible, including a metal frame and wheels. The ceiling is white with several rectangular and circular recessed lights. The floor is highly reflective, showing bright highlights from the lights. The overall image has a soft, out-of-focus quality with a warm, yellowish-green color palette. The text 'Our Teams' is overlaid in the lower-left quadrant in a pink serif font.

# Our Teams

# Our Teams



## Division of Obstetrics and Maternal Fetal Medicine

### Introduction

The Division of Obstetrics and Maternal-Fetal Medicine offers comprehensive care for pregnant patients, focusing on both routine and high-risk obstetric management. Our multidisciplinary team consists of obstetricians, maternal-fetal medicine (MFM) subspecialists, neonatologists, midwives, and allied health professionals dedicated to delivering patient-centred care.

### Historical Foundations

Our obstetric services began at TYH, marked by several significant milestones. In October 1922, TYH opened at the junction of Western Street and Third Street, establishing the foundation for obstetric services in our Department; it was relocated to its present site at 30 Hospital Road, on 13 June 1955. In March 1925, Prof. R.E. TOTTENHAM performed the first Caesarean section in the labour room, paving the way for



TYH Antenatal Ward in the old days

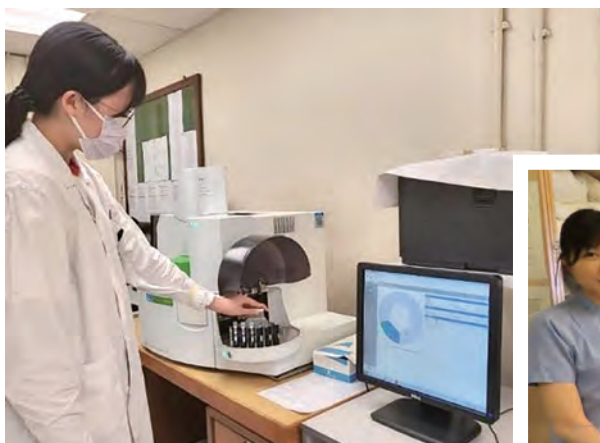


advancements in obstetrics. The first antenatal clinic was commenced in 1929, laying the groundwork for antenatal care. The establishment of the Mrs. Wu Chung Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory in March 1981 further enhanced prenatal screening and diagnosis. In November 2001, we relocated our in-patient obstetric services to QMH, while continuing antenatal booking and prenatal diagnostic services at TYH, ensuring our commitment to continuity of care.

In 2018, we were awarded the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) certification, with re-validations received in 2021 and 2024. In 2023, our Mobile Obstetric Team during COVID-19 was recognised as an outstanding team at Hong Kong West Cluster (HKWC). In area of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), our team was awarded the second runner-up at the QMH CQI Forum for enhancing patient safety and teamwork through obstetric simulation training, along with a poster presentation award for pioneering electronic systems

in HA birthing hospitals. In 2024, we received a Merit Award for the Obstetrics SMART online booking system. With joint effort with the paediatric team, we also received the HA and HKWC outstanding team award for “Multi-disciplinary Care of Parents and Bab(ies) at Periviable Gestations”.

Our team had pioneering work in the prenatal diagnosis and ultrasound monitoring of thalassaemia. Our early work on hepatitis B vaccination and immunoglobulin prophylaxis, along with the more recent prospective multicentre study on the factors related to persistent neonatal hepatitis B infection has a leading impact on the current enhanced multidisciplinary antenatal care model in all public birthing units in Hong Kong. By providing routine hepatitis B viral load testing in early pregnancy and referring women at risk to hepatologists for counselling on the option of antenatal antiviral treatment, the risk of vertical transmission can be reduced.



Down syndrome screening test performed in the TYH Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory



Our Mobile Obstetric Team during COVID-19 was recognised as an outstanding team at HKWC in 2023

## Present Status

### *Clinical services*

#### 1. General Obstetrics

The General Obstetrics team provides comprehensive services for low-risk pregnant women, organised into two teams (Red Team and Blue Team) led by consultant obstetricians. Our midwives conduct

antenatal classes in both Chinese and English, while physiotherapists lead exercise classes to keep our mothers active and healthy. All deliveries are conducted at Queen Mary Hospital, with in-house obstetricians, anaesthesiologists, and neonatologists available to ensure safety. Midwifery-led care with Team midwife-led clinic (TMLC) and round-the-clock delivery service are also available.

# Our Teams



Family BBQ Outing of Obstetric Team on 1 April 2023

## 2. High-Risk Obstetrics

For women having additional risks due to medical or surgical conditions, our High-Risk Obstetrics team provides specialised care. This multidisciplinary approach includes joint management with physicians, surgeons, anaesthesiologists, and neonatologists to ensure the best outcomes. The Combined Obstetric and Medical Clinics focus on pregnancies complicated by medical conditions in cardiology, endocrinology, haematology, nephrology and rheumatology. Designated referral pathways are set up for thyroid disorders and Hepatitis B, and case conferences are conducted for peripartum management plan. Patient feedback has been positive with compliments on ample opportunity for questions, holistic disease care and pregnancy monitoring. They also find the clinic visit convenient and time-saving to see both specialists in the same clinic setting. Our regular obstetric / neonatology rounds enhance the communication between two departments on both fetal conditions and neonatal outcomes.

Our Pre-pregnancy Counselling Clinic offers periconception advice for women with complex medical backgrounds. The MFM Day Assessment Service operates two sessions weekly with focus on fetal growth and Doppler scans that may alter ongoing management, as well as cervical length screening for women at risk of preterm delivery.

## 3. Fetal Medicine

Our fetal medicine services encompass advanced

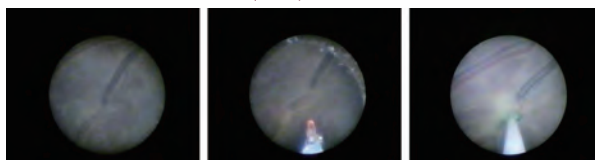


TYH Obstetrics Team with Prof. Pak Chug HO, Chief-of-Service in 2001

procedures for managing complex conditions. We use Fetoscopic Laser Ablation to manage Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS) which improves the outcomes for affected fetuses. In addition, we offer Ultrasound-Guided Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA), a minimally invasive technique for various fetal conditions. We also perform fetal shunting procedure and other intrauterine intervention to manage specific fetal conditions.



Intrauterine transfusion (IUT)



Laser cauterisation on placental anastomosis in TTTS



#### 4. Prenatal Diagnostic & Counselling Service

This service provides evaluation of structural and genetic disease conditions in the fetus. Our comprehensive screening programmes for conditions like pre-eclampsia, thalassaemia, Down syndrome, alongside invasive diagnostic procedures such as amniocentesis, chorionic villus sampling and cordocentesis, help families prepare for the journey ahead. The Mrs. Wu Chung Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory also provides advanced genetic testing, including chromosomal microarray analysis and next-generation sequencing for rare genetic conditions. Geneticists, paediatric haematologists, paediatric surgeons and neonatal team consultation are available for couples with affected offspring for counselling and support.



Obstetrics Team Farewell Party for Dr. Chin Peng LEE (first row 5<sup>th</sup> from left) and Dr. Mary TANG (first row 4<sup>th</sup> from left) on 26 June 2025



TYH Prenatal Diagnostic Clinic Team

#### *Team Meetings and Academic Activities*

We conduct obstetric team meeting(s) weekly, which may consist of case discussions, clinical audits, journal clubs, research meetings, quality assurance meeting, and topic discussions. These meetings are crucial for maintaining high standards of care and fostering a collaborative environment. Our weekly prenatal diagnosis team meeting is held at TYH where cases of fetal medicine interest are discussed. We support undergraduate medical student education by involving them in weekly grand rounds and teaching rounds where we discuss and educate students in obstetric care-planning. We also organise a territory-wide MFM Postgraduate Meeting every month, involving all eight obstetric units in Hong Kong, fostering shared learning. There is also a bimonthly education seminar held jointly by our Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory and HKU-SZH for knowledge exchange. Clinical Genetics Round is held four times a year in collaboration with Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.

# Our Teams

## Staff

### Clinical

- **Dr. Amelia Pui Wah HUI**  
Consultant and Head of Division, accredited Maternal Fetal Medicine Subspecialist
- **Dr. Mimi Tin Yan SETO**  
Consultant and Deputy Head of Division, accredited Maternal Fetal Medicine Subspecialist
- **Prof. Ka Wang CHEUNG**  
Clinical Associate Professor, accredited Maternal Fetal Medicine Subspecialist
- **Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN**  
Consultant and Head of Prenatal Diagnostic and Counselling Service  
Deputy Laboratory Director of Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory
- **Dr. Thomas Kwok To LI**, Associate Consultant
- **Dr. Vivian Wai Yan NG**, Associate Consultant
- **Dr. Theodora Hei Tung LAI**, Associate Consultant
- **Dr. Joan Ka On WAI**, Resident Specialist
- **Dr. Francesca Kit Yan LAI**, Resident Specialist

### Midwifery

- **Ms. Lee Man YEUNG**, Midwife Consultant
- **Ms. Suet Yee CHOW**, Associate Nurse Consultant
- **Ms. Ka Man KWONG**, Associate Nurse Consultant
- **Ms. Iris Hiu Tung CHAN**, Ward Manager (LW & OBS OT)
- **Ms. Ismail ZARINA**, Ward Manager (PN Ward – General and Private)
- **Ms. Pamela Sin Ying KWOK**, Ward Manager (AN Ward & OBS SOPC)
- **Ms. Polly PANG**, Advanced Practice Nurse (PDC Nurse In-charge)

### Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory

- **Dr. Sandy Leung Kuen AU**, Scientific Officer
- **Dr. Eunice Yuen Ting LAU**, Scientific Officer
- **Ms. Winnie Oi Man LAM**, Laboratory Director & Senior Medical Technologist

## Future Vision

We aspire to elevate our research initiatives through ongoing clinical and academic collaborations with other institutions. We continue to conduct high quality multicentre researches in different aspects, with special interest in the prevention of preterm birth in singleton and multiple pregnancies and methods to reduce peripartum or postpartum maternal infections. We keep track on the rise in Caesarean section and address fear of childbirth as a potential cause of Caesarean section due to maternal request. We also evaluate the major contributors to maternal mortalities in Hong Kong and will continue to focus on strategies to reduce maternal complications. Our longstanding partnership with the RCOG has been instrumental in supporting the MFM subspecialty training programme for over 20 years. With such, we are committed to staying at the forefront of developments in MFM.

We are dedicated to providing the highest standard of care, ensuring a healthy journey for mothers and their babies.





## Midwifery and Nursing Team

As the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at HKU celebrates its centennial milestone, it is fitting to reflect on the integral role of midwifery services in shaping the landscape of maternal and neonatal care in Hong Kong. From humble beginnings in the early 20th century to the sophisticated, evidence-based practices of today, midwifery has evolved to provide holistic, woman-centered care. This section chronicles the history, current contributions and visionary future of our midwifery services, underscoring their unwavering commitment to excellence, education, and innovation.





# Our Teams



Breast Feeding Coaching at TMLC



Discussion of Birth Position in TMLC

## Historical Foundations: Pioneering Midwifery in Hong Kong

The roots of midwifery at the Department can be traced back to 1922, when certified midwives trained in Western midwifery practices began delivering services at TYH. In an era when maternal and infant mortality rates were alarmingly high due to limited medical advancements, these early midwives played a pivotal role in establishing structured antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care. They managed low- to medium-risk vaginal deliveries, provided essential postnatal support for mothers and newborns, and laid the groundwork for a profession that would grow in tandem with global healthcare trends.

Over the decades, midwifery in our Department has adapted to societal changes, technological progress and shifting healthcare paradigms. By the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, midwives were not only caregivers but also educators who imparted knowledge on family planning, hygiene and child-rearing to generations of families. The integration of midwifery into the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology marked a significant evolution, fostering collaborations between midwives, obstetricians and other specialists. This synergy was crucial during periods of rapid urbanisation and population growth in post-war Hong Kong, where the demands for safe and accessible maternity services surged.

A landmark development occurred in 1998 with the introduction of midwife-led ultrasound scanning services. This initiative empowered nurse-midwives to perform nuchal translucency (NT) scans independently as part of the first-trimester screening for Down syndrome, along with anomaly scans. Such advancements not only enhanced early detection of fetal abnormalities but also elevated the autonomy and expertise of midwives, aligning with international standards that emphasised midwife-led care for low-risk pregnancies.

The turn of the millennium brought further innovation. In 2009, the Department launched the Team Midwife-Led Care Clinic, a model where Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs) assumed responsibilities for comprehensive care of low-risk pregnant women — from antenatal follow-ups to normal vaginal deliveries and early postnatal care. This shift represented a departure from traditional, fragmented care models towards a more integrated, patient-focused approach. By 2025, this model has evolved into the standardised Integrated Model of Specialist Nurse Clinic (IMSN), which strengthened referral systems and emphasised seamless collaboration between obstetricians and nurse-midwives. These historical milestones reflect a century of resilience and adaptation, transforming midwifery from a supportive role into a dynamic, specialised field that has saved countless lives and improved outcomes of mothers and babies.

## Present Status: Comprehensive, Evidence-Based Care Across the Maternal Journey

Today, our midwifery team at QMH embodies excellence through a multidisciplinary approach that spans the entire spectrum of maternity care — from preconception counseling to postnatal support. The team comprises nurse-midwives with specialised training in areas such as lactation consultant service, bereavement support, normal birth facilitation, high-dependency obstetric care, ultrasound scanning, prenatal genetic counselling and comprehensive child development services. The team ensures personalised, compassionate care tailored to each woman's needs.



Group antenatal talk conducted by nurse-midwife

The mission of our midwifery services is threefold: (i) to deliver outstanding care that promotes the well-being and comfort of women throughout the prenatal to postnatal period; (ii) to train and mentor student midwives, fostering the next generation of professionals; and (iii) to facilitate midwifery research, integrating evidence-based practices into clinical routines. This mission is realised through a patient-centered journey that begins at the antenatal phase.

In the **Obstetrics Specialist Outpatient Clinic**, midwives offer advanced scanning services, including NT scans for Down syndrome screening, pre-eclampsia screening, and detailed anomaly scans. For low-risk pregnancies, the Team Midwife-Led Care provides routine antenatal check-ups, empowering women with



Midwife Ultrasound Scanning

knowledge and confidence. Individual face-to-face breastfeeding counseling sessions are extended to all booked cases, while antenatal education talks — covering topics like antenatal care, labor, breastfeeding and postnatal baby care — are delivered via both virtual (Zoom) and in-person formats.

In the **Antenatal Ward**, midwives serve as the first line of response, triaging admissions, monitoring maternal and fetal health, and providing immediate interventions before physician involvement. They offer non-pharmacological pain relief options for women in the latent phase of labour, such as birth balls, Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS), aromatherapy and mobilisation. Collaboration with physiotherapists enables antenatal exercises to promote optimal positioning for delivery, particularly hip-opening techniques. For high-risk cases, midwives maintain vigilant oversight, ensuring stability and continuity of care.

**Intrapartum Care** in the Labour Ward highlights the midwives' expertise in promoting natural births. They conduct low-risk vaginal deliveries in various positions, perform perineal repairs and assist in instrumental deliveries or caesarean sections in the Labour Ward or operating theatre. High-dependency cases receive specialised attention in Maternal Special Care Beds (MSCB). Emphasising normal birth, midwives employ

# Our Teams

a range of non-pharmacological methods, including LK childbirth massage, peanut or standard birth balls, and hypnobirthing techniques. Immediate post-birth practices, such as skin-to-skin contact, facilitate early breastfeeding initiation. Innovative evidence-based practice integrations include the use of Ready Heat Torso Blanket to prevent newborn hypothermia and the pioneering adoption in Hong Kong of bedside resuscitaire (LifeStart systems) for delayed cord clamping in preterm infants, enhancing neonatal outcomes.

**Postnatal Care** extends this holistic support. In the wards, midwives provide bedside coaching on infant care, individualised breastfeeding assistance, postnatal depression assessments with counseling to uplift

maternal mood, and bedside phototherapy for jaundiced newborns. In the SOPC, lactation consultant clinics offer ongoing breastfeeding support post-discharge, while postnatal depression phone follow-ups address emotional well-being. These services not only address physical health but also emotional and psychological needs, reducing postpartum complications and fostering strong mother-infant bonds.

Our midwives have conducted studies on topics like pain management and breastfeeding efficacy, translating findings into practice through research and education. Training programmes for student midwives emphasise hands-on experience, ensuring the perpetuation of high standards of clinical services.



Bereavement Service



Support to labouring woman

## Team Leaders and Managers

Ms. Hei Kiu CHAN, Department Operations Manager

Ms. Lee Man YEUNG, Midwife Consultant

Ms. Suet Yee CHOW, Associate Midwife Consultant

Ms. Ka Man KWONG, Associate Midwife Consultant

Ms. Iris Hiu Tung CHAN, Ward Manager, Labor Ward and Obstetrics Operating Theatre

Ms. Pamela Sin Ying KWOK, Ward Manager, Antenatal Ward and OBS SOPC

Ms. Polly Pui Yee HO, Ward Manager, Gynaecological Oncology Ward

Ms. Wai Sin TANG, Ward Manager, General Gynaecology Ward and Assisted Reproduction Centre

Ms. Zarina ISMAIL, Ward Manager, Postnatal Ward (General & Private)





CQI Forum 2025 poster presentation - a pioneering approach to delay cord clamping in preterm infants

## Future Vision: Embracing Technology and Expanding Horizons

Looking ahead, the midwifery services at QMH are poised for transformative growth, particularly with the relocation of the obstetrics services to the new block in the first quarter of 2026. This move will introduce state-of-the-art facilities, including two birthing pools for labour pain relief, paving the way for water births and further promotion of normal deliveries. These enhancements will align with global trends toward less interventive, more empowering birth experiences, potentially reducing caesarean rates, and improving patient satisfaction.

Advancing midwifery practices will incorporate cutting-edge technologies. Artificial intelligence (AI) will revolutionise student midwife training through simulated scenarios and personalised coaching modules, enhancing skill acquisition in a safe environment. Virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) applications promise innovative pain relief strategies, allowing women to immerse themselves in calming virtual worlds during labour, complementing traditional methods.

Moreover, the Department is exploring the possibility of integrating Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) into midwifery practices in the near future, particularly with

the opening of Hong Kong's first Chinese Medicine Hospital in 2025 / 26. This integration could encompass TCM modalities such as acupuncture for labour pain management, herbal remedies to support postnatal recovery, and holistic approaches to prenatal wellness, aiming to blend Eastern and Western traditions for more comprehensive care and to reach diverse patient populations. Research will also focus on emerging challenges like climate-related health impacts on pregnancy and mental health integration in maternal care. By fostering international collaborations, our midwives will stay at the forefront of global best practices, ensuring that QMH remains a leader in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

In commemorating a century of excellence, our midwifery services stand as a testament to dedication, innovation and compassion. From the pioneering days at TYH to the tech-infused future, midwives have been the heartbeat of maternity care, guiding women through life's most profound journey with grace and expertise. As we enter the next century, our role will only grow, continuing to illuminate paths of health, hope and humanity.

# Our Teams



## Division of General Gynaecology

### Introduction

The General Gynaecology team is a dedicated unit led by experienced clinicians, providing comprehensive secondary and tertiary care to patients referred from across the territory. Our team delivers expert clinical services for the full spectrum of simple to complex gynaecological conditions. We serve patients of all ages, and incorporate the specialised disciplines of paediatric and adolescent gynaecology as well as urogynecology.

Our mission is to advance women's health through high-quality patient-centered, evidence-based practice, highlighting multidisciplinary collaboration and ongoing education and research, striving to support the well-being of our community at every stage of life.

### Historical Foundations

Before the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at HKU was established, teaching and clinical services in gynaecology took place at the Government Civil Hospital. Following the founding of TYH in 1922, gynaecological service and teaching were also carried out there; it was then shifted to QMH when the latter was opened in 1937, and developed into a leading tertiary gynaecological unit in the territory over the decades.

Throughout its history, the Division of General Gynaecology has consistently placed patient service at the core of its mission, striving to uphold the highest standards of excellence. The team has demonstrated a continual commitment to reduce disruption to patients' routines by implementing a range of patient-focused initiatives and advanced clinical techniques. This philosophy is reflected in the adoption of advanced, minimally invasive clinical approaches.



Vaginal Surgery

The first laparoscopic surgery at our unit was carried out in 1968 by Prof. Ian DONALD and Prof. Daphne CHUN. In the early 1990s, with the support of Prof. Ho Kei MA, Prof. Grace TANG played a pivotal role in advancing laparoscopic techniques in Hong Kong by inviting Prof. Ivo BROSENS, a world-renowned expert in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery, to visit the Department and share his expertise. This collaboration helped accelerate the adoption and refinement of laparoscopic procedures in our department.

Traditional vaginal surgery, especially vaginal hysterectomy, has long been established as a preferred route due to its lower morbidity and greater patient satisfaction. Over the years, the Division has continued to innovate in this area. In 2024, QMH introduced Vaginal Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (vNOTES), a novel minimally invasive technique that uses the vaginal orifice for surgical access, which further extends the indications for the already well-established technique in vaginal surgery.

In the 1990s, with the efforts of Dr. Ting Chung PUN, the Division pioneered the establishment of a nurse-led clinic for early pregnancy assessment. This innovative service was designed to provide efficient care for women experiencing early pregnancy complications. The nurse-led clinic has then evolved into a comprehensive

one-stop clinic which reduces unnecessary hospital admissions and further minimizing disruption to patients' daily life.

The introduction of High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) for fibroid management in our unit by Dr. Vincent CHEUNG in 2016 reflects the Division's ongoing dedication to minimally invasive treatments. This advancement broadens therapeutic options for patients and strengthens the emphasis on patient-centred, minimally disruptive care.

The Urogynaecology Clinic was first established at QMH in 1998, providing assessment and management for women with lower urinary tract symptoms, urinary incontinence, and pelvic organ prolapse. The clinical service was further expanded in 2017 to include nurse-led clinic and a one-stop clinic, during which patients can receive continence care education by both the doctor and nurse in the same setting. Our unit joined with United Christian Hospital (UCH), Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH), and Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH) in 2018 as a combined training centre for urogynaecology subspecialty training recognised by the HKCOG. Since 2021, we have also set up the Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (PAG) Clinic, which further extends our clinical expertise to younger patients with gynaecological concerns.

## Present Status

### Clinical Service

#### 1. General Gynaecology Clinic

The General Gynaecology Clinic operates on three sessions per week, and provides comprehensive care for women presenting with a wide spectrum of common gynaecological problems such as menstrual disorders and abnormal uterine bleeding, pelvic pain, pelvic masses, unwanted pregnancies and so on. Medical students are provided with learning opportunities in the New Case Clinic by actively participating in history taking and physical examination under the supervision of experienced clinicians. This hands-on involvement not only enhances students' clinical skills and confidence but also fosters effective patient-student interactions and comprehensive learning.

#### 2. High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) Clinic

This clinic provides assessment of patients referred for HIFU, offers pre-operative planning and counselling, and provides comprehensive follow up care after treatment.



HIFU Treatment



# Our Teams

## 3. Urogynaecology Clinic

The weekly Urogynaecology Clinic provides comprehensive care for women with pelvic floor and urinary disorders. The clinic operates as a one-stop service, offering assessment, diagnosis, individualised treatment, and nurse-led education in a single visit to streamline patient care and improve outcomes. This integrated approach ensures the patients' needs are addressed efficiently.



Urogynaecology Team (from left Dr. Paulin MA, Ms. Joyce CHAN, Ms. Esther CHAN, Ms. Chau Yin LI, Dr. Maggie CHENG)



Urodynamic Assessment

## 4. Urodynamic Clinic

These sessions are held every week to assess bladder function and diagnose urinary incontinence, overactive bladder, and other lower urinary tract symptoms. Urodynamic studies are performed by experienced staff using advanced equipment, with provision of diagnosis and treatment at the same setting.

## 5. Nurse-led Pelvic Floor Exercise Clinic

Specially trained nurses lead dedicated sessions to teach and supervise pelvic floor exercises, which are essential for the management and prevention of pelvic floor dysfunction and urinary incontinence.

## 6. Nurse-led Ring Pessary Management Clinic

It provides fitting, management, and follow-up care for women using ring pessaries for pelvic organ prolapse. Nurses provide education on pessary care, troubleshooting, and regular monitoring to ensure patient safety and comfort.



## 7. Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (PAG) Clinic

The PAG Clinic operates twice a month, providing specialised care for children and adolescents with a wide range of gynaecological problems, including menstrual disorders, developmental abnormalities, and other gynaecological concerns. This clinic ensures that care is age-appropriate, sensitive, and tailored to the unique needs of younger patients.

## 8. Pre-Admission Clinic

This clinic operates twice a week and is jointly run by the gynaecology team and anaesthetists. Its primary aim is to ensure that all patients scheduled for surgery receive thorough preoperative assessment and counselling prior to their procedures. During each session, patients undergo medical evaluations and anaesthetic assessments; the clinic enables patients to be well-prepared and supported before surgery. The operation of this clinic helps to facilitate same-day admission of suitable patients and reduce the duration of hospital stay perioperatively.

## 9. Early Pregnancy Assessment Clinic (EPAC)

The EPAC operates on daily basis throughout the week and accepts referrals from the Accident and Emergency Department, providing rapid assessment, diagnosis and management of patients with early pregnancy complications such as vaginal bleeding, abdominal pain or other concerns, which successfully reduce unnecessary hospital admissions.

## 10. Day Hysteroscopy Clinic

Newly established in 2024, the Day Hysteroscopy Clinic provides diagnostic and operative hysteroscopy in a single out-patient visit, improving efficiency and patient convenience.



General Gynaecology Ward (K5S) at QMH in 2003



General Gynaecology Team with Dr. Nises Chandra PODDAR at his retirement

# Our Teams

## *Team Meetings and Academic Activities*

We conduct consultant-led grand rounds every Monday. There is a division meeting every week which consist of clinical case discussions, journal clubs, clinical audit, topic discussions and administrative meetings with nurses. All patients scheduled for operation will be discussed at a weekly pre-operative round to ensure patients are managed properly before, during and after the operations. Teaching rounds are held twice a week for medical students and junior medical staff.



Retirement gathering for Dr. Ting Chung PUN in 2023

## *Staff*

### **Clinical**

**Dr. Paulin Wai Sze MA**, Consultant and Head of Division, accredited subspecialist in Urogynaecology  
**Dr. Maggie Mei Chi CHENG**, Consultant  
**Dr. Flora Ho Ying WONG**, Resident Specialist  
**Prof. Kelly Ka Wai PANG**, Clinical Assistant Professor

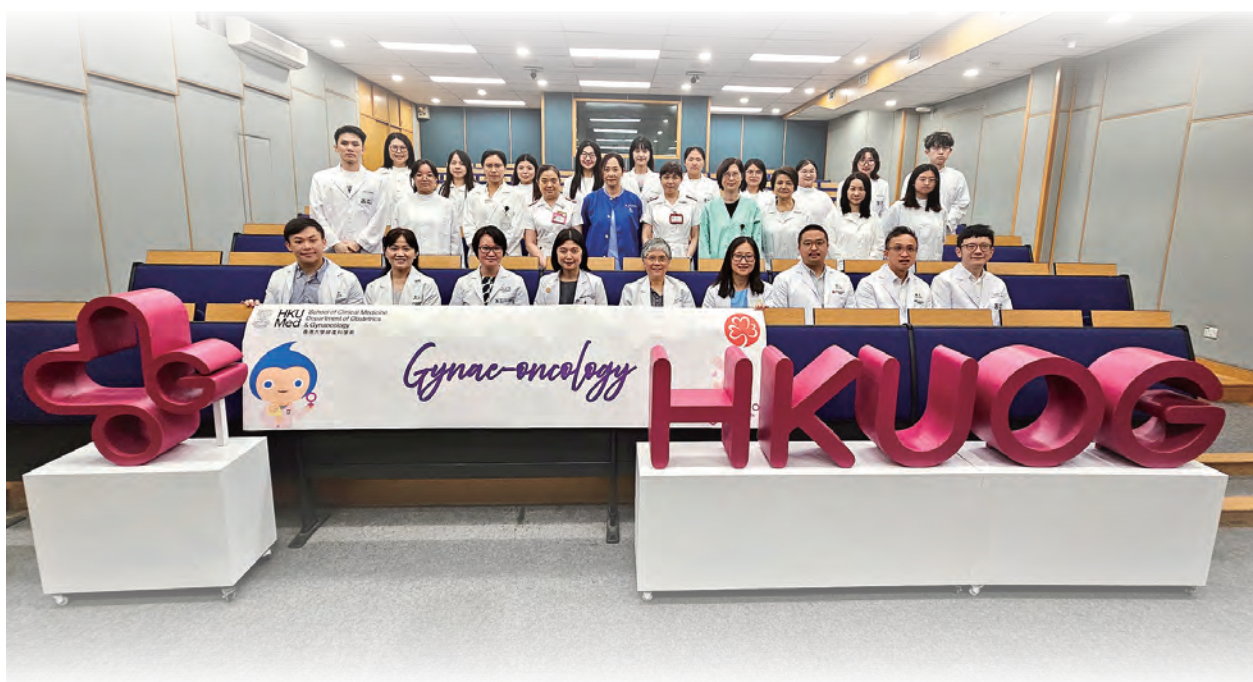
### **Nursing**

**Ms. Wai Sin TANG**, Ward Manager  
**Ms. Chau Yin LI**, Advanced Practise Nurse  
**Ms. Hoi Yan CHAN**, Nurse Specialist  
**Ms. Mei Yan CHAN**, Nurse Specialist

## **Future Vision**

Our team focused on embracing cutting-edge technologies to enhance clinical outcomes and patient safety. The strategic shift towards ambulatory care models, enabling same-day admissions for simple procedures which streamline the patient journey and reduce hospital stays. Multidisciplinary collaboration will be further strengthened, bringing together specialists from various fields to provide holistic care, making care more accessible, efficient and tailored to individual needs. Additionally, we are also committed to advancing medical education and training, ensuring that future healthcare professionals are equipped with the latest knowledge and skills to thrive in a rapidly evolving clinical environment. Through ongoing innovation and a focus on quality, our team aims to set new standards in both patient care and academic excellence. We also endeavour to support ongoing research, especially in the areas of early pregnancy complications, fertility regulation, urogynaecology and menstrual disorders.





## Division of Gynaecological Oncology

### Introduction

The Division of Gynaecological Oncology has served as a leading provider of training, research, and clinical services in gynaecological oncology for many years. As a tertiary referral centre, the Division supports both private and public sectors in Hong Kong and accepts referrals from Macau, Mainland China, and abroad. Through ongoing collaborations within the Department and with other partner hospitals, the Division delivers multi-disciplinary care for women facing gynaecological malignancies and pre-malignant conditions, including services such as colposcopy, cancer surgery, chemotherapy and other systemic treatments, radiotherapy, and palliative care.



Tumour Board Meeting

# Our Teams

## Historical Foundations

Throughout the decades, members of the Division have played a prominent role in managing malignant gynaecological conditions. International recognition has been achieved in areas such as gestational trophoblastic diseases (GTD), dating back to Prof. Ho Kei MA's introduction of urine assays for hCG and the establishment of a central registry in Hong Kong. The Division developed into a world-renowned tertiary centre for gestational trophoblastic neoplasia (GTN), contributing significantly to global staging systems.

The division has undergone steady development in recent years. These changes reflect the combined efforts of many colleagues across institutions, with the aim of strengthening training, service, and research in Hong Kong and the region. While much progress remains to be made, several milestones illustrate how the specialty has gradually matured.



Multidisciplinary Team Meeting with Radiologist

### *i. Training and Educational Growth*

Subspecialist training remains central to our mission. Prof. Hextan NGAN was the first to be accredited as a subspecialist in gynaecological oncology by the RCOG in 1993. In recent years, the accredited Gynaecological Oncology Training Programme centred at QMH has expanded into an accredited subspecialty training centre network that includes United Christian Hospital (UCH) and Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital (PYNEH) as additional training sites.

Further development has extended to the University of Hong Kong–Shenzhen Hospital (HKU-SZH), where subspecialist training opportunities have been established for aspiring gynaecological oncologists. This expansion reflects the increasing need for specialists in the region as well as the willingness of colleagues to contribute to structured mentorship and education.

At the international level, the team has actively participated in the International Gynecologic Cancer Society (IGCS) ECHO Program, facilitating regular virtual tumour boards with international experts. These sessions provide trainees and faculty alike with the opportunity to engage in case-based learning and global exchange, ensuring that training remains aligned with contemporary international standards.



## *ii. Service Expansion*

Parallel to our training initiatives, clinical service has also expanded. Within the HKU Health System, a Gynaecological Oncology Centre has been established at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong (GHK), bringing subspecialist care into the private sector under a consistent academic and clinical framework.

Surgical practice has likewise continued to evolve. Our team has incorporated procedures such as hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC), sentinel lymph node mapping, and systematic para-aortic lymphadenectomy up to the renal vein in selected cases. Both open and laparoscopic / robotic approaches are employed depending on patient factors and disease status. These advances are implemented cautiously and deliberately, informed by international evidence and tailored to the local setting.



Gynaecological Oncology team at Prof. Hextan NGAN's retirement celebration

## *iii. Incorporation of Precision Medicine*

One of the most significant shifts in the field has been the integration of molecular and genetic approaches into daily practice. Testing for BRCA mutations and Lynch syndrome has been introduced, along with molecular classification of endometrial cancer. These refinements allow for more tailored treatment planning as well as implications for familial risk reduction.

In therapeutics, biomarker-directed targeted therapies and immunotherapies have been incorporated into management algorithms. As the experience in Hong Kong continues to evolve, these developments align local practice with international advances and offer patients with improved access to evidence-based treatment options.



# Our Teams

## *iv. Multidisciplinary Approach*

The growth of systemic therapy has underscored the need for comprehensive multidisciplinary collaboration. Our service has developed into a fully integrated team combining gynaecological oncologists, medical oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, allied health practitioners, and palliative care specialists. The multidisciplinary model provides a more holistic framework for patient care, ensuring that management is not only evidence-based but also coordinated to address the broad spectrum of patient needs.

## *v. Research Development*

Research has long been a fundamental mission of the department, and the Gynaecological Oncology Division has contributed in several areas, including molecular cancer biology, clinical therapeutic trials and cervical cancer prevention.

### **Laboratory Research**

Ongoing translational studies have investigated the molecular biology of ovarian and endometrial cancers, focusing on mechanisms of immune evasion, chemoresistance, cancer evolution, and the development of therapeutic antibodies to enable early detection and treatment. Our collaborative efforts have also encompassed cancer vaccines, medical imaging, and immunotherapies, establishing a strong foundation for future therapeutic innovations.

### **Clinical Research**

The team participates actively in Phase 3 international clinical trials, ensuring that patients in Hong Kong have access to novel targeted therapies and immunotherapies. These efforts contribute to the global evidence base while simultaneously expanding treatment opportunities for local patients.

### **Cervical Cancer Prevention**

Research efforts have extended beyond treatment to prevention. The team is involved in HPV epidemiology studies, vaccine implementation research, and cervical screening strategies in local and regional contexts. These contributions have supported public health interventions that align with the global drive to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem.

Across these domains, our approach has been to integrate basic science, translational research, and clinical applications, while maintaining a focus on patient-centred outcomes.

## *vi. International Engagement*

Alongside our research work, colleagues have actively involved in academic leadership. Members of the team hold positions in multiple international societies, including AOFOG, ASGO, AOGIN, IPVS, and ISSTD. We also served on the FIGO Committee and led the production of international guidelines. Through participation in working groups and committees, our team has contributed to guideline development, educational programming, and regional collaborations. While these contributions may be modest in scale, they reflect a commitment to share experiences and to learn within the wider international community.

## Present Status

### *Clinical Activities*

#### 1. **New Case Clinic**

We run the weekly New Case Clinic to see patients referred for suspected or confirmed gynaecological malignancies to ensure the earliest possible management.

#### 2. **Cancer Follow-Up Clinic**

Patients with gynaecological cancers are followed up in the weekly Cancer Follow-Up Clinic.

#### 3. **Combined Radiotherapy Clinic**

Gynaecological cancer patients requiring radiotherapy are managed in the Combined Radiotherapy Clinic jointly with clinical oncologists.

#### 4. **Systemic Anticancer Treatment**

Patients treated on chemotherapy and other systemic treatments including target and immunological therapy receive treatment either as in-patient in our ward or as day-patient in the Day Chemotherapy Centre of QMH; they are followed up in the Chemotherapy Clinic.

#### 5. **Palliative Medicine Clinic**

Patients with end-stage cancer will be followed up in our joint Palliative Medicine Clinic. They may be referred to various hospice services where appropriate.

#### 6. **Mole Clinic**

Patients with GTD (including hydatidiform mole and GTN) are followed up in the weekly Mole Clinic.

#### 7. **Gynaecological Oncology Surgery**

Two full-day operative theatre sessions are dedicated for surgical treatment of suspected or confirmed gynaecological malignancies. One of the sessions caters for robotic-assisted operations.

#### 8. **Colposcopy Clinic**

Women with abnormal cervical cytology are managed in the Colposcopy Clinic. Services include colposcopic examination with cervical biopsy, loop electrosurgical excision procedure and cryotherapy.

#### 9. **Vulval Clinic**

There is a monthly Vulval Clinic jointly run with the dermatologist dedicated for the assessment and management of vulval conditions.

#### 10. **Genetic Clinic**

This is a monthly clinic providing dedicated counselling and management for women diagnosed with hereditary gynaecological cancers.



Gynaecological Oncology team in the operating theatre with Visiting Professor

### *Team Meetings and Academic Activities*

We conduct the Tumour Board Meeting once per week to discuss histopathological reports and patient management jointly with the pathologists, radiologists and clinical oncologists. We have a weekly grand round on in-patients of the Team, and weekly clinical meetings to discuss patients undergoing chemotherapy, pre-operative patients as well as new cases. There is also a weekly combined radiology meeting to review radiological imaging and discuss patient management jointly with radiologists. Other academic activities include regular journal clubs, laboratory research meetings and clinical research meetings. We also contribute to the weekly departmental postgraduate meeting dedicated for audit activities and staff training.

# Our Teams

## Staff

### Clinical

**Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN**, Clinical Professor and Division Head, accredited Gynaecological Oncologist

**Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN**, Clinical Professor [Part time], accredited Gynaecological Oncologist

**Prof. Ka Yu TSE**, Clinical Associate Professor, accredited Gynaecological Oncologist

**Prof. Siew Fei NGU**, Clinical Associate Professor [Part-time], accredited Gynaecological Oncologist

**Dr. May Hiu Mei LUK**, Associate Consultant (Sub-specialty Trainee)

**Dr. Aaron Hey Yin CHAN**, Associate Consultant (Sub-specialty Trainee)

**Dr. Stanton King Dat HO**, Associate Consultant

### Nursing

**Ms. Polly Pui Yee HO**, Gynaecological Oncology Ward Manager

**Ms. Priscilla Yan Yan WONG**, Advanced Practice Nurse, Cancer Case Manager (Gynaecological Cancer)

**Ms. Lai Hung CHAN**, Advanced Practice Nurse [Part-time], Nurse Specialist in Stoma Care

**Ms. W. H. CHAN**, Associate Nurse Consultant, Palliative Medical Unit, Grantham Hospital (GH)

### Clinical Research Team

**Ms. Lesley Suk Kwan LAU**, Senior Technical Officer

**Ms. Tina Na WEI**, Research Officer

**Ms. Iris Wai Kin TANG**, Research Assistant

**Ms. Elaine Yin Ting YEUNG**, Research Assistant

### Laboratory Research Team

**Prof. Haonan LU**, Assistant Professor

**Dr. Stephanie Si LIU**, Research Officer

**Dr. Michelle Kwan Yee SIU**, Research Officer

**Dr. Wai Sun CHAN**, Post-doctoral Fellow

**Dr. Runying LONG**, Post-doctoral Fellow

**Dr. Jiangnan HE**, Post-doctoral Fellow

**Ms. Lynn M. L. HUI**, Research Assistant

**Mr. Yanqing Y. LI**, Research Assistant

**Ms. Tianci HAN**, Research Assistant



Gynaecological Oncology team Christmas party in 2024

## Future Vision

The progress of gynaecological oncology at QMH and across our partner institutions represents a collective effort to enhance patient care, develop training, and participate in global collaboration. Each development — whether in training, surgical innovation, precision medicine, or multidisciplinary care — has been undertaken with recognition of the challenges that remain and with an awareness that improvement is an ongoing process.

Looking ahead, our priorities remain clear: to continue advancing high-quality care for women with gynaecological cancers, to train future generations of specialists, and to contribute meaningfully to the international community. We aspire to build on current progress with humility, and be always mindful that our efforts are part of a broader, shared endeavour in women's cancer care globally.





## Division of Reproductive Medicine

### Introduction

The Division of Reproductive Medicine provides clinical management for patients with infertility, menstrual and reproductive endocrine disorders, as well as menopause-related problems. The Division is a multidisciplinary team with contributions from urologists, endocrinologists, geneticists, psychologists and medical social workers.

Our mission is to provide high quality patient-centred service to the community at secondary and tertiary levels in an effective and efficient manner, capitalising on the expertise of the staff from both HKU and Hospital Authority. We also endeavour in teaching and research in the field of reproductive medicine.



Celebrating the first IVF birth in Queen Mary Hospital in 1987

# Our Teams

## Historical Foundations

The use of clomiphene and human menopausal gonadotrophin for ovulation induction in women with anovulatory infertility was first started in our Department in 1965 and 1972 respectively by Dr. Shing Kwan YIP. Our assisted reproduction programme was established in 1986 by Prof. Pak Chung HO. Being one of the pioneers in this field, the first baby from our in vitro fertilisation (IVF) programme was born in 1987. We achieved the first live birth from intracytoplasmic sperm injection in Hong Kong in 1995, and the first live birth in Hong Kong after pre-implantation genetic testing in 2002. We have since been playing a leading role in providing pre-implantation genetic testing to patients with monogenic diseases and chromosomal abnormalities. With the establishment of the Council on Human Reproductive Technology in Hong Kong, our assisted reproduction centre was licensed under the Council in 2008, and was formally named as the Centre of Assisted Reproduction and Embryology, The University of Hong Kong – Queen Mary Hospital (HKU-QMH CARE). Since September 2014, our Division has also been responsible for supervising the Assisted Reproduction Centre and the fertility and endocrine service in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH). In 2016, we collaborated with the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong, establishing an Andrology Laboratory in the Association for providing semen analysis and intrauterine insemination services. Because of the increased demand for preimplantation genetic testing service, our genetic laboratory was moved to Tsan Yuk Hospital in 2017.

In 2014, our Division established the Reproductive Medicine Center at HKU-SZH to start infertility and reproductive endocrine services, and was licensed to provide assisted reproduction service since October 2015. This is one of the areas of excellence at HKU-SZH.

Prof. Pak Chung HO retired in 2013, and the headship of the Division was succeeded by Prof. Ernest NG in 2013 and Prof. Raymond LI in 2020 respectively. Prof. Yuanqing YAO and Dr. Yu LI were appointed to headship of the Reproductive Medicine Center at HKU-SZH in 2021 and 2024 respectively.



Celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Assisted Reproduction Programme in 1996



The first Workshop on Assisted Reproduction Technology held at Queen Mary Hospital in 1997





Reproduction Team at Prof. Pak Chung HO's retirement dinner in 2013

## Present Status

### *Clinical Service*

#### 1. Infertility Clinic

Patients who are unable to conceive due to various reasons are seen at the Infertility Clinic. Those having severe male problems are further evaluated at the Male Infertility Clinic. The treatments that we offer include reproductive surgery, induction of ovulation, as well as assisted reproduction. There are two sessions of Infertility Clinic per week.

#### 2. Assisted Reproduction

We operate the HKU-QMH CARE as well as the Centre of Assisted Reproduction and Embryology at KWH, which are treatment centres licensed by the Council on Human Reproductive Technology, Hong Kong. We provide intrauterine insemination (with or without ovarian stimulation) and IVF treatment (including intracytoplasmic sperm injection and embryo freezing). The centre at KWH has been running a shared-care IVF programme with Princess Margaret Hospital since 2020.

The Assisted Reproduction Clinic operates every morning to provide cycle tracking, ovarian stimulation, counselling and follow-up care for patients undergoing various forms of assisted reproduction. Operative sessions are dedicated for oocyte retrieval, embryo transfer and intrauterine insemination.

For men with azoospermia (no sperm in the ejaculate), sperm are obtained by a surgical operation from the epididymis in case of obstructive causes, or from the testis in case of non-obstructive causes, by urologists.

Semen cryopreservation is provided to men who require surgical retrieval of spermatozoa or as back-up for assisted reproduction. We also provide sperm and oocyte cryopreservation service for patients who wish to preserve fertility prior to their cancer treatment.

Genetic diagnosis of embryos prior to transfer (preimplantation genetic testing) is performed in patients at risk of chromosomal abnormalities and single-gene diseases (e.g. thalassemia). Our service is backed up by clinical and molecular geneticists within the Department, from the Department of Paediatrics & Adolescent Medicine and Department of Pathology, HKU, and the Department of Clinical Genetics, Hong Kong Children's Hospital.

Counselling and psychological support are provided to those patients in need by Medical Social Workers of our Division, who also organise regular activities to enhance psychosocial wellbeing of our patients.



# Our Teams

## 3. Reproductive Endocrine Clinic

Patients with hormonal disorders affecting their menstruation and reproductive function are managed in this clinic. There are dedicated clinic sessions for women with disorders of sexual development (developmental abnormalities of the genital tract), premature ovarian insufficiency and Turner's syndrome. We are backed up by endocrinologists from the Department of Medicine and Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, HKU. We also participate in a multidisciplinary clinic under the Paediatric Clinic for the management of disorders of sexual development.

In KWH, we also run the Combined Reproductive Endocrine Clinic (jointly with medical endocrinologists) and the Male Infertility Clinic (jointly with medical endocrinologists and urologists) to provide multidisciplinary care to women and men who require subspecialist input from the endocrinologists and / or urologists.

## 4. Menopause Clinic

Patients with menopause-related problems are seen in this Clinic. Hormone replacement therapy, as well as other hormonal or non-hormonal treatments, are provided as appropriate.

## 5. Reproductive Genetic Clinic

Patients with special genetic conditions who are contemplating pregnancy and considering preimplantation genetic testing are seen in the Reproductive Genetic Clinic.

## 6. Recurrent Miscarriage Clinic

Patients who suffer from recurrent pregnancy losses will be seen at this clinic. Investigations including genetic and immunological work-up, counselling as well as pelvic imaging are provided.



Retirement of  
Prof. William YEUNG  
in 2025



The first livebirth from pre-implantation genetic testing for alpha-thalassaemia in Hong Kong in 2004



Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
the Assisted Reproduction Programme in 2016



Management of the Assisted Reproduction Centre in Kwong Wah Hospital under HKU since September 2014



Hong Kong Fertility Preservation Workshop 2025

### *Team Meetings and Academic Activities*

We conduct Reproduction Rounds once a week which comprises clinical case discussions, journal clubs, research meetings, quality assurance meetings or topic discussions. There is a team meeting every week to discuss patient management as well as administrative matters in the assisted reproduction programme in QMH and KWH respectively.

### *Staff*

#### *Clinical*

- **Prof. Raymond Hang Wun LI**,  
Clinical Associate Professor and Head of Division, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine
- **Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG**  
Clinical Professor, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine
- **Prof. Jennifer Ka Yee KO**  
Clinical Associate Professor, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine
- **Dr. Evelyn WONG**  
Associate Consultant, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine
- **Prof. Paul Yu Wing TONG**  
Clinical Assistant Professor, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine
- **Dr. Carmen Shu Man NG**, Associate Consultant
- **Dr. Lydia Shui Fan LAI**, Consultant, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine (Kwong Wah Hospital)
- **Dr. Judy Mei Ting LAM**, Associate Consultant, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine (Kwong Wah Hospital)
- **Dr. Catherine M.W. HUNG**, Associate Consultant (Kwong Wah Hospital)
- **Dr. Mimi Tze Man FUNG**, Consultant (Princess Margaret Hospital)
- **Dr. Rebecca Siu Fan WAN**, Associate Consultant, accredited subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine (Princess Margaret Hospital)
- **Dr. Catherine Ka Yan WONG**, Associate Consultant (Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital)



# Our Teams

## *Assisted Reproduction Laboratory*

- **Prof. William Shu Biu YEUNG**, Emeritus Professor
- **Dr. Kevin Ka Wai LAM**, Scientific Officer and Laboratory Director
- **Dr. Judy Fung Cheung CHOW**, Senior Technical Manager
- **Mr. Tak Ming CHEUNG**, Technical Manager
- **Ms. Wanda Choi Wan HO**, Assistant Technical Manager
- **Ms. Crystal Hiu Yan LOCK**, Medical Technologist (Kwong Wah Hospital)
- **Mr. Percy Chi Kit TSANG**, Assistant Technical Manager

## *Nursing*

- **Ms. Wai Man CHEUNG**, Nursing Officer; ART Nurse Co-ordinator (Queen Mary Hospital)
- **Ms. Chui Pik DO**, ART Nurse Co-ordinator (Queen Mary Hospital)
- **Ms. Sau Mei KWOK**, Advanced Practice Nurse; ART Nurse Co-ordinator (Kwong Wah Hospital)

## *Research*

- **Prof. William Shu Biu YEUNG**, Emeritus Professor
- **Prof. Kui LIU**, Professor
- **Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE**, Associate Professor
- **Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU**, Associate Professor
- **Dr. Andy Chun Hang CHEN**, Research Assistant Professor
- **Dr. Cherie Yin Lau LEE**, Scientific Officer
- **Dr. Rachel Wah Shan CHAN**, Research Officer



Winning the Outstanding Team Award in 2025 for our fertility preservation programme

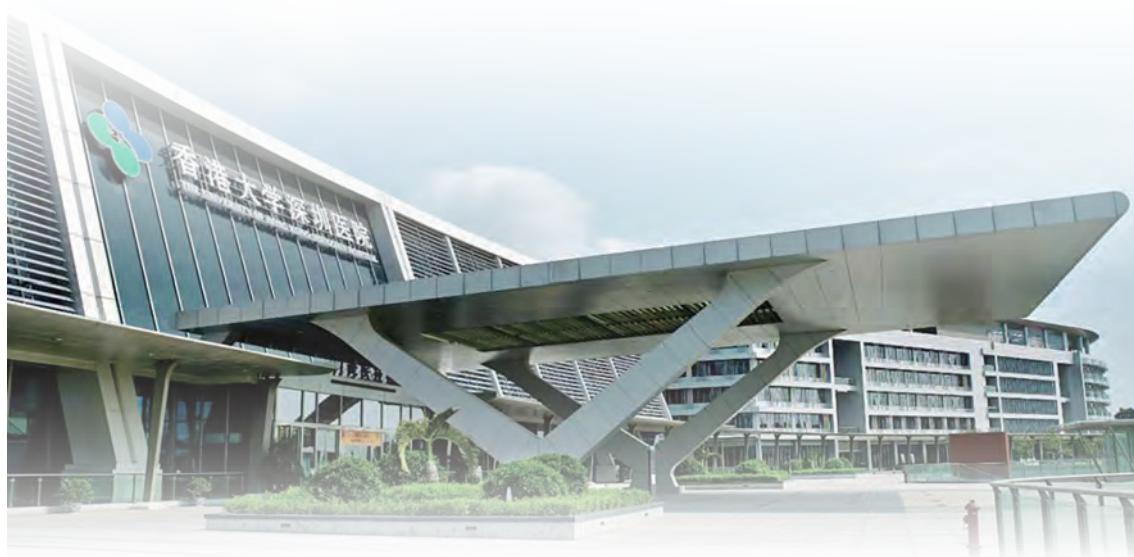


Attending Conference for Continuous Medical Education

## Future Vision

We endeavour to promote an evidence-based and patient-oriented approach in clinical practice, and hence would strongly encourage and support research in both clinical reproductive medicine and reproductive biology. We shall maintain good networking with other groups in Hong Kong, China and overseas, by which our research capacity can be brought to new heights through concerted collaborations, and by which our mission can be preached through continued clinical and academic exchanges with other institutions.





## Service at The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital

### Introduction

The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital (HKU-SZH) was officially opened on 1 July 2012. It is a major comprehensive public hospital built by the Shenzhen municipal government with introduction of modern management model by the University of Hong Kong. The Hospital promotes the concept of a “green hospital” and emphasises on evidence-based practice and non-corrupted culture. Being accredited by ACHS and as a National 3A Hospital as well as a hospital under the “High Level – Summit Program”, HKU-SZH has introduced advanced hospital management experience and medical technology of international standards with an aim to be a leading hospital in Mainland China that is “First-class Nationally, Renowned Internationally”. The Reproductive Medicine and Prenatal Diagnosis Center is one of the Centers of Excellence of the hospital.

### History

Since the conception of the hospital, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has been one of the core clinical departments. It has been managed by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, HKU, with Prof. Hextan NGAN as the founding Chief of Service. With the help of academic and honorary staff of HKU, we managed to start from zero and build up the service to the capacity as of to date as shown by the latest statistics.

The **General Gynaecology** service was established when the hospital started operating in July 2012. The first gynaecological operation under general anaesthesia was performed in December 2012. The Cervical Diseases Clinic commenced in October 2018. Advanced (level IV) operation for deep infiltrating endometriosis was successfully commenced in 2024, with around 200 cases performed.

Led by Prof. Hextan NGAN, the **Gynaecological Oncology** team conducted the first cancer operation in May 2013. A dedicated clinic for gynaecological oncology was started in January 2015. We performed the first robotic-assisted cancer surgery in January 2021, and has since completed 130 robotic surgeries. In September 2022, the team pioneered the first hyperthermic intraperitoneal perfusion surgery for ovarian cancer, and has completed 5 cases to date. The **Urogynaecology** service was established by Dr. Cecilia CHEON. The **Endometriosis Clinic** commenced in October 2018, with rapidly growing caseloads in the recent two years.

# Our Teams



Departmental photo of Hong Kong and Shenzhen staff - 專業傳承 深港一家 in October 2024

The **Reproductive Medicine Centre** was formally established by Prof. Pak Chung HO in 2014, and was granted in the same year the Shenzhen Key Laboratory on Fertility Regulation status. It has been officially licensed by the China government to provide assisted reproduction treatment since October 2015.

Led by Dr. Mary TANG and Dr. Chin Peng LEE, the **Obstetric and Maternal-Fetal Medicine** service officially begun in August 2013. Ms. Winnie HUNG took up the role as Nursing Advisor since conception of the Department, and help build up a highly motivated and dedicated midwifery team. The first baby was delivered in December 2013 by Prof. Grace TANG.

The reproductive medicine and prenatal diagnosis services were restructured into the **Reproductive Medicine and Prenatal Diagnosis Center**, one of the centres of excellence of HKU-SZH, in 2021.



Photo of leaders (from left: Dr. Li ZHANG, Prof. Kenneth CHEUNG, Prof. Hextan NGAN, Dr. Jie WANG, Ms. Winnie HUNG)



Departmental staff in 2017



Annual gathering 2016 with HKU staff: Dr. Tin Son WONG (6<sup>th</sup> from left), Prof. William YEUNG (7<sup>th</sup> from left), Prof. Hextan NGAN (8<sup>th</sup> from left), Dr. Mary TANG (9<sup>th</sup> from left)





Senior staff in 2023

## Clinical Service

The Department provides general obstetric and gynaecological services, as well as subspecialty services in maternal-fetal medicine, gynaecological oncology, reproductive medicine and urogynaecology.

### 1. Division of Gynaecology

The Division runs out-patient and in-patient services in general gynaecology, as well as in the subspecialties of gynaecological oncology and urogynaecology. It also operates the colposcopy, hysteroscopy, endometriosis and family planning services.

The **General Gynaecology Team** manages various common and complex gynaecological conditions as out-patients, as well as provide abdominal, vaginal, laparoscopic, robotic, and single-port laparoscopic surgeries. We have extensive clinical experience in treating pelvic masses, menstrual problems and lower genital tract conditions. Gynaecological day surgeries and medical abortions are also provided. The Cervical Diseases Clinic offers a full range of services including cervical cancer screening, colposcopy and loop electrosurgical excision procedure.

The **Gynaecological Oncology Team** runs a comprehensive multidisciplinary service in managing women with gynaecological cancers. It performs major abdominal as well as laparoscopic operations. We have also developed hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) for ovarian cancer, gene testing, targeted therapy, immunotherapy, and endocrine therapy. We work closely with the Oncology Medical Center to run the Combined Gynaecological Oncology Clinic



First robotic-assisted cancer surgery in January 2022



First Ovarian Summit at HKU-SZH in 2016



# Our Teams

for patients who need radiotherapy, chemotherapy and other medical treatments. The team has four members currently; three of them have completed structured subspecialty training in gynaecological oncology under the IGCS and HKCOG model, and one is undergoing training currently. We manage approximately 200 cases of gynaecological malignancies annually, with nearly 3,000 outpatient visits in 2024. We have approximately 100 multidisciplinary team (MDT) cases annually. We have organised an annual conference in gynaecological oncology for seven years, with over 3,000 participants both online and offline.

The **Urogynaecology Team** operates a Pelvic Floor Clinic catered for management of female urinary incontinence, genital prolapse and postpartum vaginal laxity. We provide urodynamic assessment, conservative treatment as well as surgery for the above problems. We perform laparoscopic iliopectineal ligament suspension, sacrospinous ligament suspension, pelvic floor repair, vaginal tightening, colpocleisis, and urethral suspension, all with excellent results. Pelvic floor rehabilitation for women with pelvic dysfunction in the puerperium is also provided.



Opening Ceremony of Obstetric Service in the International Medical Center on 29 January 2016



Opening of the Pelvic Floor Rehabilitation Clinic in February 2017

## 2. Division of Obstetrics

We provide antenatal check-up for low-risk pregnant women, as well as management of high risk pregnancies. Antenatal and postnatal classes are run to provide education to pregnant women regarding pregnancy and newborn care. Special services include combined clinics for high risk obstetrics and gestational diabetes.

Since its establishment in 2013, the obstetric team has always adhered to international standards and evidence-based medicine, upholding the philosophy of patient-centred care, and closely work with the maternal-fetal medicine specialists to provide pregnant women with integrated, high-quality diagnosis and management from prenatal care to safe delivery.

In the first five years of its establishment, our obstetric service rose to rank first in delivery volume among Shenzhen's top-tier general hospitals, becoming the only unit in Shenzhen requiring



Opening Ceremony of Obstetric Service at HKU-SZH in August 2013



Introducing the Lottery System for Antenatal Booking on 6 February 2017



Prof. Grace TANG conducted the delivery in HKU-SZH in December 2013

drawing lots for antenatal booking. In recent years, its delivery volume has consistently ranked among the top three among Shenzhen's top-tier general hospitals, and the quality of its obstetric services has continuously maintained a top level within the country. From its opening in August 2013 to October 2025, we have had over 65,000 deliveries with no maternal death.

We are a hospital-level critical care centre for pregnant and postpartum women. Leveraging the advantages of a top-tier tertiary general hospital, it employs a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach, ensuring close collaboration among multiple disciplines and possessing an advanced and comprehensive capacity for treating critically ill pregnant and postpartum women. It has successfully treated pregnant women with complications such as heart disease, severe pulmonary hypertension, malignancies, and severe autoimmune diseases. It has also successfully rescued pregnant women with severe preeclampsia, placenta praevia with severe complications, amniotic fluid embolism, severe postpartum haemorrhage, and Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC), safeguarding both maternal and child safety.



Establishment of the Critical Maternity Care Centre (危重孕產婦 救治中心) on 9 November 2021

### 3. Reproductive Medicine and Prenatal Diagnosis Center

The Reproductive Medicine Division provides a comprehensive, multidisciplinary clinical service for management of patients with infertility, reproductive endocrine problems, menopause-related problems and recurrent miscarriage. Our Andrology Clinic provides diagnosis and treatment for male infertility, male sexual dysfunction and related reproductive disorders in men. It also operates a pre-conception screening programme. The Reproductive Medicine Center was awarded three development grants from the Shenzhen Municipal Government, namely the Sanming project program led by Prof. Kristina GEMZELL-DANIELSSON of Karolinska Institutet in 2017 and 2022, and the Shenzhen Peacock Talent Program in 2019.

The Prenatal Diagnosis Division provides prenatal diagnosis and counselling for pregnant women, as well as prenatal screening of Down syndrome and



Establishment of the Reproductive Medicine Center in 2014

other common genetic conditions. It also specialises in reproductive risk assessment for patients with rare diseases. It is equipped with ultrasonography, cytogenetics and molecular diagnostic facilities, and provides in-utero surgery for patients in need.

# Our Teams

## Team Meetings and Academic Activities

Weekly academic meetings and teaching sessions are conducted. The Department also organises CME meetings at national, provincial or city level from time to time, some of which are organised in collaboration with our Department at HKU as well as other institutions and professional bodies in Mainland China.

Our Department, under the leadership of Prof. Hextan NGAN, has been playing a pivotal role in establishing a structured training programme for specialists and subspecialists based on the HKCOG training model. New junior doctors appointed to the Department have

been enrolled into this programme. With reference to the HKCOG training curriculum, we successfully piloted subspecialist training in gynaecological oncology (three trainees), maternal-fetal medicine (four trainees), reproductive medicine (one trainee) and urogynaecology (two trainees). This training model has been formally adopted into the structured specialist training programme run by the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Medical Specialist Training Center, a joint venture established between the Shenzhen government and the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine since 2023.

## Future Developments

Since early 2025, full-time local Consultants have been appointed as Chiefs of Service, who have taken over the management of clinical services in more seamless and efficient capacities. Our Hong Kong professoriate staff continue our roles in developing teaching and research at HKU-SZH. With the growing patient volume and clinical expertise, HKU-SZH will continue to provide

a ground to expand collaborative research and teaching activities, incorporating expertise from both Mainland China and Hong Kong. Besides, we envisage that our endeavour in establishing structured specialist and subspecialist training will flourish and expand to the Greater China.

### Hong Kong Staff and Key Local Staff

**Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN**, Chair of Department, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
**Prof. Ka Wang CHEUNG**, Deputy Chair of Department, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
**Prof. Ka Yu TSE**, Deputy Chair of Department, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
**Prof. Raymond Hang Wun LI**, Chair of Department, Reproductive Medicine and Prenatal Diagnosis Center  
**Dr. Jie WANG**, Chief of Service, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Head, Division of Obstetrics  
**Dr. LI ZHANG**, Head, Division of Gynecology  
**Dr. Yu LI**, Head, Division of Reproductive Medicine  
**Dr. Jiansheng XIE**, Head, Division of Prenatal Diagnosis  
**Dr. Kit Sheung CHAN**, Hong Kong Consultant, Obstetrics and Gynecology  
**Ms. Fengxin HU**, Head Nurse, Obstetrics and Gynecology  
**Ms. Ran HUO**, Head Nurse, Reproductive Medicine





## Service at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong (GHK)

### Introduction

Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong (GHK) is a private hospital which commenced operation in March 2017. It is a teaching hospital of the HKU Medical Faculty, which serves its exclusive clinical partner. Our Department started to manage the obstetrical and gynaecological service at GHK since its conception, with consultations provided by both clinical professoriates of HKU and affiliated specialists in private practice.



Labour Room

# Our Teams

## History

Prof. Hextan NGAN was appointed as its first Chair of Specialty in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2015 when the service was in preparation. Upon Professor NGAN's retirement in September 2021, Dr. Vincent CHEUNG took over as the Chair of Specialty, which was succeeded by Prof. Karen CHAN in 2025 when Dr. CHEUNG retired.

In January 2020, the GHK-HKU Collaborative Women's Health Service was established. This Service offers cervical cancer screening to women referred from QMH Colposcopy Clinic and those from the former HKU Lady Helen Woo Women's Diagnostic and Treatment Centre. The obstetrics and gynaecology service was accredited by the HKCOG in 2020. In November 2021, this service was expanded to provide care to walk-in women and to include breast and bone density, and pelvic ultrasound screening. GHK was designated as a "Baby-Friendly Hospital" in 2023.

## Clinical Service

The unit provides general obstetric and gynaecological services, as well as subspecialty consultations in gynaecological oncology, maternal-fetal medicine and reproductive medicine.

## Academic Activities

Audit and CME meetings are conducted from time to time. Since 2019, GHK has been providing clinical attachment to medical students as part of their gynaecology rotation in the specialty clerkship. It also supports research activities of the HKU Department.



Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinic, GHK



A close-up photograph of a doctor in a white lab coat with a stethoscope around their neck, examining a patient's arm. The doctor's hands are visible, holding the patient's arm. The stethoscope is black and silver. The patient's arm is resting on a surface.

Our  
Great  
Leaders



# Our Great Leaders



*Prof. Richard Edwin TOTTENHAM*

Prof. Richard TOTTENHAM, an Irish obstetrician, was the inaugural Professor and Head of our Department. Prof. TOTTENHAM received medical training at the Trinity College, Dublin, served the Royal Navy during the First World War, and was a Foundation Fellow of the RCOG. In 1925, he was appointed as the first Chair of Midwifery (Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology) at HKU, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. Soon after his arrival, he performed the first Caesarean section in Hong Kong in June 1925 at the old TYH at Western Street. His publications in both local and international journals portrayed the physical and personality characteristics of Chinese women, as well as their social conditions, based on his own observation in those days in relation to maternity care. He was Dean of Medicine at HKU in 1928-1930. He resigned in 1935 and continued clinical practice in Londonderry. He eventually returned to Dublin after retirement, and passed away in May 1971.



*Prof. William Charles Wallace NIXON*

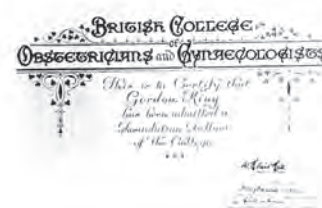
Prof. NIXON was born in Malta in 1903, and studied in England. He was well known as a keen sportsman. He received medical training at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School. He received training in obstetrics and gynaecology at St. Mary's Hospital and Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, and was appointed as Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in these two hospitals respectively after obtaining membership of the RCOG in 1933. He came to Hong Kong and served as the second Head of Department in 1935. During his tenure, he founded the Hong Kong Eugenics League in 1936, which offered family planning services to Hong Kong people.

He returned to England in December 1937 and worked for a few hospitals there. He then took up professorship at University of Istanbul, Turkey in 1943, and back in the UK at the University College London in 1946. He was a strong advocate for safe abortion services before the establishment of the Abortion Act in the UK, and paid much attention to psychological wellbeing in relation to pregnancy and childbirth. Prof. NIXON passed away in February 1966.



*Prof. Gordon KING*

Prof. Gordon KING is a legendary figure in the history of our Department and University. Born in London, he was educated in Bristol and Liverpool, and then studied medicine at the London Hospital Medical College. He was accredited as Foundation Fellow of the RCOG in 1930. He came to China as a medical missionary, taught at Peking Union Medical College and later Cheeloo University, before he came to Hong Kong and joined our Department in 1938 as Professor and Head. He became Dean of Medicine in 1940. During the Japanese invasion, he escaped to Chongqing and arranged for around 140 HKU medical students to continue their studies at institutions in Mainland China. After returning to Hong Kong in August 1945 when the Sino-Japanese War ended, he resumed teaching and help reorganise the Faculty and the Hong Kong health system. He was Dean of the Medical Faculty again in 1951-1954, and Pro-Vice Chancellor of HKU in 1954-1955.



Prof. KING accredited as Foundation Fellow of RCOG



Prof. Gordon KING (front middle) with Prof. Daphne CHUN (front row, second left)

He established a distinguished history of Hong Kong as one of the foremost proponents of sexual and reproductive health. He took over as Chairman of the Hong Kong Eugenics League in 1938, and re-established it as the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong in 1950, which has since remained as a main organisation to provide sexual and reproductive health services and education in Hong Kong.

He resigned from HKU in 1956 and moved to Australia to be Dean of the newly formed medical school of the University of Western Australia. He



Prof. KING in his later years

retired in 1966, and subsequently helped to establish the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Nairobi, Kenya. He spent his post-retirement life in Perth, Australia, and passed away in 1991 at the age of 91. To commemorate his contributions, there is a Gordon King Lecture Theatre in the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences. Each year, a Gordon King Prize is awarded to the medical student who score the highest in the final examination in obstetrics and gynaecology at HKU.

# Our Great Leaders



*Prof. Daphne Wai Chan CHUN*

Prof. Daphne CHUN was the first female professor in HKU. She was born in Hong Kong and studied at the St. Stephen's Girls' College. She was initially trained as a midwife, and subsequently entered medical school at HKU, graduating in 1940 with distinctions in anatomy and physiology. She served the Department under Prof. Gordon KING from 1941, and during the Japanese occupation, she helped his move to China. She served as the Medical Officer in-charge in the maternity hospital in Chongqing in 1942-1943, before furthering her training in London in 1943-1949, which earned her Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, besides her specialist qualification by the RCOG. She returned to HKU in 1949, and rose through the ranks of Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, and then Professor and Head in 1957. With her high standing being recognised at RCOG, our Department was recognised as a training and examination centre for membership of the RCOG in 1956, with herself as an examiner.



*Prof. CHUN was actively involved in the work of FPAHK*

Prof. CHUN succeeded to lead the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong as Chairman in 1952 and President in 1957. Through Prof. CHUN's connection, the Association became one of the eight founding members of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) in 1952.

Prof. CHUN was renowned as an extremely skilful pelvic surgeon, and a seasoned researcher particularly in the field of gestational trophoblastic diseases. She also established a systematic approach for obstetric audits in the Department, setting in place the quality and safety activities that we place ever increasing emphasis on nowadays. She put Hong Kong on the global platform for its low maternal mortality, which attracted a Scottish professor to send his colleague to Hong Kong to observe the situations and practice at TYH, culminating in a publication. Prof. CHUN also published the bilingual textbook "Practical Obstetrics", which formed the basics for training of midwives and doctors in Hong Kong. She has been described to possess a basic toughness of fibre mingled with a humanity of approach. Those who worked with her those days fondly remembered her famous car travelling along Pokfulam Road between TYH and QMH with the driver hardly being perceived!



*Prof. CHUN giving a lecture*

On her devotion to work, she did not get married before she retired. She treated TYH as her (and her team's) "home", and doctors in the Department had ward rounds 365 days of the year. She retired in 1972, the same year when TYH celebrated the Golden Jubilee, and passed away in 1992. She was remembered for her outstanding contributions, energy and vitality by those who have known her for long.

**Composed by:**  
**Prof. Vivian WONG, Prof. Raymond LI**





***Prof. Ho Kei MA, CBE***

*Former Head, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
The University of Hong Kong*

Prof. Ho Kei MA is universally recognised as a visionary pioneer and a legendary architect of modern obstetrics and gynaecology who transformed women's healthcare in Hong Kong.

Prof. MA graduated from the University of Hong Kong in 1958. She became a Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer, and subsequently Professor and Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at HKU in 1972. She was the Dean of the Faculty between 1992 and 1995, and was appointed Professor Emeritus upon her retirement in 1995.

As a woman to serve as Dean of the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine and one of the earliest female heads of a major clinical department in Asia, she overcame significant barriers in a male-dominated field. Her forward-thinking leadership modernised the HKU Department of O&G, established clinical subspecialties, reformed medical education, and created enduring institutions that continue to elevate standards across the region. In the Department's history, Prof. MA's imprint is indelible – as exemplified by her image as a legacy of innovation, her mentorship to many of the senior obstetricians and gynaecologists, and her profound dedication to women's health.

Prof. MA assumed Head of the Department of O&G in 1972, at a time when Hong Kong's public hospitals were stretched by rapid population growth and high birth rates. With remarkable foresight, she initiated the systematic development of subspecialties, recognising that excellence in women's health demanded specialised expertise. Prof. MA introduced to Hong Kong the then new technology of immunoassay for chorionic gonadotrophins. This built the foundation of our decades of work in trophoblastic diseases, which has been one of the flagship areas of the Department. Under her headship, the Prenatal Diagnosis and Counselling Service at Tsan Yuk Hospital, including the Mrs Wu Chung Prenatal Diagnostic Laboratory, was established. It was a pioneering facility that introduced advanced genetic testing and dramatically improved outcomes for pregnancies at high genetic risks.

Her strategic investments in international training were particularly visionary. Prof. MA received training herself at University College London under Prof. NIXON and also training in gynaecological oncology in the US. She subsequently arranged a few doctors to receive overseas training in gynaecological oncology, with Prof. Hextan NGAN being the first in the Department to do so under the formal RCOG programme.

Beyond the Department, Prof. MA's leadership was also exemplified by the many roles she served in local and international professional bodies. She succeeded Prof. Daphne CHUN in a leading role at the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (FPAHK). She first joined FPAHK as member of

# Our Great Leaders

the Council and Executive Committee, took up as Chairman in 1973 and President in 1983 until her retirement in 1995, after which she remained as Patron. She had chaired various subcommittees of FPAHK, leading the Association to develop and diversify in the field of sexual and reproductive health. Besides, she also served on numerous committees of the government and played important advisory roles in healthcare and education. Prof. MA was also passionate in modernising O&G practice in Mainland China. Back in the 1980s and 1990s, she sent department colleagues to Mainland China to help establishing safe maternity care and women's health, and established academic exchange and networking with various institutions in China.

Internationally, she was engaged in work of the World Health Organisation and International Planned Parenthood Federation. She is renowned for her pioneer research work on gestational trophoblastic diseases, and established an international risk scoring system. She also served as Deputy Secretary General of the Asia-Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG) in 1985-1987, and as Vice-President (1991-1994) and then Secretary General (1994-1997) of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO). Her stern practical style earned her a nickname "The Tiger".

Despite her strict discipline, as recalled by many doctors that worked under her, Prof. MA was always supportive to juniors who are facing adversities. For instance, if there was an incident which needed to be handled sensitively, such as an intraoperative complication, Prof. MA would personally accompany the junior involved and attend to it with them regardless of the time.

Prof. MA was also a passionate educator. During her deanship, she spearheaded curriculum reforms that emphasised competency over rote learning. The Department of O&G led the faculty by introducing Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE) and end-of-clerkship Clinical Competence Tests (CCT) — innovations that revolutionised assessment and influenced medical education across Hong Kong.



Prof. Ho Kei MA and the inaugural Council of HKCOG

One of Prof. MA's crowning legacy is founding the Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, where she served as the inaugural President. This independent professional body ended our reliance on overseas accreditation, tailoring training to local needs and later becoming a pillar of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. To support research in Hong Kong, Prof. MA also initiated the establishment of the Hong Kong Obstetrical and Gynaecological Trust Fund with the surplus income from the RCOG Congress held in Hong Kong back in the 1990s.



Her dedication to women's health is exemplified by her efforts in establishing well women services in the primary care setting. In light of the escalating incidence of female breast cancer globally, Prof. MA, pursuant to the advice of Prof. Vivian WONG who had returned from her tenure at the World Bank, collaborated with the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to establish the Well Women Clinic. It was dedicated to the screening of breast and gynaecological cancers, with a strong emphasis on rigorous quality control, comprehensive patient education, robust follow-up services, and accessible health awareness programmes for the general public.



Prof. MA promoting women's health education

Upon retiring in 1995, the Ma Chung Ho Kei Foundation was established to advance public education on women's health, funding initiatives like the Lady Helen Woo Women's Diagnostic and Treatment Centre until its closure. After the resolution of the Foundation, the fund was donated to our Department to establish the endowed Professor Ma Chung Ho Kei Distinguished Lectureship, which continues to bring world experts to HKU, perpetuating her vision of lifelong learning.

As the Department celebrates its centenary, Prof. Ho Kei MA's visionary leadership stands as its cornerstone. She did not merely respond to change, she anticipated and forged it, ensuring generations of women received world-class care. Her life inspires: true progress in medicine demands courage, foresight, and an unwavering focus on those we serve.

When Prof. MA was asked to stay and extend her contributions when she was approaching her retirement, she said "one should leave when everybody wants you to stay, but not to stay till everybody wants you to leave". We all understand how confident she was in passing the torch onto her successors.

#### Contributed by:

**Prof. Vivian TAAM WONG, Prof. Pak Chung HO, Prof. Hextan NGAN, Dr. Tung Yeung LEUNG, Prof. Raymond LI and Dr. Barry LAW**



Prof. MA at conferences with colleagues



Prof. MA practicing Chinese painting



# Our Great Leaders



## *Prof. Vivian Chi Woon TAAM WONG*

*Former Hospital Chief Executive, Queen Mary Hospital  
Former Reader, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
The University of Hong Kong*

*Is there a memorable event or a particular case you encountered during training / your career that you remember vividly?*

I recall representing Hong Kong at a FIGO meeting in Geneva. We were discussing the issue of maternal mortality. At that time, there were around a million women per year who died in or shortly after childbirth, and we were tasked to formulate a plan to reduce maternal mortality and improve perinatal care. This became the Safe Motherhood Initiative, and I was sent to the World Bank in Washington DC to work on this. After it had been developed, I was then tasked as a representative to encourage the implementation of this initiative in China. At the time the prevailing fashion of intrapartum care was a system of community based midwifery, where young girls would care for and deliver labouring mothers as traditional birth attendants. Were an emergency to arise, the girls would have to rush to a village elder to beg them to use what would be the only phone in the vicinity to contact emergency services in the closest city. If a phone was not available, they would need to use gongs and smoke to alert others. The labouring woman would then have to be carted off by burly men and donkeys to the nearest hospital to be managed by doctors – and often it would be too late for both the mother and baby. I won't forget my role in developing the curricula to instruct these girls on safe maternity care, promptly recognising and managing emergencies.



Prof. WONG (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) at a trip to Mainland China as a representative of the World Bank to promote safe motherhood

*What is the most valuable thing HKU O&G has taught you?*

I believe the most valuable thing my training has taught me is to cultivate an attitude to try and understand the things which are unusual. I recall there was a case in China whereby a craniotomy was performed with acupuncture replacing traditional anaesthesia – this was even observed by President Richard Nixon who was visiting China at the time. The patient was awake and able to perform simple tasks while being operated on without pain! This spurred me to attend training for acupuncture while I was a resident at TYH. I learnt that there were certain acupuncture points which were said to be able to trigger labour. Wanting to explore this more, I conducted a trial which compared the effectiveness of acupuncture and intravenous oxytocin in the induction of labour. Women in both arms achieved similar rates of successful vaginal delivery of around 75%! While I was unable to publish the trial, this taught me that there is more to acupuncture and Chinese medicine than meets the eye. Now acupuncture is recognised as an effective therapy and is being used in hospitals all over Hong Kong with rising acceptance in the West as well. As such, I am a great proponent of integrative medicine.



Prof. Vivian TAAM WONG established an endowed professorship in Integrative Medicine at HKU in 2013

***What achievements are you most proud of and what challenges did you have to face to achieve them?***

I am most proud of my work in the fight against perinatal transmission of hepatitis B in Hong Kong. To do so I had to operate outside my scope as an O&G specialist, train as a physician in another corner of the world, and collaborate with different disciplines all for the benefit of our patients.

I was sent to the Royal Free Hospital in London for a year after my training as a research fellow in the Department of Medicine! This stemmed from Prof. Ho Kei MA's dissatisfaction that we were always calling down physicians from QMH to manage medical conditions in TYH, as we were not equipped to manage medical diseases. My journey as a physician started when Prof. Ho Kei MA assigned me to shadow Prof. McFadzean, the then Head of the Department of Medicine at the University of Hong Kong, in part to prepare me to take the examination for the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians! Another turning point was during my time at the Royal Free Hospital, where our research group was the first to document male to male transmission of hepatitis B.



**Prof. WONG presenting the Vivian T. A. M. WONG Professorship in Integrative Medicine to Prof. Lixing LAO in 2014**

Coming back to TYH afterwards armed with new knowledge and curiosity, I was determined to find out how perinatal transmission of hepatitis B occurred and what we could do to prevent it so that we could reduce our high rates of hepatitis B. We discovered that the viral antigen was detectable in 26% of amniotic fluid samples, 35% of cord blood samples, 72% of breast milk samples, and 90% of the gastric contents of newborns which posited a universal mechanism of infection by the oral route during delivery. We suggested potential precautions such as avoidance of breast-feeding, routine aspiration of gastric contents, and elective Caesarean section. Going one step further, I was determined to see whether or not we could break the chain of transmission completely and protect our babies from a cursed inheritance.

I worked closely with our paediatric colleagues including Dr. Henrietta IP to achieve this. First, we demonstrated the efficacy of the HBV vaccine from the Dutch Red Cross in our newborns through a randomised controlled trial. We also demonstrated through another landmark study that we could prevent transmission and establish immunity by administering hepatitis B immunoglobulin in addition to the hepatitis B vaccine to newborns just after birth. We published our findings in the Lancet in 1984, leading the way in this field!

***Do you have any advice for the modern O&G practitioner?***

My advice to the modern O&G practitioner is to be forward looking and open minded. There is a danger in hiding in your own corner, not changing with the times, and failing to look to or work with other disciplines. Be open to collaboration, as there are opportunities everywhere – often where you least expect them!

Another piece of advice I would have is to never stop learning. Be observant, note the changes that are happening every day, and try to pick up new skills in order to keep abreast with things. During my training, Prof. MA sent me down to the labs in Sassoon Road to learn how to conduct animal studies. Back then, I did not have a single clue about the first thing in using animals for research, but with the help of some animal handlers and scientists I had learnt how to anaesthetise, operate on, and breed rabbits! In the end, I managed to publish my findings which showed that metal clips were an effective means of sterilisation in rabbits in a Scottish medical journal.

***What changes would you like to see in our field going forward?***

I am passionate about integrative medicine. Hong Kong has built its reputation on being a true melting pot where East meets West – hopefully providing the best of both these two worlds. I would also like to see this reflected in the way we provide care, where Chinese and Western medicine work in harmony under the same roof to improve patient outcomes. We also need to change our perception of “traditional” Chinese medicine, because it is anything but modern Chinese medicine, which is changing and moving with the times. Indeed, with the establishment of the HKUMed Centre of Integrative Medicine, we are a big step closer to achieving a future where Chinese and Western medicine can work side by side to serve our population.

# Our Great Leaders



## *Prof. Grace Wai King TANG*

*Chairperson, Medical Council of Hong Kong  
Former Dean of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong  
Founding Hospital Chief Executive, The University of Hong Kong –  
Shenzhen Hospital  
Former Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
The University of Hong Kong*

*Is there a memorable event or a particular case you encountered during training / your career that you remember vividly?*

In about 1988, I was the team head of the then Green Team in TYH. One of my duties was to teach junior residents. On one occasion, I supervised a first year resident on performing Caesarean section and tubal ligation for a woman who had had two previous Caesarean sections. The operation went very smoothly.

About two years later, she returned to us pregnant for 12 weeks and decided to terminate her pregnancy for anxiety secondary to economic reasons. For reasons unknown, she was shown the fetal heart pulsations via a doptone. Then she changed mind and continued with the pregnancy, and delivered her fourth child in Prince of Wales Hospital. The fallopian tubes were found to be cut properly but there was recanalisation.



Conferment of Honorary University Fellowship, HKU in 2017

She then lodged a civil claim seeking compensation to raise her daughter. The case proceeded to the Supreme Court and, as the trainer and specialist at the operation, I had to shoulder the responsibility of the claim which was focused on the issue of **consent**. The trial took place for 16 days and we won.

I will never forget this case because -

1. I think I did nothing wrong carrying out my duty to teach;
2. **Informed consent** is so very important though in those days, it was taken very simply without much detail on risks such as recanalisation. Now the information given during consenting needs very meticulous documentation;
3. I learnt how to speak well with clarity and how to communicate effectively (without being cornered by lawyers). The Supreme Court Judge commented that I was "....one of the most impressive witnesses that he had ever encountered."

As a doctor, one must be able to convey the same message through different manners and ways depending on what kind of patient one faces.





Senior Fellow Sharing Session at Hong Kong Academy of Medicine in 2025

### *What is the most valuable thing HKU O&G has taught you?*

The most valuable thing that the Department has taught me is PRECISION. There is no room for error especially in obstetrics where we are managing healthy young patients. At any one time, there are two lives involved. I must be able to anticipate 100% what will happen to the patient, and I am now proud to say that I have done so throughout my years in the Department "without failing".

### *Can you share some of the challenges you had to overcome during your training / career? How did you overcome them?*

Honestly, I do not think I have faced "challenges". Taking examinations, being on call once every 3 days (without post-call off), having a very stern Head of Department, demanding patients.....these to me were not challenges, but part of the life of being a doctor. The choice of working in OG was mine and I have always enjoyed what I have been doing.



Prof. TANG with colleagues at table tennis competition at TYH in 1978



Picture with Visiting Professor in psychosomatic obstetrics and gynaecology. Prof. TANG used to run a Psychosomatic O&G Clinic then

### *What achievements are you most proud of?*

I started psychosomatic obstetrics and gynaecology, but then it did not fly high because it is a topic where research and publications are low. But I think it helped me to be a more humane doctor.

### *How has HKU O&G changed you?*

I started work / training under a very strict Head of Department, and performance was expected to be impeccable. I followed her, and have become demanding at work too. We are treating human lives and there is no place for error (I am not a believer of "to err is human"). We have to know our limits in which we should improve and learn each day.



Conferment of Honorary Fellowship of HKCOG in 2006

# Our Great Leaders

## *Can you describe your current role in the sphere of O&G?*

My OG career ended back in 2011 when I took up as the Founding Hospital Chief Executive of the HKU- Shenzhen Hospital, a role that I served for five years.



## *What specific issues in O&G do you believe needs more attention?*

The specific "issue" is that in obstetrics, no patients nor their relatives expect adverse outcomes and their expectations are high. They are healthy young people, although new conditions may arise during pregnancy. As said earlier, we are treating two patients at one time.



Farewell Greeting in 2016

## *What do you think makes a good O&G practitioner / researcher?*

There is no difference between an O&G practitioner and a practitioner of another specialty. We are all treating patients. Perhaps obstetric doctors need to be particularly able to function well in the middle of the night while being on call! A researcher must be someone who is keen to "find out why". This applies to all specialty areas.

## *What are you working on right now?*

I am now more involved with the work of the Medical Council of Hong Kong, which is the registration and regulatory statutory body of the medical profession. I have spent a lot of efforts on the education and accreditation work of the Medical Council, and currently I am the Chairman.

## *Do you have any advice for the modern O&G practitioner / researcher?*

My advice is - you choose the specialty, you must like it first; there is no short-cut, and practice makes perfect.

## *What do you envision for the future of O&G in Hong Kong?*

I think the emphasis will be more on gynaecology than obstetrics for the simple reason that there are fewer couples wanting children. This is also a world trend as the birth rate is coming down in developed countries. As the population is aging, there will be more gynaecological diseases such as cancer, osteoporosis (and its related problems like fractures), and urogynaecological issues. Assisted reproductive technology might be an area for development as people are advocating storage of gametes. Elderly pregnancy may pose a challenge. Requests for more extensive prenatal diagnosis in genetics and structure can be encountered more often.

“ Ever since I entered medical school, I have been in public hospitals, I know what they ought to be like. And I never cease to ask, I never cease to learn. ”

**Prof. Grace Wai King TANG**

A clip from the article in HKU Bulletin (2016) featuring Prof. TANG, with the title "FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION", her famous motto!



## **Prof. Pak Chung HO**

*Emeritus Professor and Former Head of Department,  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
The University of Hong Kong*

### ***Is there a memorable event during your training that you remember vividly?***

When I was a resident, a distinguished professor from Scotland visited our department. There was a discussion regarding oocyte cryopreservation. After the successful delivery of the first baby conceived by in vitro fertilisation (IVF) and embryo transfer in the United Kingdom, scientists continued to study on cryopreservation of oocyte. If successful, it would offer a wider range of assisted reproduction treatment for infertile patients. However, at that time, many scientists were working on this topic without success. I said that there were so many barriers to the cryopreservation of oocyte that the Scottish Professor might be wasting his time.

He replied quietly: "Never declare something impossible. When we say a procedure cannot be performed today, it simply means we have not yet discovered the correct method. Without continued persistence, success will never come."

Some years later when I travelled to Scotland, I was invited to his house for a dinner. We were served with a tasty dish of roasted lamb. After the dinner, he showed me a photograph of a healthy lamb and said, "This is the animal we just ate – born from frozen oocyte!"



Academic exchange and gathering with Prof. Anna GLASIER and Prof. David BAIRD



Picture taken during internship in TYH

That evening brought his earlier advice to life in the most memorable way. Ever since, in every challenging area of my work, I have been guided by the conviction that difficulties can always be overcome with persistence. My guiding principle remains: "Boldly hypothesise, then rigorously verify" (大膽假設，小心求證). It is a lesson for which I remain deeply grateful.



# Our Great Leaders

*Can you share some of the challenges you had to overcome during your training or career? How did you overcome them?*

In my academic and research career, one of the most persistent challenges has been the societal and ideological opposition to studies on contraception and abortion. My work has focused on improving fertility outcomes, developing safer emergency contraception methods, and refining medical abortion protocols to make them more accessible and safe. Yet, this has drawn criticism from anti-abortion groups, who have accused us of encouraging abortion rather than preventing it. I addressed these criticisms head-on by grounding my responses in data and ethics. My core belief, and the driving force behind my research, has always been that abortion is not the goal; prevention is. With better contraception options, comprehensive education on regular contraceptive use, and greater choice tailored to individual needs, we can reduce unintended pregnancies and, consequently, the need for abortions. Even when abortion has become necessary, we should aim to provide options that are safer, less invasive, with less side effects.

*What achievements are you most proud of?*

I think what I am proudest of is the team we built. It has always been a genuine collaboration between clinicians, scientists, embryologists, and nurses — everyone working closely together on projects after projects for decades. That spirit of teamwork is really the foundation of everything we have accomplished.

We were the first to demonstrate that misoprostol, when given sublingually, has a dramatically faster onset of action and much higher bioavailability than oral or vaginal routes. Those pharmacokinetic and clinical studies directly led to more effective and patient-friendly regimens for medical abortion worldwide. In the mid-1990s our group was the first in the world to show that levonorgestrel alone, given as two doses at 0.75 mg 12 hours apart, is effective for emergency contraception and has far fewer side effects than the old Yuzpe regimen of combined estrogen-progestin pills. That work changed global guidelines; levonorgestrel remains the gold-standard method of emergency contraception to this day.

On the infertility side, we pioneered modern assisted reproduction: we established the Centre of Assisted Reproduction and Embryology, HKU-QMH in 1986, and achieved the first live-birth conceived from IVF with intracytoplasmic sperm injection in Hong Kong and China in 1995. Over the years, we trained hundreds of specialists across the region. I am also particularly glad that we were able to help establish regulated, high-quality assisted reproduction services in Mainland China from the late 1990s onward, working with the Ministry of Health to set up training programmes and the licensing of IVF centres.

But again, none of these would have happened without the extraordinary people I have had the privilege to work with. The real achievements are the team we built and the generations of patients whose lives we have been able to touch.

### *Can you describe your current role in the sphere of O&G?*

Although I officially retired from full-time clinical and academic duties at HKU in 2014, I have never truly stepped away from the field of obstetrics and gynaecology. I am the Emeritus Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at HKU, and I continue to advise on clinical trials, and collaborate with my longstanding team at QMH and beyond.

Our group's most recent milestone came in 2023, when we published in *The Lancet* the results of a randomised controlled trial demonstrating that combining levonorgestrel with piroxicam significantly enhances the efficacy of emergency contraception. The regimen prevented over 95% of expected pregnancies when taken within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse, marking a notable improvement over levonorgestrel alone, while maintaining an acceptable safety profile.

We are not resting on that achievement. The team is now actively comparing the protocol with ulipristal, and will explore the use of other cyclo-oxygenase inhibitors for this purpose.

### *What are some of the challenges that an O&G practitioner faces in the present day?*

As an obstetrician-gynaecologist who has practised through the transformation of Hong Kong from a post-war baby boom to today's low fertility society, I can attest that the challenges facing O&G practitioners these days are different from those I encountered as a trainee. The specialty remains demanding, but the pressures now stem less from sheer clinical volume and more from systemic constraints, demographic shifts, and the higher expectations from patients and the society.

There is tightening of resources and chronic shortage of manpower. With government healthcare expenditure under scrutiny and competing priorities in an ageing population, funding for O&G has not kept pace with inflation or technological advances. Compounding this is the precipitous drop in birth rate, both in Hong Kong and across Mainland China. Fewer deliveries mean fewer training opportunities for residents. These constraints leave less incentives and support to our clinicians to conduct research. The rapid evolution of societal attitudes towards fertility and family planning presents both opportunity and challenge.



Celebrating the first livebirth from preimplantation genetic testing

# Our Great Leaders

## *What do you envision for the future of O&G in Hong Kong?*

Hong Kong faces the same challenges as many developed societies: falling birth rates, an ageing population, rising maternal age, and increasingly complex medical needs. At the same time, women and their family are expecting more, not just safe delivery and treatment of disease, but lifelong wellness, personalised care, and minimally invasive options.

So my hope is that our specialty, and especially our department at HKU, will continue evolving into a true centre for women's health across the entire life course. First, we must never lose sight of excellence in core clinical service. General obstetrics and gynaecology training has to remain strong so that every woman in Hong Kong, regardless of where she seeks care, can count on well-trained specialists. At the same time, subspecialty expertise in areas like reproductive medicine, gynae-oncology, urogynaecology, maternal-fetal medicine, and now also in paediatric and adolescent gynaecology, must keep growing. QMH has always been the natural home for that depth. Training itself has to change. Young doctors and nurses today learn differently, such as by simulation, virtual reality, online modules, and short focused attachments. We should embrace all of that, but never forget the irreplaceable value of hands-on experience under careful supervision and long-term mentorship.

Research and innovation remain the soul of a university department. We have to keep asking bold questions. Funding is always tight, but curiosity and collaboration cost nothing. I am particularly excited about deeper partnerships, locally with the other units in Hong Kong, regionally within the Greater Bay Area. We already have strong ties with centres in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, and Macau, and internationally with FIGO, RCOG, AFOG, , and our many sister universities. Joint research programmes, exchange fellowships, and shared registries, are the ways we stay at the forefront.

Finally, and perhaps the most importantly, we must stay open-minded. Medicine moves fast. Ideas that seem radical today may become routine tomorrow. Our job is not to resist change but to guide it responsibly, always putting patient safety and ethical practice first.

HKU Obstetrics and Gynaecology has a proud 100-year tradition of leadership. If the next generations keep the same spirit of teamwork, intellectual curiosity, and genuine care for women and their families, I have no doubt the department will continue to shine for another century and beyond.



Valedictory Lecture by Prof. HO in 2013





## **Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN**

*Chair Professor and Former Head  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
The University of Hong Kong*

### *Is there a memorable event during your training that you remember vividly?*

It was just after I had finished my specialist training in O&G while I was working in the general gynaecology service when Prof. MA, our Head of Department, told me that I was to be sent to the University of Geneva to train in Gynaecological Oncology the very next year. This meant that I had just one year to learn French – the language in which everything was done in Geneva! Thankfully I found a friend to teach me French after work, but with a very busy general gynaecology service I really had a hard time staying awake! With a year of hard work, I had managed to acquire passable French with which I could just manage to get by in Switzerland. Living and working in Switzerland took a lot of getting used to, but luckily I found a nurse friend who had been trained in Germany, worked in Hong Kong, but emigrated to Geneva. She introduced me to a small group of people from Hong Kong, forming a small community who I could lean on.

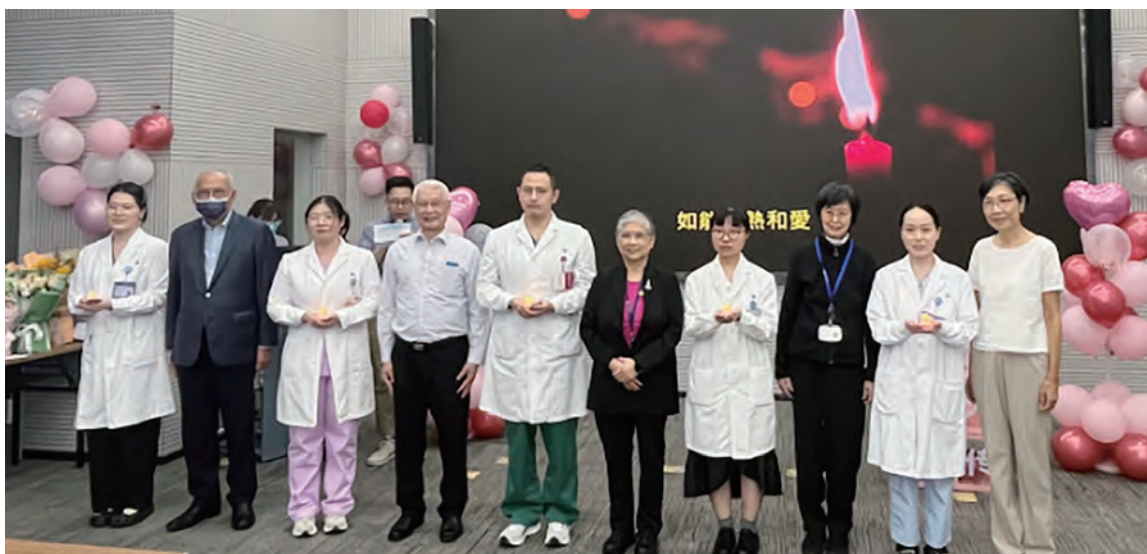
A particularly memorable incident occurred when I was on call one night. We had admitted a rape case that was mostly managed by my junior resident. As it was a rape case, we were required to report it to the authorities and proceed with a civil hearing which, as the senior doctor on call that night, I would have needed to testify at. I was terrified to do so because of my terrible French

and dragging my feet over the proceedings, trying to put it off as much as possible. My Department head, catching wind of the protracted delays, ultimately advised me to go and even to use English if necessary. The hearing went smoothly. Attending that hearing was a profound lesson for me. Upon reflection, I really had nothing to worry about. This taught me not to avoid challenges, but to face them head-on with courage and self confidence.



Receiving Honorary Fellowship of HKCOG in 2016

# Our Great Leaders



Candle-passing ceremony – a thanksgiving party at HKU-SZH in 2024

## *What are the most valuable things HKU O&G has taught you?*

I have learnt many valuable things during my time here at HKU O&G. Without a doubt, the most valuable would be: resilience, a ceaseless reflex to learn and to teach, and the overarching principle that patients always come first. The ethos was simple and steadfast: **if you know, then teach; if you don't, then learn.** This applied to everyone, regardless of rank. I often saw Prof. Ho Kei MA herself seek assistance when she was unsure, which encouraged open discussion and the freedom to disagree with seniors (respectfully). There is also a longstanding tradition and legacy here of always supporting your juniors in the face of adversity at even the highest level.

## *Can you share some of the challenges you had to overcome during your training or career? How did you overcome them?*

There were so many challenges! We'd be here forever if I listed them all. My advice would be just to face them head on, to face them with resilience and with patience, and not to feel any shame in seeking support from those around you regardless of their position. If you have a goal, then with the right support, you can do it!

I remember when I was undergoing subspecialty training in gynaecological oncology, I had to complete a research project to fulfil the requirements of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Prof. Ho Kei MA urged me to pursue molecular research in HPV – an emerging topic at the time. Back then, not only did we not have a lab to speak of, but I pretty much had no clue what DNA was! I had to spend countless hours with Prof. Vivian CHAN (a



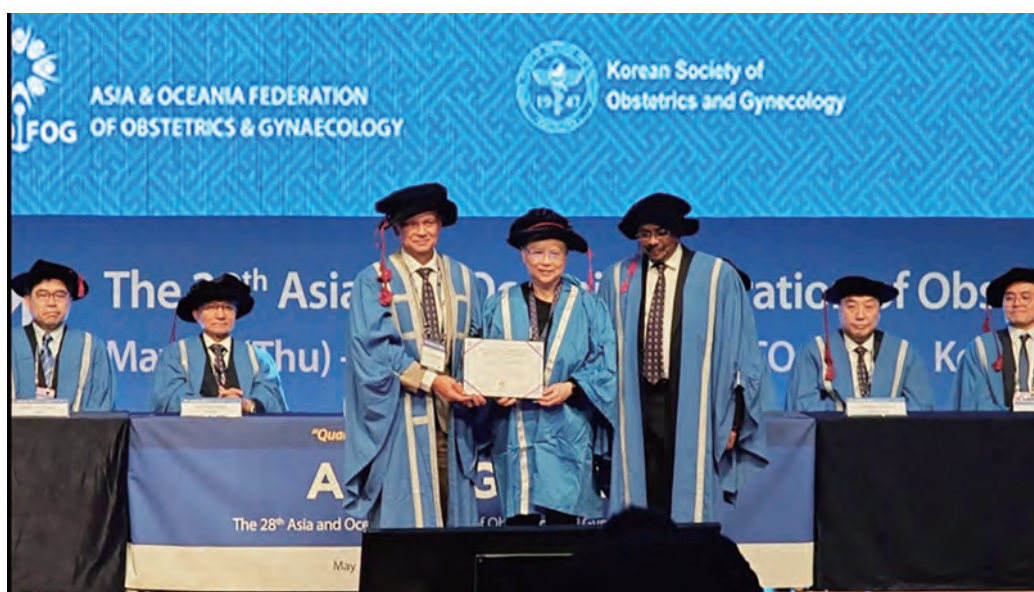
At Globe-athon in 2016

prominent scientist at the time) in her lab to learn basic techniques in preparation for my research year abroad at Cambridge with Professor Margaret STANLEY. The memories of many sleepless nights in the library reading textbooks and scientific articles to familiarise myself with the jargon of molecular medicine still feels tiring to me these days. At Cambridge, with the help of a kind PhD student, I managed to learn and master cell culture, cell staining, frozen section, and PCR and returned to HKU to set the foundations for what is now the Gynaecological Oncology Laboratory. At the time, we had to beg and borrow equipment from all over the place in order to conduct our experiments!

It follows then, that my proudest achievement is this Department and I feel truly honoured to have contributed to its growth and development all along.

### *How has HKU O&G changed you?*

I am quite an impatient and forthcoming person. Unfortunately this often came across as being too blunt, so much so that I was labelled as troublesome even as an intern. I recall one night when I was on call; back then reusable blunt iron needles were the norm for transfusions, and yet I demanded to use an expensive and disposable angiocath which I knew we had, arguing with the nurse who refused. I complained, and she complained right back. On reflection, I just wanted the best for the patient, but I could have handled the situation much better. This got to a point where Prof. MA had to pull me aside to tell me, "You cannot talk to people like that — 'no head, no tail'." I had to force myself to adjust my tone. I learnt that good communication is vital and can avoid so many problems and conflicts with both patients and colleagues. It is a skill which I am not ashamed to admit that I still continue to work on to this day. I think at the end of the day, you have to realise that, regardless of your rank, you are a role model to someone in the system, junior or senior, and you must do things with principle and heart.



Receiving Fellowship of AFOG in 2024



# Our Great Leaders



At a RANZCOG conference in 2007 with colleagues (from left: Dr. Paulin MA, Dr. Amy TANG, Prof. Hextan NGAN, Prof. Pak Chung HO, Dr. Joyce CHAI)

## *Can you describe your current role in the sphere of O&G?*

My work is multifaceted. I would say that my current baby is the HKU-Shenzhen O&G specialty training programme that we developed and implemented just two years ago which has now been formally adopted by the local government. The problem was that specialty training in China is neither very structured nor standardised, and as such clinical outcomes are exceedingly variable from place to place. So we came up with a three plus four-year programme based on the current HKCOG curriculum that aims to have both standardised and structured training in both general obstetrics and gynaecology and the subspecialties. I also serve as President of the FPAHK to promote women's health, and was heavily involved in establishing the HKSGO. I give lectures locally, regionally, and internationally, and I am currently chairing the FIGO committee for the revision of GTN staging. In addition, I have my work here at the Department and my clinical practice at the Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital. Safe to say, I keep very busy in the sphere of O&G!

## *What are some of the challenges that an O&G practitioner faces in the present day?*

The biggest challenge now to younger practitioners is work-life balance. In the past, it was just 'work, work, work,' but I do not believe that is the way forward anymore. One really has to sit down, have a think, and identify 'what is my purpose?'. It would be nice to be able to do and have it all, but in reality there is only that much time, and you must allocate it as you wish to what you find most important. Though one has to remember that in order to truly master something one has to dedicate enough time to it – there are no shortcuts.

### *What specific area in O&G do you believe needs more attention?*

It is, without a doubt, molecular medicine and genetics. I think there is not enough focus on this in our O&G training curriculum, and believe it is essential that this must be incorporated into the training very early on as it will be the cornerstone of clinical management in the future after the advent of personalised medicine.

Things really are moving far too quickly nowadays, and there is so much new knowledge to be learnt all the time in order to keep abreast with the times. Things change too quickly; the entire landscape is different. Investigations, tests, treatments, and even surgeries have all evolved dramatically. I feel that O&G is really being pulled in two separate directions, and that the modern O&G practitioner has such a great challenge in keeping their practice up to date and up to scratch, so much so that it seems almost impossible to be a truly competent generalist nowadays. Perhaps, as has been banded around quite a lot for many years now, the training should be split after a common 3-year foundation, allowing trainees to focus their next three years of training in either obstetrics or gynaecology. This would make the best use of the training material, which is of growing concern nowadays, and ensure a more clear cut pathway for the appropriate candidates.

Regardless of the changes to come, the key is to keep learning, stay curious, and continually attend conferences so as not to limit your field of vision. The modern clinician really needs to commit to continuous medical education. They need to keep learning, even at a senior age. I need to emphasise, however, one fact that will remain constant: clinical skills can be trained, but compassion is the fundamental attribute. To be a good clinician, one must have a good heart and always prioritise the patient and their interests.

### *What do you envision for the future of O&G in Hong Kong?*

The future of O&G is very challenging. We are faced with a declining birth rate and fewer gynaecological operations, but I do not think we need to worry. We change with the world; as the earth spins, so will we and we will find solutions along the way. The key is to understand where the problem lies and tackle it properly.

In fact I foresee that O&G specialists of tomorrow will be more specialised, choosing early on between obstetrics and gynaecology. This allows us to direct the appropriate resources to the appropriate trainees in order to maximise their individual interests and talents.

From where I am sitting, I can also predict a greater reliance on virtual and simulation training in the development of the specialists of tomorrow, which I do not see to be a problem at all if it means that we will be training safer and more competent O&G specialists who may need to learn to perfect an operation virtually before putting the knife to skin. Our field, along with medicine in general, will be driven by molecular and genetic research and therapies, with technology and AI working hand-in-hand with clinicians. That may not be a bad thing though.

### *What advice do you have for the O&G practitioners of tomorrow?*

My enduring advice to any clinician is: **don't centre your present actions on the prospect of future returns. Do what you ought to do — that is your duty — and do what is right.** Those good returns are sure to come. Also, never be afraid to lose out. By rolling up your sleeves and getting your hands dirty, you learn and you grow. Great monuments are built one brick at a time. Lastly, always remember that **patients come first** and try to be a good communicator.

# Our Great Leaders



**Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG**

*Tsao Yin-Kai Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Clinical Professor,  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, The University of Hong Kong*

***Is there a memorable event or a particular case you encountered during training / your career that you remember vividly?***

I graduated from HKU in 1986. My journey was a little different from many of my peers. While many pursued academic tracks in the teaching hospitals after graduation, I was trained in a peripheral hospital, and obtained my MRCOG. I then succeeded the private practice of my elder brother who emigrated. For a few years, it was comfortable, but the work was repetitive. I felt I was not progressing. The intellectual challenge I craved for was missing. So, I took a leap and went to the UK for a research year at Sheffield University. It was an incredible experience that opened my eyes to the world of academic medicine. Before returning to Hong Kong, I wrote to Prof. Pak Chung HO, who was the Head of the Department and the Division of Reproductive Medicine and expressed my desire to return to academia, to contribute to something greater than my own practice. Fortunately Prof. HO welcomed me, and I joined the Department in 1996.

I have had the privilege to conduct clinical research under the guidance of Prof. Pak Chung HO and Prof. William YEUNG in the Department, to collaborate with brilliant teams both locally and overseas, and to contribute to the field of IVF in a way I never could have imagined during my days in private practice. This sense of purpose was put into the sharpest possible perspective in the 2010s when I was diagnosed with cancer. Facing my own morbidity forced me to reflect deeply. The question was no longer about career progression, but about life itself: how much longer do I have, and how can I make the best use of my time to continue the work that I love? Fortunately, despite some hiccups, I triumphed over the disease. I continued my research and clinical work in the Department, and until now, I have worked in the Department for exactly 30 years!



Prof. NG receiving the endowed professorship in 2024

***Can you share some of the challenges you had to overcome during your training / career? How did you overcome them?***

When I worked as Chief of Service of Queen Mary Hospital, the single biggest recurring challenge has always been manpower issues. People are the most important resource in any academic and clinical department, but keeping the team stable and functional can sometimes feel chaotic.



After our trainees complete their specialist or subspecialist training, many of them, often some of the very best, receive attractive offers and leave the Department. It is painful to see talents you have invested years in nurturing walk out of the door. However, over the years I have learned to accept this as part of the natural order of things. Our role as an academic department is not only to serve patients today, but also to train the next generation of leaders who will take obstetrics and gynaecology forward — whether they stay with us or carry what they have learned to other platforms either in Hong Kong or around the world. Passing on the torch, both in clinical practice and in research, is perhaps our most important mission.

To make the Department resilient despite the turnover, we put a lot of efforts into structure and continuity. We have developed detailed clinical and laboratory protocols so that junior doctors and fellows can hit the ground running and deliver consistent, high-quality care even as the team changes. More importantly, we work very closely with our nursing colleagues, who tend to stay with the Department longer, sometimes for decades. For example, the nurse-in-charge of our IVF centre has been working with us for over 30 years! Our research nurses have also contributed significantly to every of our research outputs. The nurses have been the stable backbone that hold everything together.

Another constant challenge that I have faced throughout my career in research has been the inherent limitation of conducting high-impact clinical research in a single-centre setting like Hong Kong. To produce truly robust evidence, we often need large, multi-centre randomised trials or well-designed translational studies with adequate patient numbers and statistical power. In many parts of the world, especially in the UK, Europe, or increasingly in Mainland China, investigators can coordinate trials across dozens of hospitals and recruit thousands of patients within a much shorter time. Here in Hong Kong, it is difficult to achieve the same recruitment speed and scale for large prospective trials. Patients are busy, follow-up can be challenging, and we are often competing with very heavy clinical and administrative workloads. Compounding this has been the issue of research funding. The difference of funding in Hong Kong compared to overseas is often in the scale of ten. For example, for a similar study, if we get a funding of a million Hong Kong dollars, they would get a million pounds in the UK! So how have we managed to overcome these constraints? We have actively built long-term collaborations both regionally and internationally. Over the years, my team has co-authored multi-centre studies with centres in Mainland China, Australia, the UK, and elsewhere. Sharing data, standardising protocols, and pooling resources have allowed us to contribute to trials that none of us could have conducted alone. On the translational side, I learned early on that collaboration with basic scientists is absolutely essential. Reproductive medicine is not just about running IVF cycles. Real progress comes from understanding the underlying biology. I have been fortunate to work hand-in-hand with outstanding scientists here at the University of Hong Kong, on projects ranging from endometrial receptivity, sperm function, oocyte rejuvenation, and lately on placental and embryonic stem cells. I hope our ideas move quickly from the laboratory bench to the fertility clinic and back again.



Networking with international and China experts at a conference in HKU-SZH

# Our Great Leaders

## *What achievements are you most proud of?*

There are two fundamental shifts in our approach that I believe have made a lasting impact: one in the rigor of our science, and the other in the humanity of our patient care.

First, our Centre was among the first to introduce double-blinded studies into our laboratory research. In the early days, the double-blinded model was something we adopted almost exclusively in large-scale clinical trials. In the laboratory, there was a tendency towards more observational methods. But I believed we could do better. In these studies, both the clinicians and the patients were blinded to the specific intervention being tested on their embryos or in their treatment cycles. This was a significant paradigm shift. We were able to definitively investigate the efficacy of various add-ons to our routine treatment protocols. This was not just about publishing papers; it was about building an unshakeable foundation of evidence for everything we do, ensuring that every new technique we adopt genuinely benefits our patients.

The second achievement I hold with great pride is our constant effort to humanise and improve the patient journey in assisted reproduction. The path to parenthood through IVF is emotionally and physically demanding. For years, I watched patients who were stretched thin. We needed to fit into their lives, not the other way round. We pioneered the provision of counselling and consultations via an online platform such as ZOOM. For example, we are now running an online group counselling on IVF every month to patients who will be seen in our infertility clinic in the following month. We discuss the results from expanded carrier testing and preimplantation genetic testing (PGT) with patients via the online platform as well. It saves them time and reduces stress, allowing them to absorb critical information in a familiar and relaxed environment. Furthermore, we developed online forums and lectures, creating a virtual community and a source of reliable education that is accessible round the clock.



Prof. NG pays emphasis on patient counselling

## *Can you describe your current role in the sphere of O&G?*

I am working as a “retired-but-rehired” professor in the Department. It has given me the privilege of continuing to contribute without the full administrative burden as in the past. My main mission now is to help consolidate and strengthen our clinical research, and improve the IVF services in Queen Mary Hospital.

I see my role as to ensure our clinical practice in reproductive medicine thoroughly up-to-date, making sure we incorporate the latest evidence-based advances as quickly and safely as possible. Equally important is building and maintaining patients’ confidence in our team. When couples feel genuinely reassured about the expertise and care they receive, they are more willing to consider participating in properly designed clinical studies. That trust is the foundation that allows us to introduce suitable research projects to them in an ethical and meaningful way.

On a day-to-day level, I remain actively involved in clinical work and in the design and conduct of clinical studies. At the same time, I work closely with our laboratory scientists so that we can generate truly impactful research – studies that combine sound clinical questions with cutting-edge laboratory techniques and, whenever possible, translate into real improvements in success rates and patient outcomes.

### *What are some of the challenges that an O&G practitioner / researcher faces in the present day?*

The science has advanced dramatically – from the early days of conventional IVF to pre-implantation genetic testing, mild stimulation protocols, and now artificial intelligence in embryo selection – but the real challenges today are no longer purely technical or scientific. They are human and systemic.

The first and most relentless challenge is time, or the lack of it. The clinic volume is high with patients having more complex history and demanding more explanation in every aspect. On top of that, the administrative load has exploded: mandatory electronic medical records with dozens of compulsory fields, quality assurance audits, credentialing forms, research ethics amendments, hospital accreditation documents, to name but a few. At the same time, patient expectations have also risen, and rightly so in many ways. Couples today are incredibly well-informed. They want individualised care and detailed explanations. While I welcome shared decision-making, it does mean consultations are longer and emotionally more intense.

Then there is the eternal struggle for work–life balance, something my generation talked about far less. Younger colleagues, quite rightly, want to be present for their children’s school plays, to exercise, to have a life outside the labour ward. But the nature of our specialty makes that difficult. I admire the new generation for setting boundaries, but the system has not yet adapted to protect them.

### *Do you have any advice for the modern O&G practitioner / researcher?*

First, **master your time or it will master you**. Modern medicine is a jealous master. The clinical load, the meetings, the endless forms, they will expand to fill every second unless you ruthlessly protect your calendar. Block out sacred time for reading, for thinking, and for your family as fiercely as you would defend a labour-ward shift. Delegate, automate and batch your administrative work. A tired, perpetually rushed doctor cannot innovate and cannot give patients the empathy they deserve. Time management is now a core clinical skill.

Second, **stay curious and proactive**. Do not wait for research ideas to be handed to you. Cultivate a research mind that treats every unusual case or unexpected outcome as a question, not an annoyance. Never see research as just another assignment, but ask the next question, and the one after that.



Prof. NG actively participates in patient group activities to promote psychosocial wellness



# Our Great Leaders

Third, **read voraciously**. Only by immersing yourself in the literature can you truly know what is settled, what is controversial, and where the genuine gaps lie. Reading stimulates the mind, it is the soil in which new ideas grow.

## *What do you envision for the future of O&G in Hong Kong?*

Looking ahead to the next chapter of Obstetrics & Gynaecology in Hong Kong, especially for this department at the University of Hong Kong as it enters its second century — I am both realistic and optimistic.

The challenges are undeniable. Hong Kong's birth rate continues to decline steeply; ours are now well below 0.8 children per woman, one of the lowest in the world. An ageing population, economic pressures, and emigration in recent years have translated into shrinking resources and manpower in the public hospital system. Fewer local deliveries mean fewer “routine” cases for training, and more couples are choosing to undergo IVF in the private sector or overseas. All of these directly affects our ability to recruit patients into prospective clinical trials as well.

We must honestly review our strengths and weaknesses. Our greatest strength has always been, and must remain, genuine patient-centred care backed by rigorous academic standards. We may have fewer patients, but those who choose us are often having the most complex problems, for example, recurrent implantation failure, recurrent pregnancy loss, fertility preservation before cancer therapy, genetic conditions etc. They allow us to focus on areas where we can truly lead rather than compete on volume. We have to stay innovative and double down on multidisciplinary collaboration.

I envision a Department that remains a beacon of hope and rigour in a city that still needs babies, still needs healthy mothers, and still needs answers to difficult questions. As long as we stay relentlessly patient-centred, intellectually honest, and unafraid to ask the next question, the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at HKU will not just survive the demographic winter, it will help light up the path through for Hong Kong and beyond.



Prof. NG at team building activity



### *Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN*

*Department Chairperson and Clinical Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,  
The University of Hong Kong*

#### *Is there a particular case you encountered during training or during your career that you remember vividly?*

There is one case that jumps out immediately. I was still a junior resident looking after the obstetric wards in QMH as a first call on a Thursday afternoon. Almost the entirety of the obstetrics team was attending antenatal clinics in TYH. A woman carrying twins at 28 weeks of gestation was sent up to QMH from TYH after an ultrasound scan showed growth discrepancy between the two babies. On admission, the cardiotocogram showed a marked reduction in variability which was very worrying. I leapt into action, notified my second call, and rushed her into the operating theatre for an emergency Caesarean section. I couldn't start before my seniors arrived. I couldn't save either of the twins who unfortunately died before delivery. Breaking that bad news to what seemed like an entire village of relatives was daunting. Time seemed to be frozen. It all became a blur and all I remember were this patient's loved ones surrounding us and shouting and cursing at us.

I don't think I have ever felt as sad again. I took both babies' death personally. The incident sent me into a spiral of emotional turmoil. I doubted my actions and my abilities – maybe I wasn't cut out for this. To make matters worse, there were enquiries and panel reviews into the event. Though they concluded that I was not at fault and all my colleagues and my seniors were supportive of my decisions and my actions that day, I still felt as if I had let down the entire world. I still carry that burden with me even to this very day.

We are always told, even before we start our careers in O&G, how high the stakes are and just how unpredictable this job can be - that was the day I understood just how true it is. One has to be resilient inside and out to weather a career in this field. Thankfully I was supported by my seniors at the time who restored my faith in myself. Now that I am wearing the shoes of a senior I just do realise how important my role is in giving our juniors the moral support needed to carry on. I know just as well as anyone how severely bad outcomes can affect a young trainee.

Another memory that will stay with me forever will be the fever dream - COVID-19. It was not long after I took up the role as Head of Department when Hong Kong suffered its greatest



*Networking and exchange with leaders of international professional bodies*

# Our Great Leaders

impact from the pandemic. Having always been driven by a strong sense of duty and service to the community, I volunteered to have our postnatal ward converted into a COVID ward to look after those infected with COVID-19. Our Department began to help to shoulder the burden of the pandemic, looking after medical patients in addition to the usual O&G ones. There was great scepticism within the Department in regards to just how capable we were in looking after these critically ill patients. Granted it was far out of our comfort zone and our usual skillset, but with grit and heart we pulled together and pulled through. In the end, we devised an elaborate rota to ensure that the appropriate care was given with the support of our physician colleagues. I dare say that the care we provided would not be in any way inferior to that in a standard medical ward!

At the end of the day it was our sense of duty, our resilience, and our willingness to work together as a team that allowed us to achieve more than what we could have imagined.

## *What is the most valuable thing HKU O&G has taught you?*

It would be impossible to name just one. I think HKU O&G has definitely moulded me into the person I am today. My time in this Department and now as its Head has given me opportunities to develop in all areas which I always treasure, from sharpening my clinical acumen to improving interpersonal relationships; from learning how to execute to planning how to innovate. Perhaps it has been only after I took up the role to lead this Department that I have come to realise that as a medical practitioner our role is so much more than just to look after the patients in front of us, but that we also owe a service to those around us and to the wider community to ensure their wellbeing. The longer I spend in this role, the more forward looking I have become and am committed to training the next generation of O&G specialists who will continue to pass on this torch and keep it burning brightly and long after we are gone.



Picture with Prof. Mario LEITAO, Aw Boon Haw Visiting Professor in 2024



Picture of Prof. CHAN, President of HKCOG, with Prof. Grace TANG (right) and Prof. Wing Cheong LEUNG (left) at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of Hong Kong Academy of Medicine

## *Can you share some of the challenges you had to overcome? How did you do so?*

The greatest challenge that I am in fact still learning how to conquer is how to dedicate myself to both my family and to my career. In the end, it comes down to finding a fine balance that oftentimes feels like tip-toeing along a knife's edge! Everyone talks about work-life balance, but it's really more like work-life integration. To me it is both my career and my family that give my life colour and meaning – but they are both hard work!

In fact, I doubt I have the perfect answer to this, but what keeps me walking forwards is continuing to look straight ahead beyond the horizon and not to let myself get weighed down by self-doubt or self-criticism. I think that is fundamental to anyone working in O&G - do not be too harsh on yourself, as others will take care of that for you.



### *Can you describe your current role in the sphere of O&G?*

I wish I had more heads. For one it would make my life easier as it would mean I did not have to wear so many hats all at once! To list out a few, I am: the Chairperson for HKU O&G, COS of GHK and QMH, Chief of Department of O&G at HKU-SZH, Chairperson of Gynaecological Oncology Board at the HKCOG, and President of the Hong Kong Society of Gynaecological Oncology, to name a few. I am also a front-line gynaecological oncologist who still keeps up with clinical work! I still see patients, perform operations, conduct grand rounds, and train subspecialty trainees. I'm heavily involved in research as well, working with the laboratory team to develop meaningful translational research! I also advise the government on various issues concerning women's health.

### *What issues in O&G do you believe will need more attention?*

With the ever-falling birth rate and elective gynaecological operations, it is becoming more and more difficult to ensure our trainees have adequate exposure and experience during their residency to ensure high standards when they become specialists. Realistically, however, we are more likely to have to rely on high quality simulation training, virtual or augmented reality, and other solutions made possible by advances in technology and artificial intelligence.

These advances also mean that our patients are more health-literate than ever. When I started practicing, we were far more paternalistic in how we provided patient care. That simply will not fly nowadays. Patients are far more aware of their own medical conditions, and with more and more knowledge at their fingertips they often like to take charge in the planning of their treatment. Few patients respond well to the old-fashioned doctor-knows-best approach that was employed previously.

Indeed, the leaps and bounds made by science and medicine are often a double edged sword, with this being more obvious in the practice of oncology. Now there are more tests and treatment options than ever – but these tend to be quite expensive. It can be heartbreaking to discuss costs and financial support, especially when it boils down to lifesaving treatment.

In spite of this, however, we need not be intimidated by the speed of scientific progress. We should aim to be part of this rapid advancement. We ought to aim high, to shoot for the moon and in that way not to be disappointed when we only land among the stars! In order to achieve this, we need close communication and collaboration with our local, regional, and international counterparts.



Spring gathering with Prof. CHAN's research team and collaborators



Prof. CHAN and Ms. Kathy CHANG (Former Administrative Assistant, right) congratulating Ms. Lydia LAI (her secretary, middle) for her long service at HKU in 2024

# Our Great Leaders

## *What are you working on right now? Is there anything you hope to achieve in the field of O&G in the future?*

If I were to list everything that is currently on my plate at the moment I would probably lose my appetite forever. There are truly too many things to list here, but I will touch on the areas I am most committed to.

Lately I have felt a stronger sense of duty to improve the health of our local community. Increasing the cervical cancer screening uptake rate has been one of my passion projects. I am currently working with primary health bureau to implement self-sampling tests so that women can avoid the embarrassment and inconvenience of attending a clinic for routine cervical screening. I am also exploring even more novel and efficient ways for these self-sampling tests to be conducted and submitted.

In terms of research, my lab is working hard to identify genetic signatures for ovarian cancer in the hope of developing novel regimens to treat clear-cell ovarian cancers. These are stubborn malignancies that respond poorly to conventional treatment and even newer targeted therapies. With clear cell ovarian cancer being more prevalent in East Asia, I feel as if this is the next big mystery for us to solve! The new Translational Research and Diagnostic Laboratory in our Department which has just begun operations this year is yet another milestone which I hope can equip us to answer these unanswered questions.

I am also working tirelessly behind the scenes to support the Department in riding through the challenges of the changing terrain that lies ahead of us. First among which is the establishment of a new Ambulatory Day Centre to improve the efficiency of our clinical service. Our wards for General Gynaecology and Gynaecological Oncology are also fated to merge in the near future with dramatic changes in human resources. I hope to be able to lead a smooth transition with multiple teams working in tandem.

All these serve to establish an infrastructure for others to build upon, so that we may continue to flourish for the many years to come.

## *Do you have any advice for the modern O&G practitioner?*

“For things to stay as they are, everything must change”- those may not be my words, but they hold true. Our current generation has profited greatly from the blood, sweat, and tears of those who have come before. We must not, however, be complacent and rest on our laurels. With this year being the centenary of our Department, I think there is no better moment to emphasise this mantra than today. We need to keep looking to the future and to move forward swiftly so as not to be reduced to irrelevance.

Although technology, society, and the very practice of medicine are changing faster than we can imagine, there are certain values which will always remain fundamental to our practice. These are drive, determination, and to a certain extent, sacrifice. It is certainly difficult to have them all, and everything has a price. In spite of this, it's important to remember not to be too harsh on yourself. Our line of work is so multi-faceted that you cannot be everything to everyone. My advice is to grasp a good insight into your own strengths and identify your weaknesses. Make the best of your abilities, focus on your strengths, and strengthen your weaknesses. In reality, clinical situations are often far from ideal or indeed far from what you expect in a textbook or a lecture. A modern O&G practitioner must be like the O&G practitioner of the past, in that they must always be ready to adapt and to serve with resilience and heart as they have always done. Those who can master this will not only survive, but flourish.



# Our Teaching and Training



# Our Teaching and Training

## Undergraduate Teaching in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

The objectives of the undergraduate teaching of our Department is to train future doctors who are competent in the understanding and delivery of effective, humane and ethical health care for women, committed to lifelong learning, and ready to proceed to postgraduate training. We adopt an outcome-based approach to student learning.

The latest medical undergraduate curriculum (the “MBBS 140 curriculum”) features 140 CORE topics as a backbone, which refers to **Common** situations pertaining to **Ordinary** clinical settings, in which students are expected to acquire the **Relevant** knowledge, skills and behaviour that are **Essential** for competent and ethical professional practice. This has been implemented in students entering the Clinical Foundation Block in July 2024.

### Pre-clinical Years

The pre-clinical years comprise an integrated system-based course covering the structure and function of organ systems of the human body, in addition to pharmacology, microbiology, pathology, behavioural science, public health and medical humanities, as well as clinical interpersonal skills. Our Department is involved in teaching related to the reproductive system.

### Enrichment Year

In the enrichment year, students can plan and undertake their individually tailored enrichment activities to fulfil their learning objectives. Our Department offers opportunities to those who wish to pursue research exposure related to our specialty.

### Clinical Foundation Block

The first ten weeks of the clinical years is the Clinical Foundation Block which serves as a transition to the clinical-oriented clerkships. It is designed to help students to consolidate and reinforce what they have acquired in the system blocks and translate them into clinical scenarios.

By the end of the course, the students are expected to be able to:

(a) take an obstetric and gynaecological history and

communicate comfortably and effectively with patients in Chinese;

- (b) perform an obstetric and gynaecological examination;
- (c) understand the commonly used investigations in obstetrics and gynaecology;
- (d) relate the history and physical findings to reach a final diagnosis;
- (e) understand the mechanisms of labour and simple labour ward procedures.

Lectures covered in this block include:

- Physiology of pregnancy and minor ailments
- Puerperium and related problems
- Fertility regulation
- Menstrual disorders
- Perinatal medicine, antenatal care and pre-pregnancy counselling
- Physiology of lactation, breast feeding and infant feeding

### General Clerkship

It combines the previous Junior Clerkship and Senior Clerkship, with a theme on “Principles of Medicine and Healthcare”.

There are 4 sessions of theme case teaching, covering pregnancy-related issues, abnormal vaginal bleeding, pelvic mass as well as urogynaecology.

Students are given the opportunity to visit the wards and practice history taking in obstetrics and gynaecology, and present their clerkings at the tutorial session. They will visit the labour ward and participate in a simulation workshop on postpartum haemorrhage. Common presentation and differential diagnosis of gynaecological emergencies are discussed.

Besides, we also conduct an interactive tutorial on gynaecological oncology in the Cancer Medicine Block.

Lectures covered in this clerkship include:

- Abnormal cervical smear: cervical cancer; cancer screening
- Abnormal vaginal bleeding: gynaecological cancer

- Can we get married? Pre-marital, pre-pregnancy and pre-natal counselling
- Climacteric symptoms: menopause and related illness; amenorrhoea
- Complications of early pregnancy
- Hypertension and pregnancy
- I am pregnant: medical problems complicating pregnancy
- I felt a lump below: urinary incontinence in females; genital prolapse
- I want to have a baby: male and female infertility
- Pelvic mass: ovarian cancer and cysts; uterine fibroid; pelvic imaging
- Vaginal discharge: obstetric and gynaecological infections

## Assistant Internship

The assistant internship (previously the “Specialty Clerkship”) is a seven week rotation. With a theme of “Readiness for Practice”, emphasis is put on the clinical management of patients, and students are directly involved in the day-to-day care of patients. Students are rotated to hospitals and clinics within the HKU Health System (QMH, TYH, GHK) for three weeks, and one of the outside hospitals (Kwong Wah Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital or United Christian Hospital) for three weeks, with the last week assigned for assessments. Teaching activities include bedside teaching, ward rounds, labour ward attachment, clinic attendance, whole group sessions and workshops. Students are required to keep a logbook, submit a case summary highlighting ethical issues, and take part in a group work project.



Whole-class teaching



Clinical skills teaching

## MBBS Elective

Our Department offers elective modules to MBBS students at QMH. Interested students can have an in-depth engagement in one of the following areas: general gynaecology, use of ultrasound scanning in obstetrics and gynaecology, gynaecological oncology, maternal-fetal medicine, and reproductive medicine.

## Assessment

Continuous assessment is carried out throughout all clinical clerkships. Knowledge-based test (single-best-answer format) is conducted during the General Clerkship, and a summative written examination in the form of short answer questions are carried out.

Clinical skills (history taking, communication and physical examination skills) are assessed in the end-of-rotation clinical competence test at the end of the Assistant Internship.

Assessment of knowledge is conducted in the Final MBBS written examination in the form of multiple-choice questions (single-best-answer and extended-matching type). Questions are classified as “essential” (focusing on essential and fundamental knowledge) and “advanced” (testing knowledge that has added value or higher-level thinking).

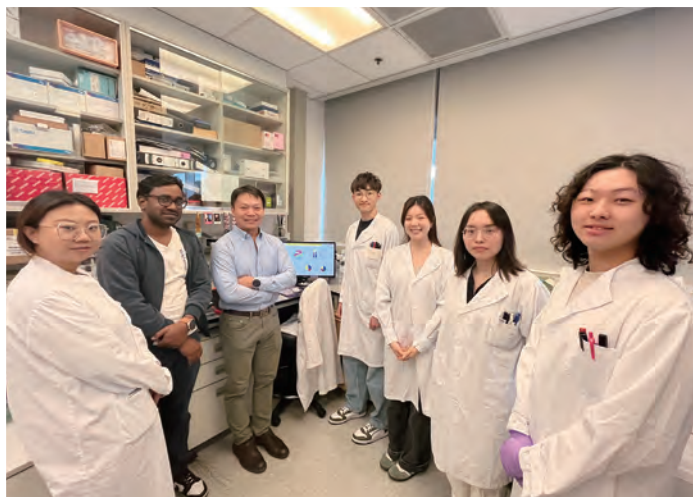
# Our Teaching and Training

## Research Postgraduate Studies

The Department is actively engaged in research in the areas of gynaecological oncology, reproductive medicine, perinatology and prenatal diagnosis. We offer research postgraduate studies in these areas leading to the degrees of Doctor of Medicine (MD), Master of Philosophy (MPhil), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), and Master of Medical Sciences (MMedSc). Details of our research areas are covered in a separate section of the monograph.



Students working in the research laboratory



Research students discussing their work with their teacher

## Training and Development

### Specialty training

Our Department offers a comprehensive training programme designed to equip medical professionals with the knowledge, skills, and experience required for excellence in the field. Being an accredited training centre of the HKCOG and a tertiary referral centre, trainees are exposed to a broad spectrum of clinical scenarios and surgical procedures, fostering a holistic understanding of the specialty. With the background as a teaching unit, trainees also receive diverse opportunities in the area of teaching and research. A distinctive feature of training in our unit is the option for trainees to undertake a one-year elective attachment. This flexible year allows trainees to tailor their learning experience according to their career interests and professional development goals which may include laboratory or clinical research, and clinical attachment to other O&G units or other specialties.



Trainees and trainers at HKCOG Conferment Ceremony (2018)

### Subspecialty Training

Upon completion of specialty training, trainees may pursue advanced subspecialty training in one of the four recognised subspecialties within the Department. Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Reproductive Medicine and Gynaecological Oncology have long history of recognition as accredited training centres by both the



RCOG and the HKCOG, while Urogynaecology training has been accredited by the HKCOG since 2018. During the subspecialty training, trainees benefit from access to the state-of-the-art facilities and a diverse patient population, enabling them to gain hands-on experience in complex cases across various subspecialties. The programme emphasises multidisciplinary collaboration, research opportunities, and exposure to innovative techniques, which collectively foster both clinical excellence and academic growth.

## Academic and Professional Development

In addition to clinical training, the Department emphasises academic excellence and professional development. Trainees are encouraged to participate in departmental research, audits, teaching, and continuing medical education activities. Regular seminars, journal clubs, and workshops are organised to keep trainees abreast of the latest advancements in the field.

Apart from the usual training activities, our unit also organises a variety of training programmes to further enhance the professional development of medical staff. We have a long history of organising the postgraduate study days, currently a bi-monthly event which provide in-depth updates on current clinical practices for all O&G doctors in Hong Kong. We also run anatomy workshops designed to refine anatomical knowledge and surgical skills, and dedicated surgical workshops that offer hands-on experience with advanced techniques. Additionally, simulation training for obstetrics is regularly conducted to help trainees develop critical decision-making skills and confidence in managing complex obstetric emergencies in a safe and controlled environment.



Urogynaecology exchange programme jointly held in HKU-SZH with International Urogynaecology Association and Hong Kong Urological Association in 2017



Simulation training in obstetrics

# Our Teaching and Training

## Visiting Professorship

Each year, our Department welcomes a number of distinguished international experts in obstetrics and gynaecology and related disciplines to engage in knowledge exchange. We curate a variety of scholarly activities aimed at fostering professional development for our staff and trainees, thereby enhancing the quality of our clinical services and advancing our research endeavours.

### Aw Boon Haw Visiting Professorship

The Professorship was established through contributions from the late Mr. Aw Boon Haw in 1951, as well as from his daughter, Dr. Aw Sian, in 1978. Annually, a distinguished obstetrician or gynaecologist from another medical institution, or a professional closely associated with the fields of obstetrics and gynaecology is invited by our Department to visit for two to four weeks and to present the Aw Boon Haw Memorial Lecture.

### List of the past Aw Boon Haw Visiting Professors

	Year	Name	Subspecialty
1 <sup>st</sup>	1979	Prof. Samuel YEN	Reproduction
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1980	Prof. John C. HOBBS	Obstetrics
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1981	Prof. Sidney B. EFFER	Obstetrics
4 <sup>th</sup>	1982	Prof. Roger PEPPERELL	Reproduction
5 <sup>th</sup>	1984	Prof. Felix KRAUER	Oncology
6 <sup>th</sup>	1985	Prof. Hong-zhao SONG	Oncology
7 <sup>th</sup>	1985	Prof. Mitchell S. GOLBUS	Obstetrics
8 <sup>th</sup>	1986	Prof. Bruno LUNENFELD	Reproduction
9 <sup>th</sup>	1987	Lady BRAMLEY	Psychosomatic
10 <sup>th</sup>	1988	Prof. Roland A. PATILLO	Oncology
11 <sup>th</sup>	1989	Dr. Alexander D. CHRISTIE	Obstetrics
12 <sup>th</sup>	1990	Prof. David T. BAIRD	Reproduction
13 <sup>th</sup>	1991	Dr. John H. SHEPHERD	Obstetrics
14 <sup>th</sup>	1992	Prof. Ian D. COOKE	Reproduction
15 <sup>th</sup>	1993	Prof. Ivo A. BROSENS	Reproduction
16 <sup>th</sup>	1994	Prof. Wolfgang HOLZGREVE	Obstetrics
17 <sup>th</sup>	1995	Prof. Peter E. SCHWARTZ	Oncology
18 <sup>th</sup>	1998	Prof. Allan TEMPLETON	Reproduction
19 <sup>th</sup>	2000	Prof. Charles H. RODECK	Obstetrics
20 <sup>th</sup>	2001	Prof. Daniel DARGENT	Oncology
21 <sup>st</sup>	2002	Prof. Stephen K. SMITH	Reproduction
22 <sup>nd</sup>	2004	Prof. Jeffrey S. ROBINSON	Obstetrics
23 <sup>rd</sup>	2005	Prof. Neville F. HACKER	Oncology
24 <sup>th</sup>	2008	Prof. Paul DEVROEY	Reproduction
25 <sup>th</sup>	2009	Prof. Mark D. KILBY	Obstetrics
26 <sup>th</sup>	2011	Prof. Karl C. PODRATZ	Oncology
27 <sup>th</sup>	2013	Prof. David AMOR	Genetics
28 <sup>th</sup>	2013	Prof. Kristina GEMZELL-DANIELSSON	Reproduction
29 <sup>th</sup>	2015	Prof. Barbara GOFF	Oncology
30 <sup>th</sup>	2015	Prof. Peter SOOTHILL	Obstetrics
31 <sup>st</sup>	2016	Prof. Sonia R. GROVR	Reproduction

	Year	Name	Subspecialty
32 <sup>nd</sup>	2018	Prof. Alan CAMERON	Obstetrics
33 <sup>rd</sup>	2018	Prof. Sean T. KEHOE	Oncology
34 <sup>th</sup>	2023	Prof. Mary Ann LUMSDEN	Reproduction
35 <sup>th</sup>	2024	Prof. Mario LEITAO	Oncology

## Daphne W.C. Chun Lectureship

In the early 1970s, a group of friends, colleagues, and former students of Prof. Daphne W.C. Chun contributed to the University to create a lectureship in the Faculty of Medicine named "The Daphne W.C. Chun Lectureship" in honour of Prof. Chun. Each year, or every few years, a notable obstetrician or gynecologist from another medical institution, or a distinguished scholar closely associated with the fields of obstetrics and gynaecology, is invited to present the Daphne W.C. Chun Lecture.

## List of the past Daphne W.C. Chun Lectures

	Year	Name	Subspecialty
1 <sup>st</sup>	1973	Prof. Gordon KING	An Episode in the History of Hong Kong University
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1973	Dr. Erica WACHTEL	Cytology of Pregnancy
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1975	Sir John STALLWORTHY	Changing Patterns of Incidence, Treatment & Prognosis in Uterine Cancer
4 <sup>th</sup>	1976	Prof. Lloyd W. COX	Fertility Treatment: Female & Male
5 <sup>th</sup>	1977	Mr. S. BENDER	The Menopause & Women's Lib
6 <sup>th</sup>	1979	Prof. Sydney J. JOEL-COHEN	The Status of Gynaecological Oncology Surgery in the Year 2000
7 <sup>th</sup>	1982	Prof. Richard W. BEARD	Enigmatic Pelvic Pain
8 <sup>th</sup>	1983	Prof. James WALKER	Aspects of Perinatal Death
9 <sup>th</sup>	1983	Sir Rustam FEROZE	Trends in the Treatment of Malignant Disease in Gynaecology
10 <sup>th</sup>	1984	Mr. J.B. LAWSON	Urinary Tract Injuries Pelvic Surgery
11 <sup>th</sup>	1985	Prof. Geoffrey CHAMBERLAIN	Touchlines
12 <sup>th</sup>	1987	Dr. Lorraine DENNERSTEIN	Hormones & Menstrual Cycle Symptoms
13 <sup>th</sup>	1987	Dr. Dennis H. GATH	Gynaecological Symptoms & Psychiatric Disorder: Distinguishing Cause & Effect
14 <sup>th</sup>	1988	Prof. Charles R. WHITFIELD	Subspecialty Training in Obstetrics & Gynaecology
15 <sup>th</sup>	1993	Dr. Stanley C. SIMMONS	In the Public Interest
16 <sup>th</sup>	1997	Sir Naren PATEL	Litigation & Risk Management
17 <sup>th</sup>	1999	Prof. David BAIRD	Contraception & Reproductive Health: The Fifth Freedom Revisited
18 <sup>th</sup>	2000	Prof. Robert SHAW	Endometriosis - Does It Cause Pain and / or Infertility?
19 <sup>th</sup>	2002	Prof. William DUNLOP	Globalisation of Women's Healthcare - A Role for National Colleges?
20 <sup>th</sup>	2005	Prof. Allan TEMPLETON	The Effective Treatment of Human Infertility
21 <sup>st</sup>	2009	Prof. Sabaratnam ARULKUMARAN	Practical Hints to Improve Intrapartum Outcome
22 <sup>nd</sup>	2012	Dr. Anthony D. FALCONER	Mosioa Tunya - The Smoke That Thunders
23 <sup>rd</sup>	2015	Prof. Knox J.W. RITCHIE	Preparing Obstetricians for the Increasing Medico-Legal Challenges



# Our Teaching and Training

## Prominent Visitors awarded under Visitorships / Fellowships Schemes

### Sun Yat Sen Foundation Fund for Academic Exchanges

Name	Subspecialty	Home Place	Year
Jinghe LANG 郎景和	Oncology	Beijing, China	1998
Keqin HUA 華克勤	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2002
Yixun LIU 劉以訓	Reproductive Biology	Beijing, China	2005 & 2007
Qingyuan SUN 孫青原	Reproductive Biology	Beijing, China	2009

### Prof. Ma Chung Ho Kei Distinguished Lecture Series

The Lectureship is funded by a generous donation from the Ma Chung Ho Kei Foundation. Each year, notable scholars, academics, and professionals from universities or medical institutions worldwide are invited to give distinguished lectures on the topic of Maternal and Child Health.

	Year	Name	Theme of Lecture
1 <sup>st</sup>	2019	Prof. Sailesh KUMAR	Can We Predict and / or Prevent Fetal Distress in Labour?
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2020	Prof. Lyn S. CHITTY	Fetal Exome Sequencing for the Genetic Diagnosis of Fetal Structural Anomalies
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2024	Prof. Christoph LEES	Management of Intrauterine Growth Restriction
4 <sup>th</sup>	2025	Prof. Monique C. HAAK	Fetal Surgery – The Current Status

## Visiting Fellows and Scholars

### University of Hong Kong / China Medical Board Fellowship

Name	Subspecialty	Home Place	Year
Yuanqing YAO 姚元慶	Reproduction	Xi'an, China	1992 - 1993

### Mrs. Ivy Wu Fellowship

In 1993, the Faculty of Medicine received a generous donation from Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Y.S. WU (currently recognized as Sir Gordon and Lady Ivy WU) to create a fellowship program aimed at supporting scholars from the People's Republic of China. This initiative was designed to enhance the effectiveness and quality of medical education in the Mainland. The fellowship program was discontinued in 2004.

Name	Subspecialty	Home Place	Year
Shanguo LI 李善國	Reproduction	Shanghai, China	1995 - 1996
Tiangui HUANG 黃天貴	Oncology	Beijing, China	1995 - 1996
Jie QIAO 喬杰	Reproduction	Beijing, China	1996 - 1997
Gang SHI 石鋼	Oncology	Chengdu, China	1996 - 1997
Lingya PAN 潘凌亞	Oncology	Beijing, China	1996 - 1997
Chunling CHEN 陳春玲	Oncology	Beijing, China	1997 - 1998
Shangrong FAN 樊尚榮	Reproduction	Beijing, China	1997 - 1998
Jing LU 陸靜	Oncology	Shanghai, China	1997 - 1998
Huaijun WANG 王懷軍	Prenatal Diagnosis	Shanghai, China	1997 - 1998
Shunjia HONG 洪順家	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	1998 - 1999
Yibing HAN 韓毅冰	Reproduction	Shenzhen, China	2001 - 2002

Name	Subspecialty	Home Place	Year
Chaohua WANG 王朝華	Reproduction	Beijing, China	2000 - 2001
Huijuan YANG 楊惠娟	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2000 - 2001
Junping WU 伍俊萍	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2000 - 2001
Honghui SHI 史宏暉	Oncology	Beijing, China	2000 - 2001
Hongxia WANG 王紅霞	Oncology	Guizhou, China	2000 - 2001
Min CHEN 陳敏	Prenatal Diagnosis	Guangzhou, China	2000 - 2001

## Dr. Cheng Yu Tung Fellowship / Research Assistantship

In 1996, the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Hong Kong was the recipient of a substantial donation from Dr. Cheng Yu Tung, which facilitated the establishment of the Dr. Cheng Yu Tung Fellowship. This Fellowship aims to provide support for fellows from the People's Republic of China to engage in clinical attachments, as well as management and research training within the pertinent departments of the Medical Faculty.

Name	Subspecialty	Home Place	Year
Chenming XU 徐晨明	Reproduction	Hangzhou, China	1998
Runmei MA 馬潤玫	Obstetrics	Kunming, China	1999 - 2000
Li TAN 譚莉	Prenatal Diagnosis	Beijing, China	2004
Haining LIU 劉海寧	Oncology	Qingdao, China	2004 - 2005
Cuilan LI 李翠蘭	Oncology	Wuhan, China	2005 - 2006
Aihua YIN 尹愛華	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2006 - 2007
Xiaohong BAI 白曉紅	Reproduction	Tianjin, China	2006
Yingjun ZHU 朱穎軍	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2007
Fang YANG 楊芳	Prenatal Diagnosis	Guangdong, China	2007 - 2008
Xiaokui YANG 楊曉葵	Reproduction	Beijing, China	2008
Yan YUAN 袁岩	Prenatal Diagnosis	Beijing, China	2009
Dan SHAN 山丹	Prenatal Diagnosis	Beijing, China	2010
Yu WANG 王煜	Reproduction	Inner Mongolia, China	2010
Hong XU 徐紅	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2011
Pengming SUN 孫蓬明	Oncology	Fujian, China	2013
Yubin DING 丁裕斌	Reproduction	Chongqing, China	2014 - 2015
Yan XU 徐燦	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2017
Jun ZHANG 張軍	Oncology	Hebei, China	2017
Yan WANG 王雁	Obstetrics	Beijing, China	2017 - 2018
Jinghua SHI 史精華	Reproduction	Beijing, China	2017 - 2018
Jiaming HUANG 黃佳明	Oncology	Guangdong, China	2018
Hui ZHOU 周暉	Oncology	Guangzhou, China	2018
Ping YUAN 袁萍	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2018
Chuo LI 李焯	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2018
Yuanqing YAO 姚元慶	Reproduction	Shanghai, China	2018
Haiyan LIN 林海燕	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2019
Xiaoyu TU 涂曉宇	Reproduction	Hangzhou, China	2019 - 2020
Xiaona LIN 林小娜	Reproduction	Hangzhou, China	2019 - 2020
Yuan LI 李源	Oncology	Beijing, China	2019 - 2020
Ping PAN 潘萍	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2023
Tao TAO 陶陶	Reproduction	Beijing, China	2023

# Our Teaching and Training

## Clinical Associates

From time to time, we welcome clinicians from nearby cities to work in our Department for specialized training. These professionals are employed on a short-term basis as Clinical Associates under the University and work as members of the corresponding clinical team.

Name	Subspecialty	Home Place	Year
Keng SHEN 沈鏗	Oncology	Beijing, China	1989 - 1990 1991 - 1992
Xiaoping PENG 彭小萍	Oncology	Guangdong, China	1999
Benyu MIAO 苗本郁	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2000 - 2001
Yan CHEN 陳焱	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2002
Zilian WANG 王子蓮	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2003 - 2004
Kangyun XIE 謝康雲	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2003 - 2004
Chengyu ZHENG 鄭澄宇	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2004
Jundung LI 李俊東	Oncology	Guangdong, China	2004 - 2005
Ying LIU 劉穎	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2004 - 2005
Yong HUANG 黃勇	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2005
Yu GAO 高羽	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2005 - 2006
Qiang YU 俞嫻	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2005 - 2006
Jinhong CHEN 陳金虹	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2006 - 2007
Fengzhen HAN 韓鳳珍	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2006 - 2007
Hong SHI 史宏	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2006 - 2007
Qingqing HONG 洪青青	Reproduction	Shanghai, China	2007
Minling CHEN 陳敏玲	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2007 - 2008
Wei QIAN 錢衛	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2007 - 2008
Jianping TAN 譚劍平	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2007 - 2008
Chunyan YANG 楊春艷	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2007 - 2008
Hong SHEN 沈虹	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2008
Ying ZHANG 張穎	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2008
Hongmei PENG 彭紅梅	Reproduction	Beijing, China	2008
Hai Ying WANG 王海英	Gynaecology	Guangdong, China	2008
Yuanjing HU 胡元晶	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2008 - 2009
Xiaoli CHEN 陳曉莉	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2009 - 2010
Chunmin LIU 劉春敏	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2009 - 2010
Yukun LIU 劉玉昆	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2010 - 2011
Haihong JI 籍海虹	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2010 - 2011
Huimin ZHONG 鍾惠敏	Obstetrics	Guangdong, China	2010 - 2011
Xiang LU 陸湘	Reproduction	Shanghai, China	2011 - 2012
Yaomei MA 馬耀梅	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2011 - 2012
Yuna GUO 郭玉娜	Obstetrics	Shanghai, China	2011 - 2012
Qian XU 徐茜	Obstetrics	Tianjin, China	2012 - 2013
Hui Mei May LUK 陸曉楣	Oncology	Guangdong, China	2013
Tao SU 蘇濤	Oncology	Shanghai, China	2013 - 2014
Tong TONG 童彤	Obstetrics & Oncology	Shanghai, China	2013 - 2014
Yanping WANG 王妍平	Obstetrics	Tianjin, China	2014
Jianguo ZHAO 趙建國	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2014
Xiaoqing LUO 羅笑卿	Reproduction	Guangdong, China	2014 - 2015
Quanhong PING 平全紅	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2015
Xueling HAN 韓雪玲	Obstetrics	Tianjin, China	2015
Qi CHEN 陳琪	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2016
He LI 李核	Reproduction	Shanghai, China	2018
Pu LI 李圃	Oncology	Tianjin, China	2018
Yongle XU 許詠樂	Reproduction	Suzhou, China	2018 - 2019



# Our Research



# Our Research

## Obstetrics and Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Our team is devoted to improving pregnancy outcomes through high-quality multi-centre research. Current research in the Division of Obstetrics and Maternal-Fetal Medicine covers the areas of medical diseases in pregnancy, preterm labour, intrapartum care and prenatal diagnosis.

### Maternal Medicine

#### 1. Maternal Mortality

Reducing maternal mortality is a global priority. A confidential enquiry via hospital-based cohorts was carried out to identify trends and leading causes of maternal mortality and the pitfalls of vital statistics by the Department of Health, which was unable to capture the majority of maternal mortality / late maternal deaths. This study demonstrates the need to refine the reporting system of maternal mortality in Hong Kong. It provides insights into the true burden of maternal deaths, which would allow appropriate interventions to improve maternal outcomes.

#### 2. COVID-19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our team took an active role in evaluating behavioural adaptations to obstetric care, and the patterns of COVID vaccination and transmission amongst pregnant women in Hong Kong. These cross-sectional data provided valuable information to guide targeted measures and adjustments aiming at optimising obstetric services and reducing the incidence of COVID-19 in local pregnant women.

#### 3. Vertical Transmission of Hepatitis B

Further to the pioneering research over four decades ago on reducing mother-to-child transmission by Prof. Vivian TAAM WONG, our Division has continued its legacy by reviewing worldwide clinical practices regarding HBV DNA quantification, precautions for invasive tests, antiviral use and neonatal vaccination administration, with the aim of further optimising perinatal management of chronic hepatitis B infection. Micro-elimination of vertical transmission of Hepatitis B in the local population is our first step.

#### 4. Gestational Diabetes Mellitus

Gestational diabetes mellitus is prevalent in the Asian population and could pose serious maternal and neonatal complications. A retrospective cohort study was conducted to evaluate the diagnostic performance of HbA1c in early pregnancy in detecting diabetes in pregnancy and identifying pregnant women at risk of maternal and neonatal complications.



Obstetric Clinical Research Team



## General Obstetrics

### 1. Preterm labour

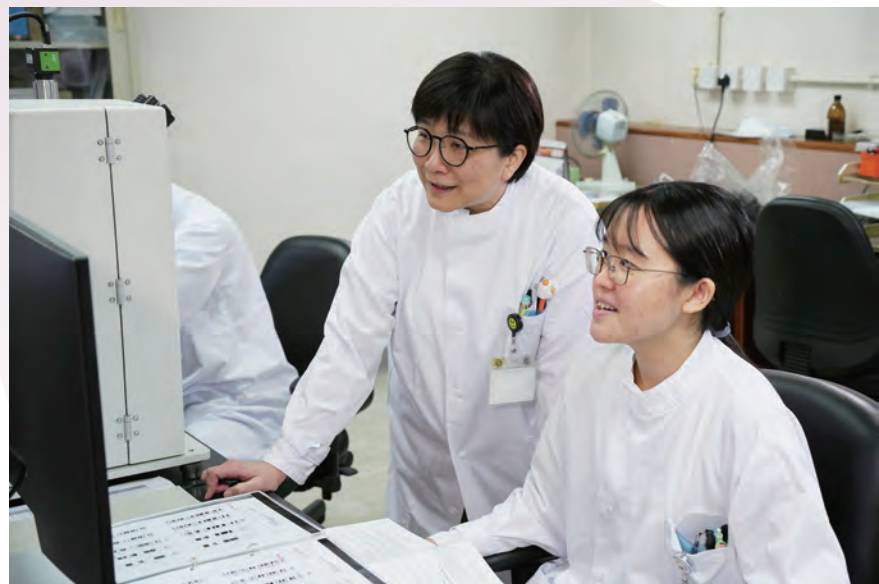
Preterm delivery complicates up to 60% pregnancies and is associated with significant perinatal mortality and morbidity. There was no clear evidence on the management of the delivery of the second twin after second trimester miscarriage or preterm delivery of the first twin. A systematic review and meta-analysis summarised current evidence regarding neonatal and maternal outcomes following delayed interval delivery.

### 2. Prevention of preterm birth

A short cervix in the second trimester has been associated with increased risk of preterm birth, and intervention could be offered to reduce the risk. With the hypothesis that earlier detection and intervention may result in more effective prevention of preterm birth, a systematic review and meta-analysis was performed to evaluate differences in transvaginal cervical length before 16 weeks between those who delivered preterm and term.

### 3. Intrapartum care

Enhancing intrapartum care is an essential element in reducing maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity. The team has collaborated with international partners of the WHO Intrapartum Care Algorithms Working Group to devise evidence-based clinical algorithms in diagnosing and managing abnormal parameters during labour, including maternal urine and fetal heart rate abnormalities.



Genetic diagnosis

## Prenatal diagnosis

### 1. Haemoglobin Bart's disease

Alpha thalassemia carrier rate in Hong Kong is estimated to be 3-5%. Hb Bart's disease is no longer a lethal condition. Our studies have reported the ultrasound features, antenatal diagnosis, in-utero intervention and long-term outcome of pregnancies at risk of Haemoglobin Bart's hydrops foetalis syndrome attending prenatal diagnosis in Tsan Yuk Hospital over the past three decades, highlighting the importance of prenatal screening and the success of in-utero transfusion in salvaging affected pregnancies. Our team is looking into in-utero stem cell transplant by paternal haemopoietic stem cells in affected pregnancies.

### 2. Clinical use of whole exome / genome sequencing

With the advancement of prenatal diagnostics, our team collaborated with other centres to evaluate the applicability of next generation sequencing technologies in our clinical service, with the aim of providing more comprehensive information to guide reproductive decision making.



# Our Research

## General Gynaecology / Urogynaecology

Currently the Division of General Gynaecology / Urogynaecology conducts research in the following areas:

### 1. **Non-invasive management of gynaecological conditions**

After the introduction of HIFU as a treatment for uterine fibroids, our division has performed research on its efficacy in the local population. Our HIFU team also actively performs research on the extension of the application of this technology to other benign conditions including adenomyosis and cervical intraepithelial lesion.



HIFU treatment

### 2. **Minimally invasive surgery**

Our team advocated minimally invasive surgery, with particular focus on vaginal surgery. Throughout the years, the efficacy, safety, and feasibility of vaginal surgery in benign gynaecological conditions have been reviewed. With the recent introduction of vaginal natural orifice transillumination endoscopic surgery (vNOTES), its usefulness in comparison to the traditional vaginal surgery is being explored.

### 3. **Surgical treatment of patients with pelvic floor dysfunction**

Laparoscopic pectopexy is the latest treatment for patients with pelvic organ prolapse. Its efficacy is being compared with the usual laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy. With the research, it is hoped that more evidence can be gathered to guide future clinical practice. Apart from surgery for pelvic organ prolapse, our team has also reviewed the long term follow-up of patients receiving incontinence surgery, providing more information for patient counselling in future.

### 4. **Clinical outcome in the elderly population**

With the aging population, there is more interest in improving healthcare received by the elderly population, in particular the mode of care and the possible surgical complications. Our team focused on research in surgical complications of the elderly with the risk factors identified, in the hope providing more tailored counselling for patients and their families to make informed treatment choices. In addition, we study the ways to improve the treatment outcomes by modifying the risk factors and a healthcare provision model to suit the needs of this group of patients.

# Gynaecological Oncology

Our team covers both translational and clinical research in screening, early detection and treatment of gynaecological malignancies. The team's translational research combines biobank resources, state-of-the-art genomic techniques and antibody engineering platform, aiming to better delineate tumor origins, evolutionary trajectories and associated vulnerabilities. These foundational efforts support the development of highly sensitive, personalised strategies for the early detection, improved surveillance, and timely intervention in gynaecological cancers.

## 1. Cervical cancer

Our team has been working on cervical cancer prevention for the past ten years. Our research demonstrated the acceptability of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine against cervical cancer amongst our community when the vaccine was first introduced in Hong Kong. Meanwhile, we participated in international Phase 3 clinical trials on the efficacy and safety of new HPV vaccines. Data from these studies contributed to the launch of the government's school-based HPV immunisation programme.

Apart from primary prevention with the vaccine, we also worked on cervical screening strategies. Our team conducted a large scale prospective randomised trial on adopting HPV testing as a screening strategy. This study provided strong local evidence to support the Hong Kong government to revise the new cervical screening guidelines, adopting HPV testing as the main screening method in Hong Kong. Subsequently, this also changed the practice of cervical screening in Hong Kong. The government clinics have replaced cervical cytology by HPV testing for the whole population.

The team is now conducting large-scale population studies to assess the role of HPV self-sampling—including noninvasive urine-based HPV testing—for enhancing cervical cancer screening rates, aiming to meet World Health Organisation (WHO) 2030 targets



Research Team of the Gynaecological Oncology Research Laboratory

and potentially inform changes in local screening protocols.

Projects are underway to evaluate DNA methylation tests as reflex triage tools for women who are tested positive for high-risk HPV, promoting more efficient detection and management pathways.

## 2. Early diagnosis and detection for ovarian cancer

For ovarian cancer, we are pioneering multimodal biomarker discovery using tumor-secreted extracellular vesicles; we are investigating the application of exosomal membrane proteins and cancer-specific miRNA from blood samples to improve early-stage ovarian cancer detection, particularly for high-grade serous ovarian cancer (HGSOC).

Integrative approaches leveraging RNA sequencing and spatial transcriptomics are employed to identify

# Our Research

candidate biomarkers linked to early precursor lesions, such as serous tubal intraepithelial carcinoma (STIC). This integrative approach bridges computational discovery with translational validation, offering insights into early HGSOC detection.

## 3. Understanding and overcoming immune evasion in ovarian cancer

Building on recent approvals of immunotherapy for epithelial ovarian cancer, the group focuses on using advanced animal models and functional genomics to systematically discover and validate new immunotherapy targets, aiming to develop strategies that counter resistance and significantly improve treatment effectiveness.

Key initiatives include investigating the role of tumour-derived factors like CXCL10, which has been found to induce terminal exhaustion of CD8 T cells and foster an immunosuppressive microenvironment in ovarian cancer. Blocking CXCL10 reinvigorates T cell function, suppresses tumour growth, and, when combined with anti-PD-1 therapy, shows promise for overcoming immunotherapy resistance.

The team also leverages CRISPR screens to identify novel regulators of T cell, macrophage, and NK cell functions, providing new targets for combination immunotherapy that could enhance patient outcomes in ovarian cancer.

## 4. Therapeutic innovation in gynaecological cancers

The team is utilising patient-derived circulating tumour cell and organoid models to predict chemosensitivity, aiming to personalize treatment for platinum-resistant cases. We are also investigating the role of reactive oxygen species in chemoresistance and exploring the repurposing of FDA-approved drugs to target cancer stem cells.

In collaboration with researchers in the School of Biomedical Science, CUHK, we are investigating the genetic-drug sensitivity causes underlying exceptional therapeutic responses. This is the first exceptional responder

study launching in Asia. We aim to create the first Hong Kong clinical exceptional responder gene-drug evidence resource to guide precision medicine clinical trial design in oncology.

Our group is working on expanding the clinical impact of platforms like antibody-drug conjugates and bispecific T-cell engagers, which have shown promise in solid tumours. Through active collaboration with immunologists and chemists, we are engineering and developing novel antibodies specifically tailored for ovarian cancer patients.

## 5. Clinical trials / research

Key initiatives include investigations into the optimal timing and appropriateness of ovarian debulking surgery at different treatment time points, aimed at improving surgical outcomes and patient quality of life.

The group is also conducting collaborative research with experts in Traditional Chinese Medicine to explore approaches for alleviating treatment-induced side effects in gynaecological cancer patients, recognising the importance of supportive care in cancer management.

The team is leading an investigator-initiated Phase 2 clinical trial evaluating the combination of targeted therapy and immunotherapy for recurrent cervical cancer.

We continue to participate in international Phase 3 clinical trials investigating novel cancer treatment options for ovarian and endometrial cancers.

Available platforms at Dept. O&G, HKUMed



- 4 monoclonal antibodies for research and translation
- >20 EOC organoids; >10 pre-malignant organoid
- 4 syngeneic HGSOC mouse models
- Genomic data for over 500 EOC cases
- Biospecimen and clinical data collected since 2000
- Laboratories in both HK and Shenzhen are ready for national and international collaboration

Our Laboratory Research Platforms



# Reproductive Medicine

The Reproductive Medicine Division is actively conducting clinical and laboratory research on various aspects of reproductive medicine, some in collaboration with centers in Mainland China and other countries. Currently, there are ten clinicians participating in clinical research, and 12 research scientists within the Division working in basic scientific and translational research.

## 1. Fertility regulation

Following our pioneering work on the use of levonorgestrel (LNG) for emergency contraception (EC) published in 1993, we have been active in research on aiming at making EC regimens more effective and user-friendly, and at elucidating the mechanisms of action of LNG and ulipristal acetate for EC through both laboratory and clinical studies. Recently, we pioneered the use of cyclo-oxygenase inhibitor in combination with LNG for EC, and are having ongoing clinical trials in this area. We are also looking into the development of pericoital on-demand contraception. Continuing on our prolific work on medical abortion, we are studying the use of letrozole as an alternative to mifepristone in abortion and management of early pregnancy complications.

## 2. Studies on endometrial receptivity

We have studied extensively on factors influencing endometrial receptivity by means of ultrasound indices as well as by an in-vitro trophoblastic spheroid–endometrial cell co-culture model. We conducted a series of studies on the adverse effect of high circulating level of estradiol and progesterone on endometrial receptivity, as well as the effect of clinical interventions (e.g. endometrial scratching, atociban, hyaluronic acid, progestogen supplementation and glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist) and pathological conditions (e.g. endometrial polyp) on endometrial receptivity. We have also pioneered an in-vitro co-culture model using endometrial stem cell BAP-EB / blastoids as the embryo surrogate to study endometrial



Key researchers in the Reproductive Medicine Division.

# Our Research



Reproductive Medicine Research Team at Prof. William YEUNG's retirement celebration in 2025

receptivity on drug / small molecules screening. We are applying this model to work on prognostic prediction of assisted reproduction treatment outcomes and on the pathophysiology of repeated implantation failure as well as recurrent pregnancy loss.

### 3. Clinical studies in assisted reproduction

We are active in conducting randomised controlled clinical trials to explore methods to improve the success of assisted reproduction treatment. We have studied the role of acupuncture, endometrial scratching, dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA), oxytocin antagonist, elective embryo freezing, hyaluronic acid-enriched transfer medium and various luteal phase support protocols on the outcome of in-vitro fertilisation and / or frozen embryo transfer cycles. Some of these trials are conducted in collaboration with other centres in China or overseas. We also participated in international multi-centred trials.

### 4. Psycho-social aspects of assisted reproduction

It is well-known that women with infertility problems are under a lot of stress and anxiety. We collaborate with the Department of Social Work and Social Administration, HKU to offer group psycho-social counseling sessions to our patients undergoing assisted reproduction treatment, and conduct joint

research studies on their psychosocial profile and run clinical trials on psychosocial interventions to reduce stress and anxiety in this setting.

### 5. Reproductive endocrinology

We have been working on the clinical utility of anti-Mullerian hormone (AMH) measurement in reproductive medicine, including its use in the differential diagnosis of anovulatory disorders, its correlation with endocrine and metabolic profile in women with polycystic ovary syndrome, and its role in the management of patients undergoing assisted reproduction treatment. We have also been actively evaluating the new automated platforms for AMH measurement, and established an age-specific normogram of AMH measured on one of the new automated platforms in the Chinese population. We are also conducting a longitudinal study to evaluate the endocrine and metabolic profile of women with polycystic ovary syndrome in Hong Kong, and to explore the factors predicting their long-term cardiovascular and metabolic morbidity. Clinical studies on the role of vitamin D on reproduction are underway. We are also carrying out population surveys on menopause-related issues.

### 6. Reproductive biology

We have a strong team of reproductive scientists in the research laboratory, and our current main research interests are in the following areas:

**Interaction of sperm and embryo with the female reproductive tract** - In the past two decades, our team has been studying the interaction of gametes / embryos with the female reproductive tract. Our work has shown that human oviductal and endometrial epithelial cells produce factors that improve the development of human and mouse embryos. The preimplantation embryos influence the mRNA expression of the oviductal and endometrial epithelial cells. The oviductal cells maintain the motility of human spermatozoa in vitro, which would otherwise decrease rapidly in culture, and the human spermatozoa bind to the oviductal cells and change their protein secretion.

**MicroRNAs in reproduction** - We are working on the role of microRNAs in early embryonic development and implantation. MicroRNAs are small non-coding RNAs which suppress mRNA translation and are important in several developmental processes. MicroRNAs in the extracellular vesicles (EVs) have been reported to regulate various biological processes during embryo implantation. We have shown that sperm-borne microRNA-34c is important for the first cleavage division of mouse embryos, and the microRNA let-7a is important in modulating the implantation potential of mouse blastocysts. We are studying the role of microRNAs in embryo assessment and selection in in-vitro fertilisation.

**Glycodelin and reproduction** - We discovered two isoforms of glycodelin, namely glycodelin-F and glycodelin-C, and have extensively studied their diverse

functions in reproduction including sperm function, fertilisation and trophoblastic function. We also studied the actions of glycodelin on trophoblast cells and immune cells in regulating fertilization and placental development in human.

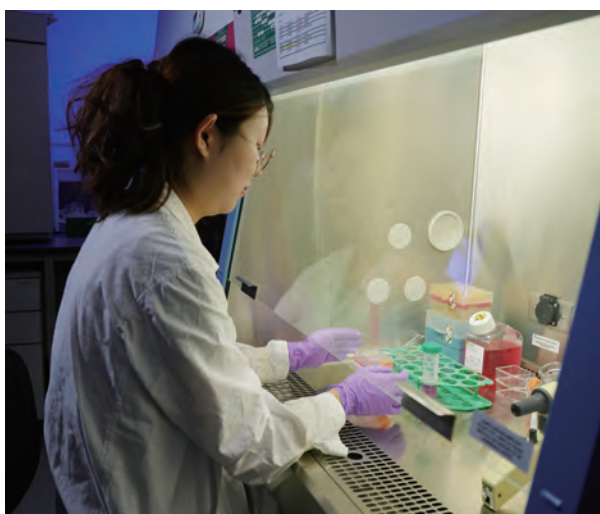
**Endometrial stem cells** - The human endometrium has remarkable regenerative capacity during the female reproductive years. We characterise the human endometrial epithelial and stromal stem / progenitor cells using a functional approach (clonogenic assay) and are now continuing with the characterisation of endometrial stem cells and investigating for its involvement in the endometrial tissue regeneration.

**Embryonic stem cell and Endometrial receptivity** - We established a protocol to differentiate human trophoblastic-like cells from embryonic stem cell to generate spheroid (BAP-EB, blastocyst surrogate) that is able to differentially attach to receptive, but not non-receptive human primary endometrial epithelial cells. We are now further studying the mechanism of the differentiation process and exploring the application of this co-culture system in clinical settings and testing for agents that can modulate implantation.

**Adrenomedullin in human reproduction** - We have been studying the role of adrenomedullin in human oviductal function and sperm physiology, and its possible pathophysiological role in tubal ectopic pregnancy.

**Regulation of ovarian follicle development** - We are studying the factors regulating ovarian follicle activation, and screening pharmacological agents that have significant effects in activating primordial follicles with an aim of repurposing them for treatment of women with premature ovarian insufficiency or diminished ovarian reserve.

**Studies of germ cell development** - we are interested in the mechanisms of how ovarian follicles and spermatocytes develop, and actively study certain aspects of these processes using genetically modified mouse models. Based on our basic research, we also look into developing new drugs in treating certain types of infertility.





# Our Research

## Major Research Funding in the Past 3 Years

Funding Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Name	Amount (HK\$)
GRF	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN	The Impact of CXCL10 Derived from Ovarian Cancer Cells on T Cell Antitumor Immunity	1,020,503
HKU URC	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN (Co-PI)	Decoding Immune Memory from Pregnancy to Prevent Ovarian Clear Cell Carcinoma	800,000
HMRF	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN	Clinical Performance of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Genotyping Versus PAX1 / SOX1 Methylation as a Triage for High-risk HPV Positive Women in Cervical Cancer Screening in Hong Kong	953,765
HMRF	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN	Delineation of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)-mediated Signaling Pathways Involved in Developing Chemoresistance in Ovarian Cancer	1,365,184
HMRF	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN	Exploiting Multimodal Predictive Biomarkers from Tumor-secreted Extracellular Vesicles for Precision Diagnosis of Ovarian Cancer	499,108
HMRF	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN	The Use of a New Biomarker, HE4, in Combination with Simple Ultrasound Rules in the Prediction of Malignancy in a Pelvic Mass Detected on Ultrasound	818,344
RIF	Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN (Co-PI)	Accelerating Precision Medicine Translation: Development of the First Evidence based Clinical Exceptional Responder Gene-drug Sensitivity Resource for Cancer	500,000
GRF	Dr. Andy Chun Hang CHEN	The Role of let-7 in Human Trophectoderm Development	1,559,580
HMRF	Dr. Andy Chun Hang CHEN	The Role of Embryonic MicroRNAs in Extracellular Vesicles for Enhancing In-Vitro Fertilization Success Rate	492,000
GRF	Prof. Ka Wang CHEUNG	The Maternal Contribution to Early-onset Preeclampsia: A Perspective from Endometrial Gland Development and Functions	1,446,752
HMRF	Prof. Ka Wang CHEUNG	A Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Routine Intrapartum Vulval and Perineal Cleansing Using Chlorhexidine Versus Normal Saline to Decrease Maternal and Neonatal Infection	1,499,999
Sponsored Research Project from Huarui Mode Biotech Limited	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	The Regulatory Role of Endometrial Gland-derived Apolipoprotein D on EVT Functions in Pre-eclampsia	451,000

Funding Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Name	Amount (HK\$)
Collaborative Research Project from Basecare Medical Corporation Limited	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	Establishment and Application of an Artificial Intelligence-Based Automatic System for Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection	RMB 5,000,000 In-kind sponsorship
Collaborative Research Project from a Medical Investment Company	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	Revolutionising Fertility Care with Intelligent Reproduction Technology (IRT)	RMB 10,000,000
GRF	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	Elucidating the Mechanism and Functions of Oviductal Sperm Reservoir Formation in Humans	1,338,983
GRF	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	The Role of Adrenomedullin on Trophoblast Differentiation and its Association with Early-onset Preeclampsia	1,169,026
HMRP	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU (Co-PI)	A Randomized Double-blind Controlled Study of the Cumulative Live Birth Rates of IVF Following Sperm Preparation by Microfluidic Chip Method Versus Density-gradient Centrifugation Method	1,499,206
HMRP	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU (Co-PI)	Deep Learning-based Selection of Fertilisation-competent Human Spermatozoa	699,648
HMRP	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU (Co-PI)	Early Diagnosis of Preeclampsia Based on the Placenta-Specific Cell-Free RNA Profiles in Peripheral Blood	778,388
HMRP	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU (Co-PI)	Early-pregnancy Prediction of Preeclampsia Using Maternal Serum Levels of Sialylated S100 Calcium-binding Protein A9 and Alpha-2 Heremans-Schmid Glycoprotein	946,888
HMRP	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	Placental Extracellular Vesicle-Derived Siglec-6 and CD147 on the Early Detection of Preeclampsia	1,110,692
NSFC	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	Impact and Mechanisms of B Cell Abnormalities on Fetal Neurodevelopment in Female Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease	RMB 300,000
深圳市自然科學基金計劃（面上項目）	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU	炎症性腸病中CTLA-4和B7-H4異常介導CD8+ T細胞過度激活誘導胎兒生長受限的作用機制研究	RMB 300,000
深圳市自然科學基金計劃（面上項目）	Prof. Philip Chi Ngong CHIU (Co-PI)	靶向母源載脂蛋白D治療早發性子癰前症的機轉和轉化研究	RMB 300,000
GHK-TCFS & RTH-ITF	Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE	Clinical Translational Research of Non-invasive Embryo Viability Test (niEVT)	469,200 1,017,193

# Our Research

Funding Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Name	Amount (HK\$)
GRF	Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE	Mechanistic and Functional Study of a Small Molecule in Modulating Endometrial Receptivity and Embryo Implantation	1,208,830
HKScholar Program	Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE	Multi-omics Approaches to Unveil Human Endometrial Receptivity	439,200
HMRF	Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE	Application of miR-125a-3p, beta-catenin Interacting Protein 1 (CTNNBIP1), and Wnt-signaling Molecules for Predicting Embryo Implantation in IVF Treatment	1,438,000
HMRF	Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE	Use of Uterine Fluid pH as a Marker for Pregnancy Outcome Prediction in Patients Seeking Infertility Treatment	1,496,000
廣州市黃埔區廣州開發區國際科技合作項目	Prof. Calvin Kai Fai LEE	Epigenomics Studies of Endometrial Receptivity (子宮內膜容受性的表觀多組學檢測)	RMB 400,000
HMRF	Prof. Raymond Hang Wun LI	A Multimodal Deep Learning-based Model of Comprehensive Sperm Assessment for prediction of Male Fertility	1,494,474
HMRF	Prof. Raymond Hang Wun LI	Levonorgestrel-piroxicam Combination Versus Ulipristal Acetate for Emergency Contraception: A Randomised Double-Blind Controlled Trial	1,311,588
HKU-MILES	Prof. Haonan LU	Development of Antibody-based Theranostic Agents for Epithelial Ovarian Cancer	1,090,000
HMRF	Prof. Haonan LU	Prediction of Chemosensitivity to Systematic Treatments for Platinum-resistant Ovarian Cancer Using a Microfluidic-based Patient-Derived Circulating Tumor Cell Model	499,988
NSFC-YSF	Prof. Haonan LU	Investigate the Evolution and Function of Aneuploidy During Tumour Progression	321,600
NSFC	Prof. Kui LIU	The National Natural Science Foundation of China and the Swedish Research Council Collaboration Research Programme (NSFC-VR, 2022-2025)	RMB 3,000,000
Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Macau Science and Technology Program (Type C)	Prof. Kui LIU	探索FDA藥物庫中刺激卵泡發育的藥物以“老藥新用”治療卵巢早衰及超齡不育—基礎與臨床相結合的研究(2024-2026)	RMB 3,000,000
HMRF	Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG	A Double Blind Randomised Controlled Trial of Non-Invasive Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy in In Vitro Fertilisation	1,361,728
NSFC / RGC	Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG	Reconstruction of Endometrium-like Tissue from Human Endometrial Stem Cells	1,124,955



## Research Breakthrough in Recent Years in the Department



Press conference announcing the study findings (from left: Prof. Raymond LI, Prof. Philip CHIU, Prof. William YEUNG and Dr. Erica LEUNG)

### **The world-first AI-powered fertilisation-competent sperm identification tool with over 96% accuracy boosts success rates in assisted reproduction**

A study led by Prof. Philip CHIU, Professor William YEUNG and Prof. Lequan YU (Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, HKU) reported the development of the world's first artificial intelligence (AI) model that can accurately identify human sperm with good fertilisation potential. The primary research was conducted by Dr. Erica Tsz Ying LEUNG, Postdoctoral Fellow of our Department, with support from the research and clinical teams. The AI model evaluates sperm morphology based on its ability to bind with the zona pellucida (ZP) for precision male fertility assessment, which may be clinically used to improve the success rates of assisted reproductive procedures. The research findings were published in the international journal *Human Reproduction Open* (2025) and won the Silver Award at the 50<sup>th</sup> Geneva International Invention Fair in 2025.

Infertility is a significant global health concern, affecting about one in six couples of reproductive age worldwide, with male factors accounting for around one-third of cases. Semen analysis is a standard clinical assessment for male fertility potential before assisted reproduction treatment. However, this method is not only labour-intensive and time-consuming, but also highly

dependent on the subjective judgment of laboratory technicians, making standardisation of sperm quality assessment difficult and inaccurate.

The AI model developed by the team is based on this selective binding mechanism and evaluates sperm quality from the egg's perspective, with a clinical threshold established at 4.9%. Men with less than 4.9% of sperm showing ZP-binding capability are considered at higher risk of fertilisation failure. Moreover, using advanced deep-learning techniques, the team trained the AI model on more than 1,000 sperm images, achieving an accuracy rate of over 96%. From 2022 to 2024, the team further validated the model by examining over 40,000 sperm images involving 117 men diagnosed with non-male factor infertility or unexplained infertility. The results confirmed a strong correlation between the proportion of sperm capable of binding to the ZP and the success rate of in vitro fertilisation procedures.

The AI model offers early warning of fertilisation issues and helps identify patients with impaired fertilisation potential in IVF. It serves as a novel diagnostic tool for detecting fertility issues that conventional semen analysis may overlook, allowing clinicians to tailor more effective treatment plans and improve pregnancy outcomes.

# Our Research

## Randomised double-blind placebo-controlled study found levonorgestrel plus piroxicam improved on the efficacy of oral emergency contraception

A study led by Prof. Raymond LI, Prof. Ernest NG and Prof. Pak Chung HO of our Department, in collaboration with Dr. Sue LO (The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong), Prof. Kristina GEMZELL-DANIELSSON (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden) and Ms. Carol FONG (Department of Medicine, HKU), reported that the co-administration of levonorgestrel with piroxicam has improved efficacy of emergency contraception when compared with levonorgestrel alone. The research findings were published in the international journal *The Lancet* in 2023.

Levonorgestrel is a standard drug used for emergency contraception, but is not effective if administered post-ovulation. This study investigated whether a single oral dose of piroxicam as co-treatment with levonorgestrel improved emergency contraceptive efficacy. The study was carried out in The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong and recruited 860 women. The women were divided into 2 groups (Levonorgestrel plus placebo versus Levonorgestrel plus 40 mg piroxicam, 430 each



Research Team (front row, from left: Prof. Ernest NG, Prof. Pak Chung HO, Prof. Kristina GEMZELL-DANIELSSON; back row, from left: Dr. Grace WONG, Prof. Raymond LI, Dr. Sue LO, Ms. Carol FONG)

group), with seven and one in the placebo and piroxicam groups respectively were pregnant. Levonorgestrel plus piroxicam prevented 94.7% of expected pregnancies compared with 63.4% for levonorgestrel plus placebo.

This randomised double-blind placebo-controlled trial opened up a new approach to improve the efficacy of emergency contraception.

## Stem cell breakthrough: New avenue for advancing research into embryonic development, regenerative medicine, biotechnology and agriculture

A new approach to derive stem cells that offers groundbreaking potential for studying embryonic development and producing translational research in genomics and regenerative medicine, biotechnology and agriculture was published in *Nature Cell Biology* (2019). The research was led and conducted by Professor Pengtao LIU's laboratory at School of Biomedical Science, HKU, in collaboration with Prof. William



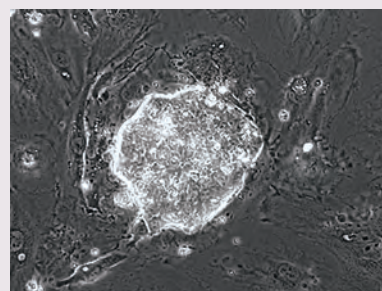
Research team (from left: Prof. Martin CHEUNG, Prof. William YEUNG, Prof. Pengtao LIU)

YEUNG of our Department, together with researchers from the Wellcome Sanger Institute in Cambridge, the Aston University, and several collaborating research laboratories in Mainland China.

The team established the Expanded Potential Stem Cells (EPSCs) of both porcine (pig) and human.

The porcine EPSCs are particularly important because the domestic pigs have great potential for biomedical research because of their similarity to human genetics, anatomy and physiology (such as organ size). Being able to genetically-modify pig stem cells will also be beneficial for animal health and food production.

In fact, the EPSC's great potential to develop into any type of cell provides important implications for developmental biology, regenerative medicine, organ transplantation, disease modeling, animal health, agriculture and biotechnology.



Porcine EPSC colony established from German Landrace Day-5 blastocysts



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a bright red, glossy heart. The hand is positioned above an open palm, which is visible at the bottom of the frame. The background is blurred, showing other people in a crowd, suggesting a public event or gathering. The overall tone is warm and positive.

# Our Benefactors



# Our Benefactors

The Department expresses its deepest gratitude to our benefactors for their generous support of our teaching and development initiatives.

*Our major benefactors since 2000 are listed below:*

## HK\$ 10,000,000 or above

Dr. Yin Kai TSAO

## HK\$1,000,000 or above

Aw Boon Haw Foundation / Dr. Sally Sian AW  
Ma Chung Ho Kei Foundation  
Prof. Ernest Hung Yu NG  
Prof. Hextan Yuen Sheung NGAN  
SK Yee Medical Foundation  
Ms. Fung King TAM  
Prof. Grace Wai King TANG  
Wong Check She Charitable Foundation / Ms. Gemma WONG

## HK\$ 100,000 or above

Prof. Karen Kar Loen CHAN  
Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Koon Ki HO  
Prof. Pak Chung HO  
Dr. Robert Chi Lim LAW  
Prof. Raymond Hang Wun LI  
Dr. Kwok Fai LUK  
Dr. Kit Che MAK  
Mrs. Paula ONG  
Ms. Rosalina Ang TAN  
Mr. Willie TAN  
Ms. Ka Li TSE



# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences



# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences

Over the past decades, the story of HKU O&G has been illustrated not only by milestones, but by the people and values behind them. Woven through these recollections are the Department's hallmarks: mentorship, compassion, resilience, humour, and teamwork. Together, these reflections and photographs preserve the human heart of our first hundred years and the spirit we carry into the next.



## SHARE YOUR MEMORIES WITH US!



## CELEBRATE A CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE TOGETHER!







## *Dr. Ben Chong Pun CHAN*

When would ALL staff turn up in hospital in our old day? Typhoon day! There was no clinic, and staff from all ranks would come back to wards and offer support to on-call and post-call teams. Of course breakfast meeting after morning round, treated by team heads, was a must! Being crazy, but those were our old good days!

## *Dr. Chin Peng LEE*

Do you know what was the happy occasion? It was unusual that so many of us could sit down for breakfast together. It was September 15, 2009, during the time of typhoon Koppu. It was our tradition that if we could make it safely to the hospital, we went back to work even when typhoon signal 8 was hoisted. Since OPD was not opened, we could have breakfast together in K2 after the ward rounds.



# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences

## *Ms. Hei Kiu CHAN*

As we, the nurses of the O&G Department, celebrate our Department's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we reflect with pride on our role in battling COVID-19. Faced with unprecedented challenges, we poured our hearts into protecting mothers and their babies. We swiftly set up a retrofit ward for pregnant women with confirmed infection, creating a safe haven where they could receive care without fear, ensuring their newborns thrived despite the pandemic's shadow. Our mobile delivery team, born from necessity and innovation, brought skilled, compassionate care directly to confirmed obstetric cases, delivering babies safely under the most trying conditions. Each shift tested our resilience, but our commitment never wavered. We adapted, collaborated, and stood strong, driven by our duty to safeguard lives. This milestone anniversary is a moment to honor our collective strength and the bonds we forged through adversity. We're proud to be part of the OG Department's century-long legacy, and as we look forward, we carry the lessons of courage and ingenuity that defined our response, ready to face whatever challenges that come next.



*The Senior Nursing Team*





K13S - 2019 Gynaecology 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on 10 January 2019



First joined QMH and worked at O&G ward A7 (General Obstetric Ward) in January 1989

## Ms. Kit Ching CHAN

Celebrating the Century of Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, I reflect with deep gratitude on my 34-year journey as a nurse dedicated to caring for women through some of the most transformative moments of their lives. From the quiet strength of a mother in labour to the resilience of women facing complex gynaecological challenges, each patient has left an indelible mark on my heart.

I cherish the bonds formed with patients and colleagues alike, the mentorship that shaped my practice, and the teamwork that turned demanding days into shared triumphs. The Department has been a place of growth, innovation, and unwavering commitment to women's health. I've witnessed the evolution of care, embraced new technologies, and remained grounded in the timeless values of empathy and excellence. These memories are etched in my heart, and they remind me that nursing is not just a profession — it's a calling.

As we celebrate this centennial milestone, I am proud to have contributed to a legacy built on care, courage, and connection. Here's to the next hundred years of healing and hope.



HKU O&G Reunion cum Tsan Yuk Centenary Dinner on 15 December 2022



# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences

## Dr. Kit Sheung CHAN

Although my training period at Queen Mary Hospital was brief, the impact of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Hong Kong University on me was profound and lasting. It was not only about acquiring clinical skills in obstetrics and gynaecology; here, I was fortunate to encounter many mentors and friends. I witnessed the "original aspiration - 初心" of pursuing medicine, and I experienced the true meaning of "teaching without discrimination - 有教無類". My heartfelt thanks to all the teachers and colleagues who taught me or worked alongside me. I fondly remember Dr. Fung Yee CHAN, and am deeply grateful for Prof. Ho Kei MA's invaluable mentorship, guidance, and support. May the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Hong Kong University continue to shine and thrive, embracing the next 100, 200, 300 years and beyond.



## Dr. Dorothy Tsoi Yan CHAN

During my time with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology during the COVID era, I faced unique and challenging experiences that deeply impacted me. One of the most memorable aspects was caring for pregnant women with active COVID-19 infections. There was a constant sense of uncertainty, as the medical community was still learning about the virus and its effects on pregnancy and newborns. Every week brought new protocols and updates, requiring adaptability and vigilance from the entire team.



I vividly remember the anxiety and concern among expectant mothers, who worried not only about their own health but also about their babies. As a team, we provided reassurance and evidence-based guidance, fostering a sense of trust and support. The collaboration between the obstetric, neonatal, and infectious disease teams was crucial in developing safe delivery plans and managing emergencies.

Witnessing babies born healthy despite the challenges were moments of immense joy and relief. These experiences highlighted the resilience and dedication of healthcare workers. The pandemic taught me the importance of compassion, adaptability, and teamwork in the face of uncertainty. These lessons and memories will always remain with me.



## Dr. Judy Fung Cheung CHOW

I've been lucky enough to work with these incredible mentors and friends for over 30 years. Prof. Pak Chung HO, my boss, used to throw quick quizzes at trainee during weekly IVF meetings. It was interesting to watch the trainees try to keep up and not get caught off guard — sometimes it was a hilarious scramble! I learned a ton just sitting by his side, trying to stay sharp, and he'd always follow up afterward to make sure the trainees really understood what they were supposed to learn—no shortcuts there!

Prof. Ernest NG and Prof. William YEUNG are both not only my mentors but also good friends, and I truly cherish their guidance. I still remember Prof. William YEUNG personally showing me how to do oocyte pickup and ICSI — talk about hands-on training! He pushed me beyond my limits and made me want to excel wholeheartedly, all while thinking outside the box. These amazing folks have truly inspired me to stay sharp, think creatively, and always put patients first — sometimes with a little humor along the way!

Love you all!



## Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN

I am thankful to every member of HKUOG100 for allowing me to witness history unfold. Each of us is merely a single dot on the vast timeline, yet our shared values and beliefs connect us to past generations and those to come. We stand in this present moment, duty-bound to pass the spirit onward. Let us cherish every contribution, no matter how small. We are never alone—our collective morale uplifts us all! 「願你我初心終不變，共期待突破衝刺，欣然同闊步明天，延續愛、生命、同行。」





# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences

## *Prof. Wing Cheong LEUNG*

The legacy of our mothering department is not confined to Queen Mary Hospital (QMH) & Tsan Yuk Hospital (TYH); it lives and breathes in hospitals like Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH). The rigorous specialty and subspecialty training I received there was more than an education. It was the forging of a professional conscience. The values of clinical excellence, compassionate care, and intellectual curiosity, embodied by Prof. Ho Kei MA and many Seniors, became my own.

I carried this torch to KWH, where I now serve as a consultant and the past COS. The most profound moment came when Prof. Ho Kei MA visited KWH in 2010. I am still thinking Prof. MA came to support me and make sure I am working well in KWH. Over the years, I could point to my practice, my team, and the standards we uphold, and feel a profound pride in not having let her down.

This centenary celebrates a century of nurturing not just academics, but caregivers and leaders. We are the department's legacy, scattered wide over the territory, ensuring that its foundational principles continue to heal patients, conduct teaching and inspire research. Thank you for the unparalleled training and the role models who lit the way.





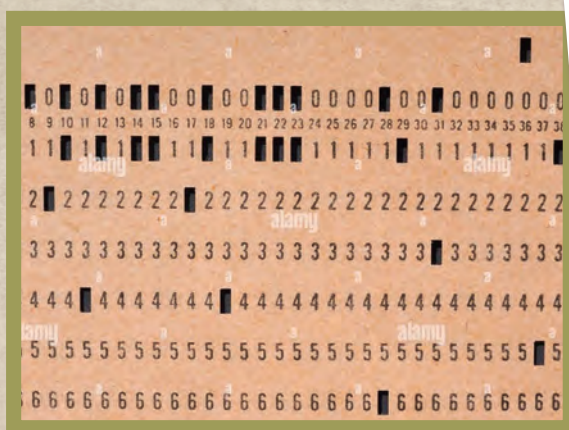
## Dr. Dominic Fuk Him LI

I joined the HKU OG Department in 1979 as House Officer and 1980 as Lecturer. Everybody knew that the Department under Prof. Ho Kei MA was the Shaolin Temple of OG training in HK: tough, demanding but excellent. The training program both pre- and post-membership was so structured and well designed. In those days, the passing rate in MRCOG examination was almost 100% from HKUOG. I am very grateful to Prof. Ho Kei MA throughout my years of training and sub-specialisation. She suggested me to specialise in Obstetric Analgesia / Anaesthesia and Perinatology (as it is called MFM now). Under the Croucher Foundation Fellowship she arranged for me to do my elective training on OAA and Perinatology at the Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff in 1983-1984 during which I learned about animal research (doing pregnant rat spinal analgesia) and writing up on clinical research studies.

Back home in late 1984, under the mentorship of Prof. Vivian WONG, we performed pioneer studies on screening, diagnosis and treatment of gestational diabetes in Hong Kong Chinese patients. In the late 80's, we studied and published on the incidence of GDM in parts of China with the collaboration with obstetric units in Beijing, Guangzhou and Kunming. In those days, doing research was not easy. I was using the homemade Apple II PC from Shumshupo with the simplified SPSS program. When I edited the Annual Obstetric Report of TYH / QMH, I was still using the punch card computer of the Computer Centre of HKU.

We have to appreciate Prof. Ho Kei MA's vision on advancing OG education in China. Back in the 1980's, our department already took in Chinese Medical Fellows from Beijing, Kunming, Shanghai and Guangzhou. They lived with us in the New Senior Staff quarters, QMH and worked with us in clinics and research. These paved the way for advancing their knowledge and scientific researches when these fellows return home.

I am always proud to be a member of HKUOG Department and I am very much honoured to join hands with my friends and colleagues to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of HKUOG and the years to come.



Punch Card Data of the Annual Obstetric Report



Group photo during the British Congress in Birmingham. The lady second from the left is Dr. Zhigong DONG from Beijing



# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences



Aw Boon Haw Visiting Professor in 2009 - Prof. Mark D. KILBY on 18-27 October, 2009



## Dr. Thomas Kwok To LI

2025 marked the centenary of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the University of Hong Kong. Congratulations to this excellent Department!

I am delighted to complete my training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Through out all these years, it was full of joy, fun, happiness, hard work, cooperation, chances, development and challenges. I have a lot of opportunities in forceps deliveries, ultrasound, learning, teaching, training and research.

Many thanks to Prof. Pak Chung HO, Prof. Hextan NGAN, Prof. Karen CHAN, Dr. Chin Peng LEE, Dr. Kwok Yin LEUNG, Dr. Kar Fai TAM, Dr. Lee LEE and all of us. Everyone is looking forwards to our bicentennial. Wish everyone have a nice year and health with our advance in medicine as "prevention is always better than cure".





## Dr. Kwok Yin LEUNG

I would like to take this momentous milestone to say a big thanks to the Department of O&G, HKU for giving me a lot of opportunities to develop various obstetric services during my work in QMH from 2001 to 2010.

1. 3D / 4D ultrasound scan service, improving the prenatal diagnosis and counselling of fetal abnormalities;
2. Fetal therapy including endoscopic laser surgery for twin-twin transfusion syndrome and in utero transfusion for fetal anaemia;
3. Combined first trimester Down syndrome screening programme;
4. Universal antenatal screening for Group B Streptococcus: a pilot project in QMH / TYH.



Besides, I am very grateful to the Department for supporting me to undergo research studies, and to obtain my Doctor of Medicine degree (MD) from HKU in 2012, with the thesis titled "Prenatal diagnosis of alpha thalassemia".

In addition, I am truly thankful for the great support from the Department in organising the 3<sup>th</sup> International Scientific meeting of International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ISUOG) in Hong Kong in 2007 and other meetings.

It was my great honour and pleasure working with Prof. Pak Chung HO, Prof. Grace TANG, Prof. Hextan NGAN, Prof. Ling Chui WONG, and other colleagues in QMH. Many thanks to them!





# Our Memoirs and Reminiscences



## *Dr. Ting Chung PUN*

I thank the Lord for leading me to work in the Department. I began as a house officer in July 1983 and retired in December 2023 — leaving with nothing but gratitude. Over these four decades, I had the privilege of working under three heads of department.

Prof. Ho Kei MA was firm but kind to me when I was a young, ignorant, and somewhat arrogant medical graduate. Prof. Grace TANG invited me to help develop minimal access surgery — a defining opportunity. Prof. Pak Chung HO taught me the value of a positive spirit and the practice of evidence-based medicine. Prof. Hextan NGAN proctored one of my first hysterectomies. She treated me as a close colleague and entrusted me with continuing the urogynaecological service when both sub-specialists had left.

My seniors were generous and supportive; my juniors are hardworking and eager to learn. And in case you didn't know — I met my wife in the Department.

Psalms 23 is very true: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2





# Then and Now

This visual journey captures the Department's everyday life. Behind every change lies the same enduring purpose — to care for women and their families, to advance medical science and practice, to train the next generation, and to uphold the spirit that carries our specialty into its second century.



## Then and Now



Teaching in the departmental lecture theatre at Professorial Block by our two heads: Prof. Ho Kei MA and Prof. Karen CHAN



Labour room in 1928 (old TYH) and in 2025 (QMH)



Obstetric operating theatre in 1928 (old TYH) and in 2025 (QMH)





General gynaecology ward in QMH in 1991 (E6) and in 2025 (K5S)



Gynaecological oncology ward round conducted by Prof. Ho Kei MA in 1992 and Prof. Karen CHAN in 2025



Departmental meeting chaired by Prof. Gordon KING in the past vs senior staff meeting chaired by Prof. Karen CHAN at present



Ultrasound machine in TYH in 1985 and 2025



# Then and Now



Out-patient clinic at Ground Floor of TYH at its opening in 1955 and at present in 2025



Farewell of Prof. TOTTENHAM in 1935 and of Prof. Grace TANG in 2016



Anniversary monograph of TYH at its Golden Jubilee in 1972 and Centenary in 2022



# OUR Centenary Celebrations



HKUOG





# Our Centenary Celebrations

## Celebrating a Century of Care

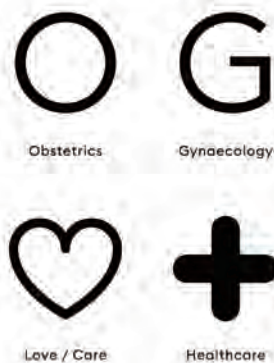
To commemorate this milestone, we are organising a series of celebratory events. These activities aim to unite our esteemed colleagues, beloved alumni, dedicated supporters, and the wider community, all while raising awareness and deepening understanding of women's health issues. Below is a curated selection of our meaningful centenary initiatives:

### Centenary Logo Competition

As a cornerstone of our centenary celebrations, we launched the G.R.O.W. and 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo Design Competition to craft a visual identity that honours our legacy and envisions the future. The winning logo encapsulates the spirit of G.R.O.W. — Global insights in Reproduction, Obstetrics, Oncology, and Women's health — while commemorating a century of excellence in care and innovation. Its design integrates symbolic elements that reflect the Department's core pillars:

- G : Gynaecology
- R : Obstetrics
- ♥ : Love and Care
- + : Healthcare

This emblem embodies the continuous growth and evolution of the HKU Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. We extend our gratitude to all entrants for their inspiring designs; the winning mark has become our official centenary symbol, featured in postgraduate programmes and knowledge exchange activities under the G.R.O.W. theme.





A highlight of our centenary celebrations, the HKU Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Walkathon took place on 12 October 2025, bringing together more than 300 participants — staff, students, alumni, patients, families, and friends. Under the theme “Centuries of Care • Walk for Health,” our community walked to raise awareness of gynaecological cancers and to support The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society, with all proceeds donated to the organisation. The festive atmosphere of reconnection and engagement reaffirmed our shared commitment to advancing women’s health.



Dr. Stanton HO and Dr. Joan WAI served as our masters of ceremony



From Left to right: Prof. Karen CHAN, Prof. Pak Chung HO, and Dr. Cecilia FAN



Watch the  
Highlighted Video

Before the walk, we held a brief opening ceremony featuring a start horn



# Our Centenary Celebrations



Group photo with Guests of Honours

## Centenary Conference

A defining milestone of our Centenary celebrations, the Centenary Conference was held on 6 – 7 December 2025 at Cheung Kung Hai Lecture Theatres, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong. Under the theme, “**A Legacy of Innovation, A Century of Excellence in Women’s Health**”, the two-day programme brought together around 400 participants from Hong Kong and overseas. We welcomed a distinguished group of international and local experts whose experience enriched the meeting with global perspectives and local insights, forging a dynamic platform for cross-border and cross-disciplinary exchange in obstetrics and gynaecology.

The conference featured a diverse array of academic activities, including illuminating keynote lectures, rigorous free paper presentations, and lively panel discussions, all designed to highlight cutting-edge advances across the full spectrum of obstetric and gynaecological practice and research. Keynote speakers, comprising world-renowned pioneers in women’s health, shared groundbreaking findings on topics ranging from precision medicine in reproductive disorders to innovative maternal care models for high-risk populations. Free paper sessions provided a stage for emerging researchers and clinicians to showcase their work, covering areas such as minimally invasive surgical techniques, fertility preservation,



Prof. Chak Sing LAU, Dean of Medicine and Vice-President & Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Health) delivered the welcome address



Prof. Jay SIEGEL, Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning), gave the opening remarks



Prof. Karen CHAN, Chairperson of the Department



The two-day conference attracted around 400 participants from Hong Kong and overseas



Prof. Grace TANG, Chairman of the Medical Council of Hong Kong, delivered a talk on “A Century of Excellence in Women’s Health”

and public health strategies for maternal and neonatal well-being. The interactive discussions that followed each session fostered robust dialogue, with participants exchanging practical insights and debating future directions to address unmet needs in women’s healthcare.

A particularly memorable moment of the Opening Ceremony was the cheque presentation by our 100-year-old donor and their family — a gesture that embodied the spirit of legacy and philanthropy at the heart of our centenary celebrations. This generous donation is earmarked for the establishment of a dedicated research fund for women’s health, supporting innovative projects that aim to advance clinical care and improve health outcomes for women across Hong Kong and beyond.



From left to right: Prof. Chak Sing LAU, Prof. Pisake LUMBIGANON, Prof. Joseph NG, Prof. Jay SIEGEL

Behind the scenes, the success of the conference was made possible by the tireless efforts of numerous individuals and teams. As we reflect on this milestone event, we are reminded that the legacy of excellence in women’s health is not just a product of individual achievements, but of collective collaboration and shared ambition. The Centenary Conference served not only as a celebration of our department’s 100-year journey but also as a catalyst for the next era of innovation — one that will continue to prioritise research, education, and clinical excellence. With heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this milestone celebration, we look forward to building on the momentum of this conference and advancing our mission for the next century and beyond.



From left to right: Prof. Karen CHAN, Prof. Grace TANG, Dr. Chin Peng LEE, Dr. Danny LEUNG



Watch the Highlighted Video



# Our Centenary Celebrations

## Centenary Song and Music Video

To mark our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we created a Centenary Song that reflects our identity and journey — a heartfelt tribute to a century of care, discovery, and growth. With warm, uplifting melodies and lyrics that honour our roots while embracing the road ahead, the song unites our community in pride and purpose. Composed and written by Dr. Anita KAN, and brought to life in a music video (MV) coordinated by Dr. Amelia HUI, it features over 100 staff volunteers and the voices of ten Department staff members, celebrating our legacy as we step into the next chapter.



Singing team rehearsal at Tsan Yuk Hospital



MV shooting at the Faculty



Studio recording day



From rehearsals in the Lecture Theatre to spotlights, cameras, and harmonies across campus, our voices came together as one

《Line of Unity》: Each of us is merely a single dot on the vast timeline, yet our shared values and beliefs connect us to past generations and those to come. We stand in this present moment, duty-bound to pass the spirit onward.



熱暖此刻真摯見  
分秒護蔭愛不變  
傳遞每顆心牽於一線  
力拼艱辛再蔓延  
願承諾付出貢獻  
這片曙光終看見

百載先賢 熱血寫我生  
信心點燃 照亮明德訓  
捨己為人 獻盡所能  
建設 創新 減憂困  
新生降臨 歷遍古與今  
母胎牽弦 齊頌唱歌韻  
好生保赤 以謂德懷  
智慧 決心 堅守 導引

熱暖此刻真摯見  
分秒護蔭愛不變  
傳遞每顆心牽於一線  
力拼艱辛再蔓延  
願承諾付出貢獻  
這片曙光終看見

細胞展妍 浴血刀劍伸  
試管將來 同敵過苦困  
百載護航 專業與愛  
你共我創這足印

互勉顧惜跟前賢  
深化道理創新意  
傳遞每顆心牽於一線  
力拼艱辛再蔓延  
未來世紀千百變  
真摯決心將再顯

無懼抑壓捆綁 長夜黯淡痛楚  
縱使孤單 我仍然能跨過 生命燃亮發光

熱暖此刻真摯見  
分秒護蔭愛不變  
傳遞每顆心牽於一線  
力拼艱辛再蔓延  
願承諾付出貢獻  
這片曙光終看見

願你我初心終不變  
共期待突破衝刺  
欣然同闊步明天  
延續 愛 生命 同行

#### Singers

**Dr. Dorothy Tsoi Yan CHAN**  
**Prof. Ka Wang CHEUNG**  
**Dr. Samantha Tsz Sam HONG**  
**Dr. Amelia Pui Wah HUI**  
**Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN**  
**Mr. Chun Kit LEUNG**  
**Prof. Kelly Ka Wai PANG**  
**Dr. Joan Kar On WEI**  
**Dr. Mimi Tin Yan SETO**  
**Ms. Hazel Pui Sze YUEN**

Composed by **Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN**

Lyrics by **Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN**

Arranged by **Ronald FU**

Co-produced by **Tsang Hei CHIU,**

**Dr. Anita Sik Yau KAN**

Project managed by **Dr. Amelia Pui Wah HUI**

Vocal produced by **Day LEUNG**

Chorus recorded by **Jeffero CHAN,**  
**Bonnie CHAN**

Recorded and mixed by **Mark CHIU**

Recording and mixing Studio: **Watch Music**

Music coordination:

**Ksana Productions Limited**



Watch the MV



# Our Centenary Celebrations

## G.R.O.W. Webinar Series

Our monthly G.R.O.W. Webinar Series, part of the Global Insights in Reproduction, Obstetrics, Oncology, and Women's Health initiative, offers two dedicated streams: one for healthcare professionals and another for the general public. Each session features expert talks followed by interactive Q&A, with speakers including our local faculty and renowned international specialists. These webinars share the latest advances in the field, foster cross-border knowledge exchange and collaboration, and complement our flagship Centenary Conference.

### For General Public




## EXPANDED CARRIER SCREENING (ECS)

**DATE:** 14 January 2025 (Tuesday)  
**TIME:** 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
**Language:** Cantonese

**REGISTER NOW**

**FREE REGISTRATION  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SPEAKERS**



**Prof. Ernest H.Y. NG**  
 Clinical Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Mr. Andy L.C. HUI**  
 Genetic Counsellor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong

**BRIEF HIGHLIGHT OF THE TALK**

Expanded Carrier Screening is a genetic test suitable for all couples planning a pregnancy or in the early stages of pregnancy. It covers the following aspects:

- The contents and options of Expanded Carrier Screening
- Address questions related to genetic testing

\*Once your registration has been successfully completed, a confirmation email will be sent to your valid email address.\*

Enquiries: ☎ 2255 3400 📧 ogevents@hku.hk 🌐 <https://obgyn.med.hku.hk>




## WHAT ARE THE STANDARD ITEMS FOR ANTENATAL BLOOD TESTS?

**Date:** 28 March 2025 (Friday)  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  
**Language:** Cantonese

**REGISTER NOW**

**FREE REGISTRATION  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SPEAKER**



**Dr. Theodora H.T. LAI**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong

**BRIEF HIGHLIGHT OF THE TALK**

This presentation covers the routine antenatal blood tests a pregnant woman would receive during her pregnancy. The focus would be on blood tests for the screening for:

- thalassaemia carriers
- maternal infections
- blood group
- antenatal anaemia screening
- gestational diabetes

For each test, the rationale for screening, the pros and cons and the corresponding management in case of positive results would be discussed.

\*Once your registration has been successfully completed, a confirmation email will be sent to your valid email address.\*

Enquiries: ☎ 2255 3400 📧 ogevents@hku.hk 🌐 <https://obgyn.med.hku.hk>




## LEARN MORE ABOUT OVARIAN CANCER

**Date:** 8 May 2025 (Thursday)  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
**Language:** Cantonese

**REGISTER NOW**

**FREE REGISTRATION  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Gladys S.T. KWOK**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Prof. Heidi K.Y. LO**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Dr. Stanton K.D. HO**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong

**BRIEF HIGHLIGHT OF THE TALK**

The presentation aims to provide the public with a deeper understanding and awareness of ovarian cancer. It covers the following aspects:

- Types of ovarian cancer, risk factors, symptoms, treatment plans, and preventive measures
- The psychological emotions experienced during treatment and coping strategies

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## UNDERSTANDING URINARY INCONTINENCE AND IMPORTANCE OF PELVIC FLOOR

**Date:** 28 July 2025 (Monday)  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
**Language:** Cantonese

**REGISTER NOW**

**FREE REGISTRATION  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Maggie M.C. CHENG**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Ms. Sammi C.Y. LI**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Ms. Joyce H.Y. CHAN**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Dr. Paulin W.S. MA**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong

**BRIEF HIGHLIGHT OF THE TALK**

This webinar aims to enhance the public's awareness of urinary incontinence, and emphasize the essential role of the pelvic floor in urinary health. The following aspects will be addressed:

- An Overview of urinary incontinence and pelvic floor function
- Techniques for training the pelvic floor muscles
- Strategies for bladder training

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## UTERINE FIBROIDS: 10 FAQs

**Date:** 22 September 2025 (Monday)  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
**Language:** Cantonese

**REGISTER NOW**

**FREE REGISTRATION  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Maggie M.C. CHENG**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Dr. Kelly K.W. PANG**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Dr. Paulin W.S. MA**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong

**BRIEF HIGHLIGHT OF THE TALK**

Uterine fibroids are a common gynaecological condition among women of reproductive age. This webinar aims to provide a concise overview of uterine fibroids, covering the following aspects:

- An introduction to what uterine fibroids are, and the symptoms to monitor
- An overview of available treatment options and important factors to consider when selecting these treatments

\*Once your registration has been successfully completed, a confirmation email will be sent to your valid email address.\*

Enquiries: ☎ 2255 3400 📧 ogevents@hku.hk 🌐 <https://obgyn.med.hku.hk>




## GIVE BREASTFEEDING THE BEST START

**Date:** 25 November 2025 (Tuesday)  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
**Language:** Cantonese

**REGISTER NOW**

**FREE REGISTRATION  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Mimi T.Y. SETO**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong



**Ms. LM YEUNG**  
 Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
 Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
 The University of Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong

**BRIEF HIGHLIGHT OF THE TALK**

The presentation seeks to enhance public understanding of breastfeeding and offer practical tips to build confidence. Key topics include:

- Introduction to the benefits of breastfeeding
- Tips for successful breastfeeding
- Solutions to common breastfeeding questions

\*Once your registration has been successfully completed, a confirmation email will be sent to your valid email address.\*

Enquiries: ☎ 2255 3400 📧 ogevents@hku.hk 🌐 <https://obgyn.med.hku.hk>

## For Professional

**HKU Med** School of Clinical Medicine  
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology  
香港大學醫學院  
婦產科系

**HKU OG GROW**

**PROFESSIONAL WEBINAR**

**MISCARRIAGE: CAUSES, MANAGEMENT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT**

Date: 25 February 2025 (Tuesday)  
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**REGISTER NOW**

**SPEAKERS**

**Treatment of Silent Miscarriage: Expectant, Medical or Surgical**

**Dr. Evelyn WONG**  
Associate Consultant  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Queen Mary Hospital  
Hong Kong

**Genetic Analysis on Products of Conception and Cell-Free DNA in Spontaneous and Recurrent Pregnancy Loss**

**Prof. Søren H. NIELSEN**  
Chair Professor  
Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Department of Medicine  
University of Copenhagen  
Denmark

Consultant in charge of Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Unit  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Copenhagen University Hospital  
Rigshospitalet Hospital  
Denmark

**"They Are Not Just Numbers": Supportive Care Needs Among Women Having Experienced Pregnancy Loss**

**Prof. Nelson C.Y. YEUNG**  
Associate Professor  
Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong

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香港大學醫學院  
婦產科系

**HKU OG GROW**

**PROFESSIONAL WEBINAR**

**SOUND SOLUTIONS: REVOLUTIONISING FIBROID AND ADENOMYOSIS TREATMENT WITH HIGH-INTENSITY FOCUSED ULTRASOUND (HIFU)**

Date: 28 April 2025 (Monday)  
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**REGISTER NOW**

**SPEAKERS**

**HIFU Services at Queen Mary Hospital**

**Dr. Kelly K.W. PANG**  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
The University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong

**Challenges and Effectiveness of HIFU for Treatment of Adenomyosis**

**Prof. Lian ZHANG**  
Professor and Graduate Fellow  
Chongqing Medical University  
Chongqing, China

Director  
Chongqing Haifu Hospital  
Chongqing, China

**Does HIFU Improve Fertility?**

**Dr. Superman SEVELLARAJA**  
Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist  
Melaka Medical Centre  
Melaka, Malaysia

**FACILITATOR**

**Dr. Vincent Y.T. CHEUNG**  
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
The University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong

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**HKU Med** School of Clinical Medicine  
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology  
香港大學醫學院  
婦產科系

**HKU OG GROW**

**PROFESSIONAL WEBINAR**

**THROMBOEMBOLISM IN PREGNANCY**

DATE: 11 June 2025 (Wednesday)  
TIME: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**REGISTER NOW**

**SPEAKERS**

**Overview of Thromboembolism in Pregnancy**

**Dr. Mimi T.Y. SETO**  
Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
The University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong

**VTE: When to Consider An Underlying Diagnosis?**

**Dr. Charlotte FRISÉ**  
Consultant Obstetric Physician  
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust  
United Kingdom

Lead Consultant Obstetric Physician  
North West London Maternal Medicine Network  
United Kingdom

**FACILITATOR**

**Dr. K.W. CHEUNG**  
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**HKU OG GROW**

**PROFESSIONAL WEBINAR**

**CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES OF SURGERY AND RADIOTHERAPY IN ADVANCED ENDOMETRIAL CANCER**

Date: 21 August 2025 (Thursday)  
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**REGISTER NOW**

**SPEAKERS**

**Surgical Management of Metastatic Lymph Nodes in Endometrial Cancer**

**Prof. T.J. KIM**  
Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Samsung Medical Center  
South Korea

**Role of Radiotherapy in Advanced Endometrial Cancer**

**Dr. Steven W.K. SIU**  
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor  
Department of Clinical Oncology  
The University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong

**FACILITATOR**

**Prof. Karen K.L. CHAN**  
Department Chairperson, Clinical Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
The University of Hong Kong  
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**HKU OG GROW**

**PROFESSIONAL WEBINAR**

**INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF ENDOMETRIOSIS AND CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN**

Date: 24 October 2025 (Friday)  
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 6:40 p.m.

**REGISTER NOW**

**SPEAKERS**

**The Medical Management of Chronic Pelvic Pain**

**Ms. Karolina AFORS**  
Honorary Consultant  
University College London, University College London  
London, United Kingdom

Chief Medical Officer, Senior Specialist  
Hendrik Streeklief, York, United Kingdom  
Medical Director, MyNetwork Limited  
Cambridge, United Kingdom

**The ABC (Airways, Bladder, Colon) of Endometriosis Surgery**

**Mr. Martin HIRSCH**  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Oxford, United Kingdom

**The Evidence is in: Physiotherapy as a Front-Line Tool for Endometriosis-Associated Pain**

**Ms. Virginia RIVERS BUCKLEY**  
Advanced Practice Physiotherapist, Physiotherapist  
South West London Endometriosis Centre  
University Hospital of Southwestern Health Foundation Trust  
Cambridge, The Henry Ford Health System, United Kingdom

**FACILITATOR**

**Dr. Flora H.Y. WONG**  
Honorary Clinical Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
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