

International Scholars Share Insights on Aging and Healthcare Issues at CPCE Health Conference 2016

With rising life expectancy and an aging population, issues concerning “how to cope with the growing demand for healthcare services” is at the top of the agenda for most governments around the world. Hong Kong is no exception as it has one of the world's fastest growing aging population.

To provide a platform for the sharing of knowledge and insights in various healthcare and aging issues, CPCE and its two educational units, HKCC and SPEED, organised the Health Conference on 11 January 2016. Themed “Aging, Health and Long Term Care – Integrity, Innovation and Sustainability”, the Conference attracted an audience of more than 350 healthcare professionals, academics and students from the United Kingdom, Canada, Thailand, Malaysia, the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.

The Conference started with welcoming remarks by Prof. Timothy W. Tong, PolyU President, and Prof. Sophia Chan, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health of the HKSAR Government, followed by three keynote speeches.

The first keynote speaker was Prof. Sir James A. Mirrlees, Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences and Master of Morningside College and Distinguished Professor-at-Large of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Contrary to common belief, he predicted that the future costs of healthcare and medical treatment for the elderly would not rise much as a proportion of GDP. He also pointed out that the bulk of health expenditure, which occurs right before death, has no direct relationship with the lifespan of a person. “Cross-national data reveals that health spending has little correlation with the percentage of elderly population. Moreover, in the case of Hong Kong, the labour force participation rate for people aged over 65 is increasing by 15% annually. This indicates that the elderly would be less likely be a burden to society,” said Prof. Mirrlees.



(from left) Prof. Sir James A. Mirrlees, Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences and Master of Morningside College and Distinguished Professor-at-Large, The Chinese University of Hong Kong; Prof. Timothy W. Tong, President of PolyU; Prof. Sophia Chan, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health of the HKSAR Government; Prof. Kenneth Lee, Head of School of Pharmacy, Monash University Malaysia; and Prof. Peter Yuen, Dean of CPCE, at the CPCE Health Conference. (左起) 諾貝爾經濟科學得獎者、香港中文大學博文講座教授兼農興書院院長莫理斯爵士、理大校長唐偉章教授、香港特別行政區政府食物及衛生局副局長陳肇始教授太平紳士、澳洲莫納什大學馬來西亞分校藥劑學院院長李炯前教授，以及CPCE院長阮博文教授出席CPCE醫護研討會。

Prof. Kenneth Lee, Head of the School of Pharmacy, Monash University Malaysia, shared his views on the use of health economics in drug evaluation and maximising health outcomes. “Health economic data can be used not only to understand costs, but also by many health organisations to evaluate the value of a new drug or new health technology to be brought to the wider community,” said Prof. Lee.

Based on his assessment of the efficiency of Hong Kong's public hospitals, Prof. Peter Yuen, Dean of CPCE, presented time series data on the input and output of public hospitals. While the output of public hospitals has increased over time, resources provided increased even more, implying a steady decline in efficiency (even after adjusting for aging population and outpatient provisions). Alternative financing, in the form of private health

insurance, was examined. The analysis indicated that it is not financially infeasible to provide private health insurance for all. Everyone could be a private patient. The separation of financing and provision was recommended as the first step towards this goal.

Six parallel sessions were also arranged for some 30 scholars and healthcare experts from worldwide to present their research papers. These papers were grouped under the topic areas of “International Medical Tourism and Wellness”, “Innovative Primary Care”, “Performance Measurement and Management for Healthcare Organisations”, “Long Term Care and Rehabilitation”, “Healthcare Reform and Sustainability”, as well as “Innovation and Higher Education in Healthcare”.

國際學者雲集CPCE醫護研討會2016 探討人口老化及醫護相關課題

在人均壽命延長及人口老化的大趨勢下，如何應付未來的醫療需要，是各地政府首要處理的任務。香港作為全球其中一個人口老化速度最快的地方，正面對相同的挑戰。

2016年1月11日，CPCE及旗下教學單位HKCC及SPEED舉辦醫護研討會，為人口老化及醫護服務的問題提供了一個知識和意見交流的平台。研討會的主題為「老齡化、醫療服務及長期護理：操守、創新及持續發展」，吸引了逾350位來自英國、加拿大、泰國、馬來西亞、中國內地、香港、澳門及台灣的醫護界專家、學者及學生參加。

研討會首先由理大校長唐偉章教授與香港特別行政區政府食物及衛生局副局長陳肇始教授太平紳士致歡迎辭；緊接著是三場專題演講。



The keynote address delivered by Prof. Sir James A. Mirrlees on “The Future Cost of Health and Care” offers the audience much food for thought.

莫理斯爵士主講「醫療與護理的未來成本」，他提出的見解讓參加者深思。

諾貝爾經濟科學獎得獎者、香港中文大學博文講座教授兼農興書院院長莫理斯爵士提出的看法與一般人相反，他認為未來用於長者護理和醫療的成本在本地生產總值所佔比重並不會大幅上升。莫理斯爵士指出，不論壽命長短，一般人在臨終前的階段往往涉及最龐大的醫療開支。他表示：「多個國家的數據反映，醫療開支與長者人口的百分比沒有太大關聯。另一方面，香港65歲以上的勞動人口每年有15%的增長，反映老齡人口不一定為社會造成負擔。」

澳洲莫納什大學馬來西亞分校藥劑學院院長李炯前教授簡述如何運用醫療經濟學進行藥物評估，以及提升醫療效益。李教授指出：「醫療經濟數據不單可以用來分析製藥成本，全球多個衛生組織亦已採用有關數據，以評估新藥物和新的醫療科技對廣大社會的價值。」



Prof. Peter Yuen recommends reforming the hospital care financing in Hong Kong in order to fulfil the goal of providing private health insurance for all citizens.

阮博文教授建議要向全港市民提供私人醫療保險，第一步先要實行香港醫療融資改革。

CPCE院長阮博文教授對香港公立醫院的效率進行評估，分析了投入公立醫院的資源與服務人次的時間序列數據。數據顯示，雖然公立醫院服務的人次隨著時間而增加，但投放在醫院的資源在比例上亦相對上升（儘管已因應老齡人口和門診服務作出調整），這意味著效率正逐步



Prof. Kenneth Lee delivers a keynote speech on “The Use of Health Economic Data in Maximising Health Outcomes – a Global Perspective”.

李炯前教授以「利用醫療經濟數據優化醫療效益—全球宏觀分析」為題發表專題演講。

下降。有關研究進而評估以私人醫療保險形式替代現有的融資安排；分析結果發現，向全港市民提供私家醫療保險在經濟上是可行的，人人都可以到私家醫院看病。而要實現這目標，第一步就是要分開融資與撥款資助的安排。

CPCE醫護研究會還設有六節分組論壇，由30多位來自世界各地的學者及醫護專家發表研究論文。論文歸納為「國際醫療旅遊及全人健康」、「創意基層醫療」、「醫護機構的表現、評核及管理」、「長期護理與復康」、「醫護改革與持續發展」及「醫護的創意及高等教育」六大主題。



With support and sponsorship from 15 organisations in the tertiary education and healthcare sectors, more than 350 healthcare professionals, academics and students attend the CPCE Health Conference.

CPCE醫護研討會獲得15間高等教育及醫護機構的支持及贊助，並吸引了逾350位醫護界的專家、學者及學生參加。