

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 2017 - MARCH 2018

During the year 2017/18, the foundation has been engaging sustainably in advocating the public on liver health. The Council and Committee pursued to form a concerted effort of the community to raise peoples' awareness on liver diseases.

With the Foundation objective continued, we were dedicated to serving the community and to offer various kinds of service and education to the community related to liver health. Regardless funding and resources continued to be the biggest obstacle in our operation, we have never been obstructed by any hardship and would strike to intensify our work to serve the community in different dimensions.

I) PUBLIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

1. Liver Donation Campaign



According to the statistic from the Department of Health, there were 87 patients waiting for liver transplantation as at 31 December 2017.

Amid the low organ donation rate, the rising pool of patient with end-stage organ failure adds to the number of patients on the waiting list.

With the increasing number of patient waiting for liver transplantation, it was our mission to carry out the objective of the Foundation to take every possible course of action to promote Liver Donation, so that more waiting patients would be benefited. To this end, we have organized school seminars for the youngsters as well as exhibition targeted general public constantly.



2. Hepatitis Vaccination Program

As the saying goes, prevention is better than cure, the Foundation believed it is imperative to cultivate the public on the importance of liver disease prevention and the possible consequences of infection.

On that account, the Foundation has organized Hepatitis Vaccination Program under the close supervision of Health and Education Committee. Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccine were administered by a volunteer retired nurse and was offered at a favorable price to the public and became one of our routine services. There were 207 people benefited from the vaccination program in the year 2017/2018.



3. Newsletter

We have produced two issues of newsletters during the period. Publication was distributed to Foundation members and the public by post.



	36th issue	37th issue
Published date	Jun 2017	Dec 2017
Covering feature	Chronic Hepatitis B	Hepatic cyst
Editor(s)	Dr. Ng Fook Hong	The Foundation
No. of copies printed	21,200	21,400

Continued our educational mission and also for publicity, we would publish the article continuously despite of the high production cost.

4. Community Service Program for Hepatitis B Carriers

Hepatitis B is one of the most common liver diseases which occur throughout the world. It was estimated that more than 2 billion people have been infected worldwide, of which more than 350 million have chronic liver infection. There are 8% of Hong Kong population have been infected of Hepatitis B, nevertheless most of the infected patient did not revealed their infection. According to statistic, 1/4 of the chronic Hepatitis B patient resulted deceased of complication of liver cirrhosis or liver cancer.



Thereupon, we encourage people living with Hepatitis B to adopt a positive manner and to work out a plan with hepatologist for current treatment options to avoid no sign deterioration. However, we believed there are many patients who simply cannot afford the examination costs and being neglected. To counter this phenomenon, the Foundation has teamed up with our volunteer doctors to kick off the “Community Service Program for Hepatitis B Carrier”.



The service program aimed to increase patients' awareness of the importance of regular checking of liver status. We targeted Hong Kong Citizen whom confirmed to be Hepatitis B carriers and have not performed any of the liver function test for the past year. Participants were offered initial free blood test and free doctor consultation (at the first consultation only).

The program was initiated on the 12 March 2018; over a hundred Hepatitis B carriers have joined the program. The free service was funded by the income of the 25th Anniversary Celebration Charity Walkathon project launched in November 2017.

5. Meeting with Liver Specialists Patient Gathering Sessions

With the success of the “Meeting with liver specialists patient gathering” program held in 24 September 2016, the scheme was re-run again on 13 May 2017 at Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel, over 60 people attended at the gathering. 6 volunteer doctors sacrificed their precious time to host the assembly. Participants were offered an opportunity to obtain direct consultation with the liver specialist. We thanked “Abbvie Pharmaceutical Company” for their sponsorship and support towards this community project.



6. World Hepatitis Day

Each year, World Hepatitis Day was on 28th July, which was a Hepatitis Awareness day that provides an opportunity for hepatitis groups and patients to focus on raising awareness of Hepatitis; strengthening prevention and control of viral hepatitis and related diseases.





To cater the theme of World Hepatitis Day, the Foundation has organized a free fibroscan screening program on 28th July 2017. Free service was offered to the public. We thanked Chong Lap (HK) Co., Ltd for providing equipment and support as response enthusiastically to the service, of which there were 112 people enrolled to the examination and over 10% of participants have been issued

referral letters from H&E Committee Chairman Doctor Lao Wai Cheung.

7. School Tour Educational Campaign

The Foundation has held 3 large scale seminars at the following schools.



<u>Date</u>	<u>No. of participants</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
5 May 2017	260	獅子會中學	Prof. Yuen Man Fung
5 Jul 2017	370	大埔迦密柏雨中學	Dr. Li Tat Wing
31 Jan 2018	250	聖保羅書院	Dr. Seto Wai Kay



We thanked Prof. Yuen Man Fung, Dr. Francis Li and Dr. Seto Wai Kay to sacrifice their precious time to host the seminar. During the assembly, pediatric liver transplant recipients have been invited to share their experience and feeling to the audiences. Students were interested and moved in hearing their true stories. The Educational Campaign was deemed to be effective on promoting liver health and liver donation, hence

would be planning to re-run the campaign in the coming year.

II) PATIENT SUPPORT GROUPS ACTIVITIES

In order to render all manner of help to our members, the Foundation has operated two patients support groups, the Liver Buddies and the Liver Care in 1999.

1. Liver Buddies patient support group

Liver Buddies was formed to offer a channel for paediatric liver transplant recipients and their parents to relevant information and to interchange their experiences. In addition, we emphasized members' post-operative rehabilitation as well as the process of growing up, the Foundation has organized various activities hoping to go through the stages with them.

a) Christmas Party 2017

To share the Christmas joy with our members, every year we would hold a Christmas Party at Queen Mary Hospital. With the Foundation objective continued, we would bring out the message of the importance of liver donation during the party on 16 December 2017. With over 20 paediatric liver transplant recipients and their family attending the party, we believed it was a great opportunity for them to interchange their experiences related to liver transplant in connection to encourage liver donation. The function also served a golden chance for promoting organ donation.



b) Simon K Y Lee Memorial Scholarship



With the intention to encourage our members who have paid their effort and achieved an academic improvement despite their unstable health condition, we have established the scholarship to give awards to the Liver Buddies.

There were 11 successful candidates received the cash award of HKD2,000. The scholarship presentation was held on 16 December 2017 at the

Christmas party held at Queen Mary Hospital. We were grateful to have Dr. Lao Wai Cheung and Dr. Chok Siu Ho to be our guest of honor and present the scholarship to candidates.

c) XXI Malaga Spain – World Transplant Games 2017

We were thrilled that two of our Liver Buddies Choi Ki Sang and So Tsz Ling have participated in the XXI World Transplant Games 2017. We were proud and elated as both of them had excellent performance in the game.



their airfare to Spain.

Choi Ki Sang won Gold Medal in Table

Tennis and Bronze Medal in Bowling; So Tsz Ling won three Gold Medals in bowling, badminton and cricket ball throw. Congratulation to Choi Ki Sang and So Tsz Ling. We were grateful to our Honorary President Mr. Lawrence Kam Kee Yu SBS, BBS, MBE, JP to sponsor



d) Barbecue outing gathering

As the members were busy to pursuit their study, the barbecue gathering was still on pending stage.

2. Liver Care patient support group

The Foundation have care for the importance of maintaining a regular body check to our members, thus we have ran a health check program in June to group members in offering them an opportunity to receive appropriate health check at a relatively favorable price.

III) RESEARCH PROJECTS

1. The prevalence of advanced liver fibrosis in Hong Kong elderly community: a population- based study

Advanced liver fibrosis may results in cirrhosis, liver failure and often requires liver transplantation. It is known that chronic liver disease is a huge and neglected public health burden that needing urgent actions. As the population ageing will continue, and is expected to be most rapid in the coming 20 years, it is believed that this study project would be effective in sorting out advanced liver fibrosis patient in elderly community and to avoid cirrhosis related complication take place, thus expected to reduce the public health burden on chronic liver disease.

The research study was planned ahead in early 2017 and led by the University of Hong Kong Department of Medicine with Dr. Seto Wai Kay as the chief investigator. Dr. Seto Wai Kay the Chief investigator has approached the Government of the HKSAR for the Health Care and Promotion Fund, the application was in process now.

IV) FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

1. 25th Anniversary Celebration Charity Walkathon cum Carnival 2017

The 25th Anniversary Celebration and Charity Walkathon cum Carnival 2017 was a wonderful success, with over 500 registered walkers and 80 volunteers participated. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the gracious presence of The Honourable Mrs Rita Fan Hsu Lai Tai, GMB, GBS, CBE, JP of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress as well as Prof Sophia Chan, JP of the Secretary for Food & Health to deliver the welcoming speeches.



The ceremony began with a Dragon dance performance demonstrated by members of “Liver Buddies”. The walkers departed for the short walk from The Urban Council Centenary Garden at Tsim Sha Tsui East ended at Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade.

There were 6 game booths and 2 liver donation counter set up at the carnival, aside from that, we were delighted to have the members of “Arts with Disabled Association Hong Kong” (香港展能藝術會) to carry out various stage performances.

The organization of charity walk served dual purpose. To raise the profile of organ donation was an ultimate goal, to raise fund for implementation of various community projects was another.



We expressed our heartfelt thank you and support to our donors, the walkathon has raised over 3 million Hong Kong Dollars.

The success of the event cannot do without the altruism contribution of our Fund-Raising Committee Chairman Mrs. Iris Ho and Vice Chairmen

Ms Mimi Kwok and Mr Alexander Wong as well as our Council members and supporters. Meanwhile, the unfailing support from Council Chairman Ms Mildred Law also contributed to the success of this fund raising project. We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude towards the above mentioned.

V) OTHERS

1. 樟木頭度假村- 健康生活營

The Foundation has cooperated with the Lions Club of Central, Hong Kong to organize an elderly vacation program on 2 December 2017 at Cheung Muk Tau Holiday Centre for the Elder.



We offered on-site examination/ measurement on weight; blood pressure; body fat; muscle content, bone mass etc. to the participants. The service aimed at offering some auxiliary medical check-up for those in need with care and concern.

2. Publicity - 新聞透視 (都是乙肝惹的禍)



As a voluntary health organization which promote liver health in HK. The Foundation constantly received requests from media to conduct interviews related to liver health issues.

The Foundation was invited to participate in a TV production produced by the Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) in 2017. The theme of the video segment stressed on the development tendency of Hepatitis B, and Ms Mildred Law, Chairman of the Foundation and Prof. Yuen Man Fung, Chair of Gastroenterology and Hepatology have kindly consented to make themselves appeared on the interview.



We believed that the content of the video will certainly arouse public awareness on the magnitude of Hepatitis B. The video was broadcasted in TVB on 17 September 2017 and has successfully drawn the attention of the public.



The success of the 25th Anniversary celebration brought the Foundation to another milestone. With all the trust and support, we were confident in our expectation of an extended development with our whole hearted gratitude. May we take this opportunity to express once again our heartfelt thankfulness towards all of our supporters, donors as well as our volunteers for their unfailing contribution.

