



Hong Kong - Shanghai International Liver Congress 2008

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12th - 15th June 2008 ■ Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre ■ Hong Kong ■ China

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Asia Pacific Medical Specialists Join Forces in Hong Kong To Spearhead Battle against Rising Threat of Liver Cancer and Viral Hepatitis

Biannual Congress Brings Together Top Minds in Hepatitis and Liver Cancer Treatment

(Hong Kong – 13 June, 2008) At today's opening ceremony of the Hong Kong-Shanghai International Liver Congress, government officials and liver specialists from Hong Kong and the mainland came together to pledge their united commitment to the fight against liver disease.

Dr. York Chow, Secretary for Food and Health said, "The Government attaches much importance to tackling liver diseases and has taken early action to protect our future generations against hepatitis B infection."

Distinguished scholars from around the world will present their latest findings and unique experiences in a variety of topics over the three-and-a-half day Congress. Some of the most compelling and important issues regarding the detection and treatment of liver diseases will be investigated, including:

- Prevention, treatment and new challenges of different types of viral hepatitis
- Latest technological development in liver transplant
- Molecular technology in liver treatments
- Diagnosis and prognosis of liver cancer
- Acute liver failure
- Alcoholic liver diseases
- Non-alcoholic fatty liver diseases

According to Hong Kong and Shanghai International Liver Congress Chairman, Prof. Zhao-You Tang who is also the Professor of surgery and Chairman of Liver Cancer Institute, Fudan University, Zhongshan Hospital " With the high prevalence of liver disease in Hong Kong and China, our clinicians are always at the front lines in battling this often lethal infectious disease. Our clinical experience and research continuously provides us with new insights in addressing many unresolved issues and new methods of managing liver diseases. I am looking forward to first identifying and then tackling unmet needs in hepatology and sharing our findings with international community."

Website

www.livercongress.org

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In view of the increasing cross-border activities between Hong Kong and the mainland, it is feared that the pattern of prevalence of liver diseases in both area will change in the near future. With the participation of a large panel of renowned experts and wide recognition from the industry, the Hong Kong-Shanghai International Liver Congress acts as a life-line linking Chinese experts and the International Medical Communities in the field of hepatology.

Prof. George K.K. Lau, President of Asian Pacific Association for the Study of Liver (APASL) and the Secretary General of the Hong Kong – Shanghai International Liver Congress said, "Bringing together some of the world's top minds in the field of hepatology is a major achievement for the Congress. I am confident that our ongoing work throughout the year and the information we disseminate here at this summit will have a major impact on the lives of millions of Asians, not only those that are suffering from liver diseases, but the thousands of clinicians out there working to treat and control the spread of this deadly virus. This is surely one of the most important and highest level medical meetings of this nature in the world."

The Hong Kong-Shanghai International Liver Congress meets biannually. This year it runs from today until 15 June 2008 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The event aims to bring more than 2,000 distinguished scholars, mainly from Asia Pacific countries, to Hong Kong.

International Liver Congress (ILC)

To enhance the exchange of scientific views on hepatology, Shanghai International Symposium on Liver Cancer & Hepatitis and Scientific Meeting of Cheng Si Yuan (China-Int'l) Hepatitis Research Foundation joined together and formed the International Liver Congress. The first congress was jointly organized by Cheng Si Yuan (China-Int'l) Hepatitis Research Foundation and the Shanghai Organizing Committee [Shanghai Medical University, Shanghai Second Medical University, Second Military Medical University, Chinese Academy of Science and Shanghai Municipal Health Bureau] in 2000 in Shanghai and the second congress was held in 2004 in Hong Kong.

Since 2004, it has become a biannual congress being held alternatively in Hong Kong and Shanghai. With the participation of a large panel of renowned experts and wide recognition from the industry, the third congress in 2006 held in Shanghai attracted 2,433 delegates. The congress has not only provided a deep understanding of the serious consequences of viral hepatitis, but also an excellent "Platform to Link Up Chinese and the International Medical Communities".

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