



Senses

THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF
OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGISTS NEWS MAGAZINE JUNE 2006



**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF
OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGISTS**

香 港 耳 鼻 喉 科 醫 學 院



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Message from the President



Our College is a vibrant and progressive group, our objectives being to organise and supervise postgraduate specialist training, to provide continued medical education for the practising ENT surgeons as well as the maintenance of a high standard of practice. I have been involved with College affairs since its foundation but it is a real honour to be chosen as your President. I am humbled and privileged to be writing this newsletter.

It is my good fortune to be preceded by a distinguished list of exemplary Presidents, Council Members and individuals in various capacities who are necessary to make our College a success. Our Immediate Past President has done a mountain of work in numerous aspects. He pursued his Presidency with vision and vigour that we have become accustomed to from Dr H C Yu during the Faculty years and from Professor William Wei, our Founding President. I shall try my best to uphold these high standards.

After the last AGM a new Council was formed by election. I wish to thank Dr L C Wong for serving the Council tirelessly during his term of office. Dr Wong was instrumental in preparing the Patient Fact Sheets. He and his team spent a lot of time and effort in its preparation. These Fact Sheets are handy, accurate and useful and are also appreciated by the Hospital

Authority. We are grateful to Dr Wong and His team for the effort. I welcome Dr John Woo who is joining the Council. With his experience in education, research and clinical practice, I am sure he will be a valuable asset to our College and we look forward to his active participation in College activities.

Moving on to other issues, you would probably have known by now that the Hospital Authority is offering a 9 year contract to their staff. This is indeed welcoming news for our colleagues in the public sector. Hopefully this will alleviate to a degree factors of uncertainty and anxiety, giving the morale a needed boost. Concurrently, capping of the working hours for the junior staff is in the pipeline. Some concerns were expressed by Academy members as to whether this will affect training in terms of quality and quantity due to decreased exposure. Although the general belief is that reduction in working hours should not affect training quality, no consensus has been reached. We shall be impartial and observant at present.

On the CME front, I would like to report that the Academy is planning to implement CPD as part of the CME requirement. Beginning in 2008 a capping for passive CME at 75 points is planned. Fellows would have to do other activities which may include CPD to satisfy the 90 points requirement. There is still some debate as to what constitute CPD. Your College will look into the CPD issue and report to Fellows later.

I wish you will enjoy reading through the news magazine and we value your suggestions.

Kai Bun FUNG

Message from the Editor



Editorship of *Senses* came as a surprise as I had failed to register that Raymond (Dr Raymond Ma) had quietly done so much over the years for *Senses* as Honorary Secretary. Dr S K Chow, our Immediate Past President, is the other person to whom the success of *Senses* owes much credit, of course with the help of the able members of the Editorial Board. Their hard work sank in further as I embarked on the mammoth task to launch the first issue for the new Council, having been reminded politely by my President just before the first Tee at a Society's golf afternoon. My ball flew left of course, rolled on concrete and landed in a gutter. The bitterness settled pretty swiftly as a team of the very best, I believe, came together to support this College publication of ours. It won't exactly be the South China Morning Post but we share a belief that we should aim for no less. I consider it a great honour to have three of our respected senior surgeons advising me, Dr K B Fung, our President, Dr S K Chow, our immediate Past President and Professor William Wei, Past President and our Co-ordinator for International Affairs, who kept me on the right track. Their wise and experienced input has been invaluable. I am particularly grateful to Dr K C Chan who precedes me and has kindly agreed to stay on to give his experienced advice.

The Editorial team members are all great writers and each member has admirably masterminded his own section. In our first face lifted issue of *Senses*, new articles of interest have been included. Dr Gordon Soo (Senior Medical Officer NTEC) and Dr W K Ho (Consultant HKW) now look after two articles. The first is titled "Famous People in ENT" and the second is titled "Hospital Authority, University and Private Practice". I think there are so many famous people who contributed significantly to our field that we could be soberly reminded of their work. The second article aims to cover an interview with key people of HA, the two Universities or the Private sector to keep us all up to date with news and new developments in the different sectors of our field of Practice. Dr S K Ng (Associate Consultant NTEC) would recommend to us interesting articles, books or useful websites in his article "Books, Articles and Websites". Dr Paul Lam (Associate Consultant HKW) and Dr John Sung (Specialist NTEC) have written on "Courses and Overseas Attachments" to provide useful tips for our trainees and interested specialists, and, put together a "Clinical Quiz" section which could earn our interested Fellows 1 CPD point. Last but not least is the introduction of articles under the title "A Leisurely Note". This section is more relaxed and welcomes contributions from all our Members and Fellows on any subject of interest under the realms of "Travel and Living" (subject to Editorial Board approval before publication) and for this first issue, I believe that you would enjoy the articles by two well known colleagues of ours, Dr Alex Choy (Private Specialist Surgeon) and Dr William Yip (Private Specialist Surgeon).

I should take this opportunity to thank our loyal sponsors who have placed adverts in the *Senses* which has helped to keep this College Publication in print.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this issue of *Senses* as much our Editorial team has enjoyed producing it. Do let me have your valuable suggestions and advice via my e-mail abdulv@ha.org.hk and I shall try my best to incorporate them.

Victor ABDULLAH

Council News

Joint Scientific Meetings

Our College and the Hong Kong Doctors Union (HKDU) ran a Joint Symposium on ENT which happened to be the 86th HKDU Sunday Afternoon Symposium on the 20th November, 2005. It was well attended, as usual, with Dr Cheung Kwok Kwong lecturing on the recent Advances in the Management of Sinusitis and Dr S K Chow providing useful tips for our General Practitioner colleagues on How to Treat the Blocked Nose. At the same meeting, Dr Peter Tang gave an update on Snoring and Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Syndrome and Dr K B Fung lectured on Nose Bleeding — Diagnosis and Management.

Together with the Hong Kong Society of Paediatric Respiriology, our College organized a Joint Scientific Meeting on the Recent Advances in the Management of Comorbid Asthma/Allergic Rhinitis — The WHO-ARIA Guidelines on 15th November, 2005. Dr W K Ho, Assistant Professor, Queen Mary Hospital, University of Hong Kong and Dr Alfred Tam, President of the Hong Kong Society of Paediatric Respiriology chaired the meeting for our guest speaker Professor Ruby Pawankar, Professor of ENT, Nippon Medical School, Tokyo, Japan.

Our Annual Joint Scientific Meeting with The Hong Kong Society of Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery took place on the 26th November, 2005 at the Sheraton Hotel. We had the most impressive presentations from our young colleagues that afternoon. The George Choa Trophy was awarded to Dr Birgitta Wong from Queen Mary Hospital, University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Society of Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery Prize for Originality was awarded to Dr W K Chan of the Prince of Wales Hospital, Chinese University of Hong Kong.



The Panel of Judges at the Joint College & Society Scientific Meeting



Dr Osan HO, Dr Birgitta WONG & Dr W K CHAN (right to left) awaiting their turn to present at the Joint Scientific Meeting

Examinations

It is important to thank Dr Li Ming Fai of Tuen Mun Hospital and Dr Ma Kwong Hon of Yan Chai Hospital and Professor Michael Tong, Chinese University of Hong Kong and their staff for conducting mock examinations for our candidates sitting the October 2005 Exit Examinations at their Hospitals in September 2005. We are very grateful to all the senior staff members involved in conducting the mock examinations. It is clear that the Higher Surgical Trainees benefited when all our candidates passed the Conjoint Exit Examination later on in October 2005.

College Election

At the College AGM held on the 26th November, 2005, the Office Bearers and Council members of the College for the term of two years from 2005-2007 were elected as follows:-

President	Dr Kai Bun FUNG	Elected ipso facto
Vice President	Professor Po Wing YUEN	Elected ipso facto
Honorary Secretary	Dr Victor ABDULLAH	Elected ipso facto
Honorary Treasurer	Dr Shu On TANG	Elected ipso facto
Censor in Chief	Dr Hay Lap CHAN	Elected ipso facto

Council Members	Dr Ming Fai LI	Elected by ballot
	Dr Wai Sing LUK	Elected by ballot
	Dr Kwong Hon MA	Elected by ballot
	Professor William WEI	Elected by ballot
	Dr Kong Sang WOO	Elected by ballot

The new Education Committee Members are as follows:

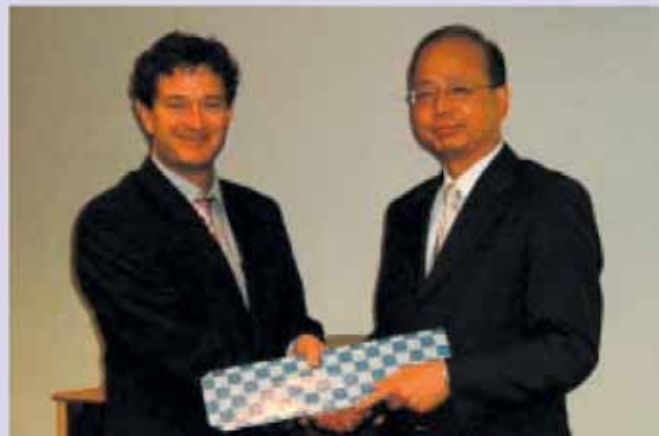
Chairman	Dr Hay Lap CHAN	
Members	Dr Kai Bun FUNG	College President
	Dr Kung Ngai CHAN	
	Dr Kwok Kwong CHEUNG	
	Dr Fung HO	
	Dr Kwong Hon MA	
	Dr Man Kai TANG	
	Dr Fu Man TONG	
	Dr John WOO	
	Professor Po Wing YUEN	

Visitors to Our College

We have had quite a few visitors to our College over the past months. Professor Neil Shepard, Professor of Audiology University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA lectured to our College on Dizziness and Balance problems in Children and their Clinical Evaluation on 2nd September, 2005. Professor Tucker Woodson, Professor of Sleep Medicine and Surgery from the Medical School of Wisconsin, USA updated our Members and Fellows on the latest developments in Sleep Medicine on 3rd November, 2005.



Professor Neil SHEPARD



Professor Tucker WOODSON & Dr Shun Kit CHOW

Dr Dennis Choa, George Choa Visiting Professor 2005 of the University of Hong Kong, Consultant Otolologist, the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital London, United Kingdom addressed our College on "Vignettes in Otolaryngology" on the 16th November 2005.



Dr Dennis CHOA

On the 2nd March, 2006, Professor Gerhard Friedrich, Professor of Phoniatics, Speech and Swallowing, Medical University of Graz, Austria presented his experience on the management of Vocal Cord Paralysis to our College Fellows.



Dr Kai Bun FUNG, Professor Gerhard FRIEDRICH & Dr Victor ABDULLAH



Professor Po Wing YUEN, Professor Liang ZHOU, Professor Henry TAN & Dr Kai Bun FUNG

Professor Zhou Liang, Head of Department of Otolaryngology, Fudan University, China and Professor Henry Tan, Senior Consultant in Paediatric Otolaryngology, KK Women and Children Hospital, Singapore were our special guests at our Conferment Ceremony on the 8th April, 2006. On the 8th and 9th of April, 2006, Professor Zhou and Professor Tan lectured on Head and Neck and Paediatric Otolaryngology.

Appointment of the College Co-ordinator for International Affairs

At the Hundred-twelfth Council meeting on the 17th January 2006, Professor William Wei, our Past President, was appointed the College Co-ordinator for International Affairs. Professor Wei, as we all know, is well known to all around the world and would be the ideal ambassador for our College. Professor Wei will be presenting a souvenir from our College to Professor Eugene Myers, University of Pittsburgh, USA at his retirement.



Professor William WEI with our College gift for Professor Eugene Myers' retirement

The Conferment Ceremony

The Conferment Ceremony went like a "Swiss Clock". Our new College Fellows, Dr Chan Hing Sang, Dr Chan Kin Ming, Dr Chan Yap, Dr Koo Tak Ching, Dr Lee Lip Yen and Dr Wong Han Qian shared their happy moments with their colleagues, friends and relatives. Membership of the College was conferred upon Dr Chow Man Wai in absentia.



College Fellows at the Conferment Ceremony



College Guests at the Conferment Ceremony



Dr Hing Sang CHAN



Dr Kin Ming CHAN



Dr Yap CHAN



Dr Tak Ching KOO



Dr Han Qian WONG



Dr Lip Yen LEE



The Successful Candidates



The New Fellows & the College Council

At the Conferment Ceremony and cocktail reception, we welcomed the Asian Federation of Laryngectomees Association who kindly joined us for the events of the day. Members and Officials of the Association all enjoyed the occasion, thanks to Professor William Wei's organization.

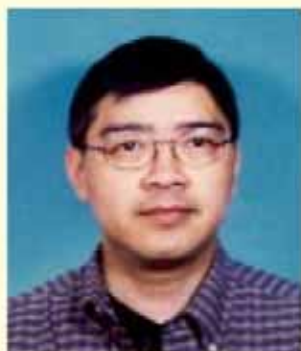


Professor William WEI & Members of the Asian Federation of Laryngectomees Association



Victor ABDULLAH

Report from the Censor-in-Chief



Education Committee Report

1. Fellowship Examination 2005

The Conjoint Fellowship Examination was held on 27-29 October 2005. Congratulations to Drs Chan Hing Sang, Chan Kin Ming, Chan Yap, Koo Tak Ching, Lee Lip Yen and Wong Han Qian who successfully passed the examination and were admitted as College Fellows in our recent Conferment Ceremony. I would also like to thank all who had helped in the organization of the examination.

2. Education Committee and CME Subcommittee Membership

On behalf of the College, I would like to thank Drs Cheung Kwok Kwong, Chow Chun Kuen, Victor Abdullah, Ngai Chi Man, Lo Chun Yip, Chong Hou Ming and Wong Ngar Shun for their enormous contributions to the services and advice in the Education Committee and CME Subcommittee of the year 2004-2005.

Membership of the Education Committee and CME Sub-committee for the year 2006 are as follows:

Education Committee

Name	Representation
Dr Hay Lap CHAN	Censor-in-Chief, HA (KC)
Dr Kai Bun FUNG	President, Private
Dr Kung Ngai CHAN	HA (KC)
Dr Kwok Kwong CHEUNG	Private
Dr Fung HO	HA (NTW)
Dr Kwong Hon MA	HA (KW)
Dr Man Kai TANG	HK Society of ORLHNS, Private
Dr Fu Man TONG	HA (HKE)
Dr John WOO	HA (NTE), CUHK
Professor Po Wing YUEN	HA (HKW), HKU

CME Sub-committee

Name	Representation
Dr Hay Lap CHAN	Chairman of Education Committee, Ex- officio by Regulation
Dr Kwok Kwong CHEUNG	EC Member, Private
Dr Hou Ming CHONG	HA (KC)
Dr Henry LAM	HA (NTE), CUHK
Dr Chun Yip LO	HA (HKE)
Dr Chi Man NGAI	HA (KW)
Dr Kwong Chi TANG	HA (HKW), HKU
Professor Michael TONG	HK Society of ORLHNS, Private

3. Education Coordinators

Name	Representation
Dr Hin Wang LAI	QEH
Dr Kin Yip LAM	QMH
Dr Chi Man NGAI	YCH
Dr Fu Man TONG	PYNEH
Dr Raymond TSANG	PWH
Dr Kin Hang WAI	TMH

4. Weekend Training Course

All trainees and Fellows are welcome. One CME point is accredited for each hour of lecture.



Dr Yau HUI



Dr Edmond YUEN & College Members

Topic	Speaker	Hour	Date
Sensorineural Hearing Loss	Dr Chun Kuen CHOW QMH	1 hour	10 June, 2006
Chronic Suppurative Otology Media Tympanoplasty & Mastoidectomy	Dr Peter KU PWH	2 hours	8 July, 2006
Cochlear Implant & Brainstem Implant	Dr Michael TONG CUHK	1 hour	2 September, 2006
Hearing Aids	Mr Dennis AU Audiology/QMH	1 hour	4 November, 2006
Facial Trauma & Facial Plastic Surgery	Dr L K LAM QMH	1 hour	2 December, 2006

Venue: Room 803-4, HKAM Jockey Club Building
Time: as scheduled

5. The coming Conjoint Fellowship Examination will be held in October this year. The date of the examination will be announced when confirmed.

6. CME/CPD Cycle

We are in the second year of the cycle 2005-2007. Most of our Fellows have obtained a satisfactory number of CME/CPD points in the first year. Some have already exceeded the minimum requirements for the entire cycle.

Starting from the next cycle, i.e. January 2008, Fellows may be required to obtain CME/CPD points in activities other than attending lectures. Details have not been finalized yet and I will keep all of you informed of the progress of this issue.

7. CME Calendar

Local Activities

Date	Event	Venue/Tel/Fax/Email/Site
Monthly	Scientific Meeting	St Teresa's Hospital Dr Tang Shu On
Every Wednesday 9:30am - 10:30am	Journal Club Meeting	PWH Michele Chan Tel: 2632 3558
Every Monday 6:30pm - 7:30pm	Journal Club Meeting	PYNEH Tel: 2595 6454
Every Tuesday 4:30pm - 5:30pm	Journal Club Meeting	TMH Tel: 2468 5397
Every Saturday 10:30am - 11:30am	Journal Club Meeting	YCH Tel: 2417 8358
Every Tuesday 4:30pm - 5:30pm	Journal Club Meeting	QEH Tel: 2958 6025
28 Aug - 9 Sept 2006	Temporal Bone Course & Otology Lecture Course	PWH Tel: 2632 3558
10 - 12 Sept 2006	2006 International Facial Plastic Training Workshop for ENT Surgeons	MWH
17 Sept 2006	23 rd ENT Update Course (jointly organized by the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians)	New World Renaissance Hotel, TST
11 - 13 Oct 2006	The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the College of Surgeons of Hong Kong Conjoint Scientific Congress 2006 and Closing Ceremony of the Quincentenary Celebrations of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh	Website: http://www.cshk.org/congress2006/
9 Nov 2006	2 nd CUHK BAHA Course	PWH Tel: 2635 2558
10 - 11 Nov 2006	2006 CUHK ENT Conference - "Implant Otology"	PWH Tel: 2635 2558
Jan / Feb 2007 (Tentative)	Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Course	PWH Tel: 2635 2558

Overseas Activities

Date	Event	Venue/Tel/Fax/Email/Site
8 Jun 2006	Rhinology & Allergy Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Course Course including dissection and theory - English language	Bordeaux - France Email: institut.portmann@wanadoo.fr Site: www.institut-portmann.org
11 - 15 Jun 2006	Phoniatrics and Audiology 21 st Congress of European Rhinologic Society & 25 th International Symposium on Infection and Allergy of The Nose	Tampere - Finland Tel: +358-3-247 4181 Fax: +358-3-247 4366 Email: info@ers2006isian.com Site: www.ers2006isian.com
14 - 16 Jun 2006	Phoniatrics and Audiology 3 rd World Voice Congress	Ystanbul - Turkey Email: voice@vip.com.tr Site: www.voice2006.org

Overseas Activities

Date	Event	Venue/Tel/Fax/Email/Site
26 Jun 2006 - 1 Jul 2006	Otology, Neuro-Otology and Skull Base Surgery Course in Otology and Otoneurosurgery 6-Day Intensive Course Including Dissection, Live Surgery Demonstrations and Theory	Bordeaux - France Email: institut.portmann@wanadoo.fr Site: www.institut-portmann.org
27 Jun 2006	General ENT 24 th International Course in Functional Aesthetic Nasal Surgery	Utrecht - The Netherlands
27 Jun 2006	Oncology and Head & Neck Surgery 3 rd World Congress of International Federation of Head & Neck Oncologic Societies	Prague - Czech Republic Email: jan.klozar@lfmotol.cuni.cz Site: www.ifhnos2006.cz
5 - 7 Jul 2006	British Academic Conference in Otolaryngology & ENT Expo	International Convention Centre, Birmingham
23 - 26 Jul 2006	General ENT Robert Guerin Memorial Annual National Registrars Conference	Brisbane - Australia Tel: nr. +61 2 6251 0675 Email: savita@consec.com.au
22 - 26 Aug 2006	Rhinology & Allergy 2 nd International Course on Endoscopic Surgery of The Paranasal Sinuses International Faculty - Cadavar Workshops - Live Surgery Organised by Prof C Bachert and Prof P Clement	Brussels - Ghent - Belgium Email: cknonsk@az.vub.ac.be
8 - 9 Sept 2006	Paediatric Airway Course	Singapore Tel: +65-63941676
14 Sept 2006	Endonasal Sinus & Skull Base Surgery Course Endoscopy-microscopy Paranasal Sinuses Skull Base Cadaver Dissection	Switzerland
17 - 20 Sept 2006	110 th AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO Expo	Toronto, Ontario Website: http://www.entnet.org/annual_meeting
27 - 30 Sept 2006	General ENT 11 th Danube Symposium 2006 President: Miha Zargi General Secretary: Irena Hocevar - Boltezar Treasurer: Anton Gros	Bled - Slovenia Fax: ++ 386 4 57 80355 Email: info@albatros-bled.com
27 - 29 Oct 2006	General ENT 80 th Congress of Korean Society of Otolaryngology/2006 Fall Korean Association of Otorhinolaryngology Practitioners Meeting	Seoul, Sheraton Walkerhill Hotel - Republic of Korea Tel: +82-2-3487-9091, +82-2-3487-6602 Fax: +82-2-3487-9092, +82-2-3487-6603 Email: entsoc@korl.or.kr Site: www.korl.or.kr
2 Nov 2006	Otology, Neuro-Otology and Skull Base Surgery Stanford Otology-Neurotology Update A comprehensive review of contemporary Otology & Neurotology for the practicing otolaryngologist and resident in training.	San Francisco, California - USA Email: stost@stanfordmed.org

Overseas Activities

Date	Event	Venue/Tel/Fax/Email/Site
3 Nov 2006	Rhinology & Allergy 44 th Annual Art of Rhinoplasty Course	San Francisco, California - USA Tel: +1-916-923-0820 Fax: +1-916-923-0892 Email: lbersteinmd426@sbcglobal.net Site: www.aafprs.org
9 - 11 Nov 2006	Oncology and Head & Neck Surgery 4 th International Conference Multidisciplinary Approach on Thyroid Gland, Salivary Glands and Parapharyngeal Space Tumors	Zagreb - Croatia Tel: +385 1 48 525 82 Fax: +385 1 48 525 82 Email: miljenko.bura@zg.htnet.hr Site: www.thyroidgland-surgery.com
30 Nov - 2 Dec 2006	11 th Asian Research Symposium in Rhinology	Seoul, Korea Tel: +82-2-958-8470 Website: www.arsr.or.kr
31 Mar 2007 - 4 Apr 2007	General ENT Asohns Asm@agm	Adelaide - Australia Tel: nr. +61 8 8422 8343 Fax: nr. +61 8 8422 8350 Email: asohns07@eventplanners.com.au Site: www.asohns07.com.au
18 - 21 Apr 2007	Phoniatrics and Audiology 19 th American Academy of Audiology Annual Meeting	Minneapolis - United States Tel: +1-703-790 8466 Fax: +1-703-790 8631
20 - 21 Apr 2007	General ENT 13 th Korean Combined Otolaryngologic Congress	Kyungju-city, Hyundai Hotel - Republic of Korea Tel: +82-2-3487-9091, +82-2-3487-6602 Fax: +82-2-3487-9092, +82-2-3487-6603 Email: entsoc@korl.or.kr Site: www.korl.or.kr
14 May 2007 - 16 Jun 2007	Phoniatrics and Audiology III Meeting Consensus on Auditory Implants Scientific event based on controversial aspects regarding hearing aids, middle ear, cochlear, brainstem implants and bone anchorage hearing aids	Marseille - France Email: mougel@mcocongres.com Site: www.mcocongres.com
14 Jun 2007 - 16 Feb 2007	Otology, Neuro-Otology and Skull Base Surgery III Meeting Consensus on Auditory Implants Scientific event based on controversial aspects regarding hearing aids, middle ear, cochlear, brainstem implants and bone anchorage hearing aids	Marseille - France Email: mougel@mcocongres.com Site: www.mcocongres.com
30 Jun 2007 - 4 Jul 2007	Worldwide Main Meetings 6 th European Congress of Otorhinolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery (Eufos) Chairman: Univ Prof. Dr. H. Stammberger Information: Sekretariat Prof. H. Stammberger, Frau C Zwerina, Univ. HNO-Klinik, Auenbruggerplatz 26/28, A-8036 Graz, Fax: 0043/316/3853425, claire.zwerina@meduni-graz.at or claire.zwerina@klinikum-graz.at	Vienna - Austria Tel: (+43/ 1) 588 04 0 Fax: (+43/ 1) 588 04 185 Email: eufos@mondial.at Site: www.eufos-vienna2007.org

Overseas Activities

Date	Event	Venue/Tel/Fax/Email/Site
9 - 12 Sep 2007	Worldwide Main Meetings 111 th American Academy of Orl-Hns Annual Meeting & Oto Expo	Washington - DC - United States Fax: +1-703-519 1546 Email: servicecentral@entnet.org Site: www.entnet.org/annual_meeting
26 - 28 Oct 2007	General ENT 81 st Congress of Korean Society of Otolaryngology/2007 Fall Korean Association of Otorhinolaryngology Practitioners Meeting	Seoul, Sheraton Walkerhill Hotel - Republic of Korea Tel: +82-2-3487-9091, +82-2-3487-6602 Fax: +82-2-3487-9092, +82-2-3487-6603 Email: entsoc@korl.or.kr Site: www.korl.or.kr
9 - 11 Apr 2008	General ENT Asohns ASM & GM	Perth - Australia Tel: nr. +61 8 9387 1488 Fax: nr. +61 8 9387 1499 Email: info@eventedge.com.au
15 - 20 Jun 2008	Otology, Neuro-Otology and Skull Base Surgery 8 th International Conference on Cholesteatoma and Ear Surgery	Antalya - Turkey Email: ozgirgin@chole2008.org Site: www.chole2008.org
21 - 24 Sep 2008	Worldwide Main Meetings 112 th American Academy of Orl-Hns Annual Meeting & OTO Expo	Chicago - United States Fax: +1-703-519 1546 Email: servicecentral@entnet.org Site: www.entnet.org/annual_meeting
15 Nov 2008	Rhinology & Allergy 22nd European Rhinologic Society & 27th International Symposium of Infection & Allergy of The Nose	Crete - Greece Email: antpapak@hol.gr
6 May 2009	Otology, Neuro-Otology and Skull Base Surgery XI International Facial Nerve Symposium Periodic Event on facial nerve (last one in Maastricht), dealing with problematics in common among otologists, neurologists, plastic surgeon, ophthalmologists	Rome - Italy Fax: +39 06 80345058
4 - 7 Oct 2009	Worldwide Main Meetings 113 th American Academy of Orl-Hns Annual Meeting & Oto Expo	San Diego - United States Fax: +1-703-519 1546 Email: servicecentral@entnet.org Site: www.entnet.org/annual_meeting

Hay Lap CHAN

Report from the Treasurer



The due date of the annual subscription for the current year was on 15th February 2006. It has come to our attention that some of our Fellows have still not forwarded their subscriptions. Crossed cheque should be made payable to "the Hong Kong College of Otorhinolaryngologists". Pursuant to Article (40) of the Memorandum & Articles of Association of the College, any member who shall fail to pay his annual subscription four months after the due date, his name shall be removed from the College Registry. Should he wish to reinstate his Fellowship, he has to pay all his arrears and an administrative fee. I would like to take this opportunity to remind Fellows who have not yet paid the 2006 subscription to settle their accounts immediately. Fellows are encouraged to pay by auto-pay arrangements.

Shu On TANG

Famous People in Otolaryngology

Julius Lempert (1890-1968)



How often have we looked back in history to look at the life and work of a giant, upon whose shoulders many of us have stood, and then gazed even further because of it. Dr Julius Lempert was such a man; he was a short man but a giant in otologic surgery and is often regarded by many as the father of modern otology. His personal life as much as the sequence of events surrounding the development of his one stage fenestration operation for otosclerosis makes colorful reading and has graced the silver screen on film.

Born in 1890, Dr Julius Lempert graduated from the Long Island College Hospital in 1913 and continued to practice medicine in New York. It was Lempert who developed the endaural approach for otology and designed the Lempert's endaural speculum for this purpose, which we have continued to use to this day.

Julius Lempert is best known by us for his successes in the treatment of otosclerosis. In order to grasp the significance of his achievements, it is necessary that we understand the state of otology and otosclerosis at that time and, more importantly, before his time.

Let's imagine ourselves, if we can, to be in the time of the late nineteenth century. The first successful stapes surgery for otosclerosis had just been described by Johann Kessel

in 1878. Kessel's series of stapes mobilization surgery were based on his temporal bone observations of a mobilized stapes in an otosclerotic who had claimed that he could hear better after having hit his head on the ground in a wagon accident; this unfortunate young man later died from his injuries. Kessel's discovery was repeated by many other prominent surgeons of his days. Some like E. Boucheron, Camille Miot, Clarence Blake and Frederick Jack also reported an improvement in the hearing. However many other surgeons were apparently not reporting their disappointing results, and in some instances, the deaths due to meningitis following stapes mobilization surgery as asepsis had not yet been recognized.

This state of affairs prompted prominent surgeons as Adam Politzer, Emil-Jean Gabriel Moure and Cozzollino to condemn the surgery for otosclerosis at the International Congress of Medicine in Rome in 1894. The final nail in the coffin for stapes surgery was firmly struck at the next International Congress of Medicine in 1900 when Friedrich Siebenmann and Botey rejected all forms of surgery for deafness. To many of us now, this may appear incredulous, but as John J Shea of stapedectomy fame, rightly pointed out in his article, many of the fundamentals of stapes surgery and asepsis were not as yet fully understood at the time, and patients were succumbing to poor results and death as a consequence.

With this overhanging cloud, the early twentieth century was a dark era for hearing and stapes surgery. It wasn't until 1923 when Gunnar Holmgren, with his friend Robert Barany, published their results of improving hearing in otosclerotics by creating a bony fistula in the semicircular canal that the glimmer of hope began. The hearing gain however was quick to disappear due to the osseous closure of the fistula. Osseous closure was indeed to prove the

persistent problem for fenestration surgery until Lempert's moment. Indeed it was Holmgren, with the encouragement of his assistant Carl Olof Nylen, who were the first to adopt the binocular microscope for otologic surgery in 1922.

The missing link between Gunnar Holmgren in Sweden and Julius Lempert in New York laid with Maurice Sourdille of Paris. It was Sourdille who, after watching Holmgren in Stockholm perform a case of closed fenestration surgery, developed his own three-, and then two-stage tympanolabyrinthopexy surgery, with a closed approach. In 1937, at the New York Academy of Medicine, Maurice Sourdille demonstrated his technique and paper to his American peers. In the audience sat Julius Lempert who listened intently. Impressed by the technique, Lempert read and re-read Sourdille's operation. Lempert differed from

Sourdille in that he did not believe that the preservation of the incus to bridge the tympanic membrane to the newly created horizontal canal fenestration was necessary.

In his description in 1938, Lempert performed his one-stage fenestration surgery as an endaural approach under local anesthesia with a front-to-back mastoidectomy to expose the lateral semicircular canal and middle ear. The tympanic membrane was meticulously freed from its attachments with the exception of its antero-inferior portion. A trough-shaped bony fistula, which he called fenestra nov-ovalis, was excavated in the bony capsule of the lateral semicircular canal, exposing the perilymph

space; this gave the patient severe vertigo but improved the hearing. The endosteum of the semicircular canal had to be carefully removed to prevent re-ossification and the tympanomeatal membrane was then laid over the fenestra, moulded into position and the wound dressed.

Lempert's removal of the incus was vital for the success for his procedure; its removal allowed Lempert greater access

to the horizontal canal and so the bony fenestra could be enlarged to the ampulla. The larger fenestra minimized the problems of re-ossification and late failure that former fenestration procedures had encountered. His adherence to strict sepsis was also the key to eliminating mortality. Finally, due to his remarkable technical skill and ability to perform the surgery through a one stage procedure, a legend was born. In 1941



Lempert reported that 80% of 150 cases operated had *"a permanent restoration of practical physiological hearing... these 93 patients are now socially and economically rehabilitated"*. Lempert's one-stage endaural open operation gave the fenestration operation the worldwide acceptance it gained.

The story of Julius Lempert was born. His practice flourished. Lines of patients would form long queues to see him at his rooms as the word spread that he could make deaf people hear again. He would dine with the social elite of New York and was well known for his hospitality, generosity and big "tips". His methods

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rejuvenated the field of otology. Lempert was doing exciting new work whilst at the same time, rejuvenating our ear, nose and throat specialty. Even medical schools were beginning to encourage their new graduates to specialize in otolaryngology because of Lempert's successes.

Yet even within this success story of stapes surgery, there was a twist worthy of the great director and story-teller Sir Alfred Hitchcock. A twist that brought such embarrassment to the American Otological Society that its records were removed from public record, a twist that involved the sudden and meteoric rise of an unknown surgeon and the equally sudden fall from grace of a prominent otologist. This story, recorded in *Otology and Neurology* in 2002, was based upon the verbal account of Dr Gordon Hoople, which was related to the author of that article, Dr Jack Pulec (late editor of *ENT Journal*) many years after it had happened.

It begins when Dr Hoople, a practicing otologist in Syracuse, New York was approached by Dr Harris Mosher, the then President of the American Otological Society in 1938, to investigate a new fenestration surgery which was to be presented at the American Otological Society (AOS) Spring Meeting in 1938 of that year by a Dr Kopetsky. Dr Samuel J Kopetsky, MD, was the then President of the American Laryngological, Rhinological & Otological Society in 1938 and had been conferred its gold medal. He was a medical spokesman for and against US Government policies and had distinguished himself in service during World War I. He was also the editor of an otological textbook of that time called *Otologic Surgery*, which had projected him to prominence. Dr Kopetsky was therefore a man of stature and distinction in professional and political circles in America.

Dr Mosher had heard, by way of information related to him from his AOS council members, that the surgeon for the procedure may, not in fact, be Dr Samuel Kopetsky. Given his task, Dr Hoople made arrangements with Dr Kopetsky to watch him performed the surgery.

Dr Hoople arrived in good time for the appointment and met Dr Kopetsky. As Dr Kopetsky was about to perform the procedure, the phone rang for Dr Kopetsky who had to excuse himself from the surgery as he was wanted by another hospital for an emergency. Dr Kopetsky made arrangements for Dr Hoople to continue to observe the surgery by his assistant, a Dr Julius Lempert. Dr Hoople remarked that he watch Dr Lempert perform the remainder of the surgery admirably and was impressed with his ability. Dr Hoople then remain that evening as a guest of Dr Lempert during which he learnt more about Dr Lempert's past as a poor Russian immigrant, his struggles through medical school and his early practice days (Dr Hoople was to later recount all of these in an article honoring Lempert and his life published in 1969 in *Archives of Otolaryngology*).

Dr Hoople however was not to be discouraged from his original mission and arranged again to watch Dr Kopetsky perform the surgery a few weeks later. Dr Hoople again arrived in good time once more and as the surgical incision was about to be made, a call came through requesting the urgent attendance of Dr Kopetsky at another hospital. Once again Dr Kopetsky excused himself and his assistant Dr Lempert performed the surgery. By now, Dr Hoople was convinced that Dr Kopetsky was not in fact the surgeon and he reported his findings to Dr Mosher.

At the following AOS Meeting on 6th May 1938, Dr Samuel Kopetsky gave his presentation. At its conclusion, Dr Mosher who was now aware of the real situation, did not allow further discussion of the presentation as was usually the case. It was then that Julius Lempert then seized the opportunity to claim credit for the surgery. An emergency meeting of the American Otological Society was called and its conclusions led to the prevention of the original publication, the expulsion of Dr Samuel J Kopetsky from the American Otological Society and the expungement of the record of these embarrassing events from the American Otological Society records. Dr Julius Lempert was also given credit for the procedure which he later wrote and published in July 1938, only two months

after the Spring AOS Meeting. So began the introduction of Dr Julius Lempert under such notorious circumstances.

A related side account of this fascinating story and the ripple impact that Lempert and his fenestration surgery had on the wider field of otology, rests with that of the well known American otologist Dr George Shambaugh Jr, who was later to introduce and popularize the use of the microscope for otological surgery to America, as well as Europe through his colleagues, Drs Horst Wullstein and Fritz Zollner. Dr George Shambaugh Jr first met Dr Julius Lempert at that fateful Spring AOS Meeting in 1938 immediately after the presentation. He asked Lempert if he could watch him perform the surgery and was duly invited to watch the surgery the following day and hence, became Lempert's first student of the fenestration technique. It may not have been incidental that Dr George Shambaugh Jr was given such prompt access to his request; Julius Lempert had been very grateful to Dr Shambaugh Jr's father, Dr George Shambaugh Sr, who several years earlier had accepted Lempert's article on the endaural incision for publication in the Archives of Otolaryngology, despite strong protests from his editorial board members. Dr George Shambaugh Jr continued to help perfect the fenestration surgery and developed and preferred the use of the binocular microscope (which was new to otologists at the time; many use mono or binocular loupes to perform their surgery) and suction irrigation in performing the surgery. This eventually laid the foundation for this equipment to be incorporated into the standard otological setup and practice that we are all familiar with today.

Back to our story of Julius Lempert. Sadly life in the later years was not as kind to Lempert. Julius Lempert suffered the loss of his son which was to affect him greatly. In turn the fenestration era was coming to its natural end with the "re-discovery" of stapes mobilization and later, the development of stapedectomy. Julius Lempert was neither able to accept that otosclerosis could be treated in a better way nor was he able to change, and he watched as the bright sun of his fenestration surgery gradually set beyond its horizon.

Dr Julius Lempert left us in 1968. He had lived his life the way he knew how with his larger-than-life persona and his genius. His direct and indirect contributions to otology and his achievements will nevertheless continue to live on. The story of Julius Lempert will continue to inspire generations of our specialty with its ideas of genius, innovative thinking, fame and glory with its rag-to-riches story but equally importantly, it also teaches us, as we look that little bit closer, about the real life lessons of social responsibility, integrity, honesty and the embracement of inevitable changes within our career and lives.

Gordon SOO

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Tribute to Dr Shu Pui LI

MBBS (HK) FRCS (EDIN) FHKCORL, FHKAM (Specialist in ORL)

b.22/Jan 1903 q 1928 d. 31st August 2005



It is an honour for me, all be it with deep sorrow, to pay tribute to the late Dr Li Shu Pui who passed away on 31st August 2005 less than a year after the loss of his beloved wife Ellen.

Many of us knew the success story of Dr Li Shu Pui as the first Hong Kong University graduate to be elected Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in ENT Surgery. Dr Li and his elder brother Shu Fan (d. 1966) successfully brought the 28 bed Yeung Wo Nursing Home to the present ultra modern Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital with over 500 beds. There is no dispute that Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital is one of the best private hospitals in Hong Kong. Dr Li's softly softly approach in management also produced a team of more than 2000 highly qualified and extremely loyal nurses. They are the gems of the Hospital.

Dr Li engineered a lot of medical establishments in Hong Kong, namely the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Medical Association and the British Medical Association HK Chapter. Being the chairman of the Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation, his contributions both in terms of effort and finance were

too many to be listed. At his 100th birthday Dr Li made a donation of 5 million for Hong Kong Medical Association to buy the present chamber at the Chinese Club building. Dr Li, on the other hand, always preferred to stay behind the limelight and never wanted any medal or honour. He had the hallmark of a dedicated clinician and a skilful helmsman. As a doctor, he was vital in the lives of many patients, and, as an administrator he had great authority but was always amicable to his staff (both nursing and clerical).

Everyone (patients or friends & colleagues) remembers Dr Li's trademark greeting "good" (好) in Cantonese. No matter how upset he might have been, I had never heard him raise his voice to anyone.

Room#3 in the former outpatient department in the Li Shu Fun block was not perhaps of the standard one would expect in a hospital where the most advanced equipment and treatment are available for the private patients. For years, however, Dr Li spent at least an hour each day (usually around 11am) in that room to attend to his ENT patients and taught the resident doctors to see ENT cases and how to stop nosebleed and tackle the common ENT emergencies. Some of the residents in early years when Dr Li was still doing surgery were taught how to do tonsillectomy and they did it fairly well too.

When the outpatient department was moved to the new Li Shu Pui block in 1993, Dr Li kindly entrusted me to fully equip the ENT room in the Private Patient Clinic and to keep the ENT outpatient service going. Dr Li was already well into his nineties and had given up clinical practice though he loved to come and sit in that room every now and then to see some of his old patients.

My association with Hong Kong Sanatorium and Dr Li dated well back to before I was born. Little known to many people, the present location of the Hospital was once a small recreation ground known as Happy Retreat (愉園). My grandfather on my mother side was part owner of this Retreat. When he died the place was sold to the group of doctors that started the Yeung Wo Nursing Home in 1922. In fact, I grew up in Happy Valley about 3 minutes' walk from the Hospital. Ever since I was a kid I had heard a lot about Dr Li from my late father (a general practitioner) who had the chance of working with Dr Li at the Hospital around the 40's & 50's, but I had had no chance of meeting this uncle. By sheer coincidence, when I went to the American Medical Society in Vienna to take up practical ENT training in 1970, I was told only two doctors from Hong Kong had come before me. The first one was Dr Li Shu Pui in 1929 and the other one was Dr Wong Kam Fun in 1963. It was only forty odd years later, on returning from London after the death of my father, that I had the luck to have a close working relationship with Dr Li.

My first meeting with Dr Li Shu Pui was in his office in the old Li Shu Fan block in April 1982 when I applied for admission privileges to Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital. The interview was very short. Dr Li just greeted me with his usual "good" in Cantonese and told me to leave my credentials with his secretary, but admission right was granted the next day.

Almost a year later, Dr Li called me to his office and proudly showed me his automatic tonsil knot-tier and

the 1931 Down Bros's. catalogue. I was amazed by his collection of the latest editions of ENT books and journals on the bookshelf. He read those journals usually before the Board meeting every morning and kindly offer to lend them to me if I had wanted to do some reading. I could sense, at this point, that my probation was over. The next morning, I received the letter of appointment to be the Honorary ENT Consultant to the Hospital. At that time, Dr Li was well into his seventies and had stopped doing surgery. He still



attended to ENT patients in the Hospital and in the Clinic in Central. Despite his busy schedule in hospital administration, Dr Li never gave up his quest to update himself on the new development in ENT. It almost put me to shame the way he was quietly doing his own CME well before our College was established. He used to phone me up every now and then to enquire about new treatment or new equipment he read in the journals. He always welcomed updates of

the latest development in our Society and College. I still remember at our College's 5th anniversary Dr Li was already in his grand age of 95 and yet he sat through the whole evening until the very end. That really showed his passion for our specialty.

For leisure Dr Li had a passion for shooting (a hobby I was told he pursued well into his eighties), photography and classical music. I knew little about shooting but I did have similar liking for cameras. On several occasions, we managed to find ourselves browsing around the same camera shop at the Prince building shopping arcade at lunchtime.

Dr S P Li had such an amazing spirit and passion for medicine that even when confined to wheelchair after fracturing his hip, he attended the morning board meeting whenever he felt sufficiently fit. The last time I heard that "good" greeting was less than a week before he died. He requested to be wheeled out to the corridor of 15th floor to have a look around the Hospital. I just happened to have finished my round and we had a handshake and a "good" hello. He insisted on having a photograph taken with the nurses on the ward. It gave me a shock to learn that five days later the great clinician had left us to be with his beloved Ellen in eternity.

Dr Li Shu Pui will be remembered in many ways; first of all, by his children Maxim, Wyman & Walton and grand children as a remarkable father and grandfather, by his nursing staff as a generous & lovable boss and by the medical community in particular ENT surgeons as a dedicated clinician.

In his autobiography "Reflection at 90" Dr Li dedicated the book to his children "in the hope they will devote themselves to ensuring that Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital continues as one of the best-equipped institutions dedicated to the service and welfare of the community; and in the belief that in so doing they will be as compassionate as they are sincere"

The wisdom in these words and Dr Li's exemplary life would no doubt inspire renewed courage and enthusiasm in the hearts of all our Members and Fellows to serve our community with zest and compassion, which I am sure Dr Li Shu Pui would look upon with a smile and be very proud of.

William, Po Tin YIP

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VISERA

Hospital Authority, University and Private Practice

An Interview with Dr M Y CHENG



Dr M Y CHENG & Dr K C CHAN

Dr M Y Cheng, Deputy Director (Professional Services & Facilities Management) and Chairman of COC in Otorhinolaryngology, the Hospital Authority talks to "Senses" on issues pertaining to the interests of our Fellows.

"The ENT team is well disciplined, well organized and highly efficient", Dr Cheng was impressed when he once visited a busy ENT clinic in Kowloon.

In his view, the work of the COC is indebted to the collective wisdom and effort of our COSs. The group dynamics, a divergent perspective together with a high degree of transparency and effective communication among members are key factors to solve HA wide issues and to move the service forward.

The specialty costing of our specialty had been "low" when compared with others meaning that our ENT teams are efficient and cost-conscious.

With the tight financial situation, Dr Cheng introduced the model of the "Balanced scorecard" for strategic planning. Apart from looking at specialty costing, other aspects such as the process, human resources, training needs and customer satisfaction should also be taken into account.

The current size of the ENT teams for the public hospitals and Specialist clinics was considered quite acceptable. In order for the team to continue with the good service, Dr Cheng suggested that the stable, high-volume-low intensity cases can be shifted to alternative care, making more room for new needy cases.

Working as a team in HA, Dr Cheng emphasized that respect for each other's view is of foremost importance. The team should strive to provide a quality service, opportunities for training, career progression and access to complex technology.

Finally, Dr Cheng said that whenever our Ear, Nose or Throat is not feeling well, it is so bothering that we always want it to be fixed immediately!

Ka Cheong CHAN

CPD Quiz



A 53-YEAR-OLD CHINESE WOMAN PRESENTED with a painful left parotid swelling which had been present for two days. She reported that the mass had been progressively increasing in size for several days. She had Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and had been put on long term steroid therapy. She had no other significant systemic symptoms.

A physical examination revealed left swollen parotid gland with diffuse tenderness. There were no facial nerve deficits (**Figure 1**). Her body temperature was 38.5 °C. Gentle massage of the left parotid swelling resulted in the expression of purulent saliva from the parotid ductal opening. A CT scan with contrast revealed several small rim enhancing hypodense lesions within the left parotid gland (**Figure 2**).

Paul LAM



Figure 1

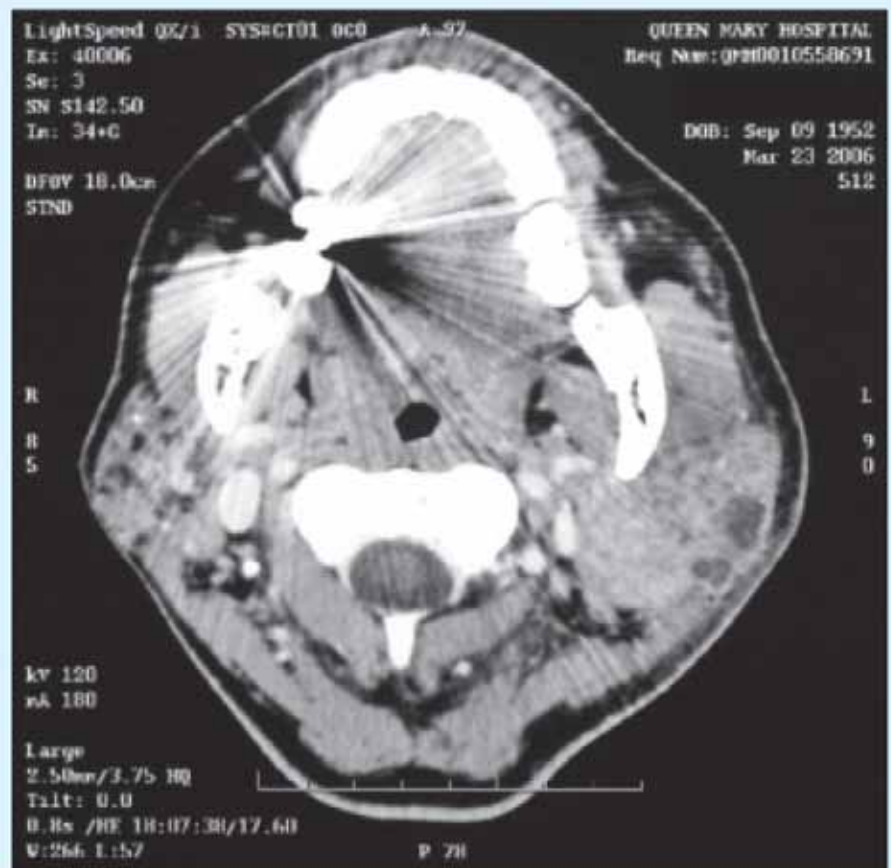


Figure 2

(Please tick ✓)

What is the most likely diagnosis ?

- ☐ a) Mumps
- ☐ b) Actinomycosis
- ☐ c) Acute Suppurative Sialadenitis
- ☐ d) Sjogren's Syndrome
- ☐ e) Necrotizing Sialometaplasia

Infective Sialoadenitis is one possible cause of this picture and if this happens to be the case, which organism is the commonest culprit ?

- ☐ a) Actinomyces
- ☐ b) Streptococcus pneumoniae
- ☐ c) Haemophilus influenzae
- ☐ d) Streptococcus pyogenes
- ☐ e) Staphylococcus aureus

Which of the following is not a contributing cause of the current problem ?

- ☐ a) Decreased oral intake
- ☐ b) Dehydration
- ☐ c) Vitamin C deficiency
- ☐ d) Antitricyclics
- ☐ e) Sialolithiasis

Which of the following statements concerning this disease is correct ?

- ☐ a) The incidence is equal among males and females.
- ☐ b) A transverse skin crease incision is needed for incision and drainage if infection fails intravenous antibiotics treatment.
- ☐ c) Response to initial measures can be reliably monitored by detection of fluctuance on physical examination.
- ☐ d) Sialography is contraindicated in this patient because of poor reliability.
- ☐ e) The opposite gland is involved in approximately 80% of the patients.

CPD Quiz

June 2006

Name: _____

Contact: _____

Your Email: _____

Date: _____

Please return the answers to the College by fax at 2904 5035 before 30 July 2006. Answers with scores over 75% will be awarded one CPD point. The correct answers will be published in the next issue of Senses.

Books, Articles and Website

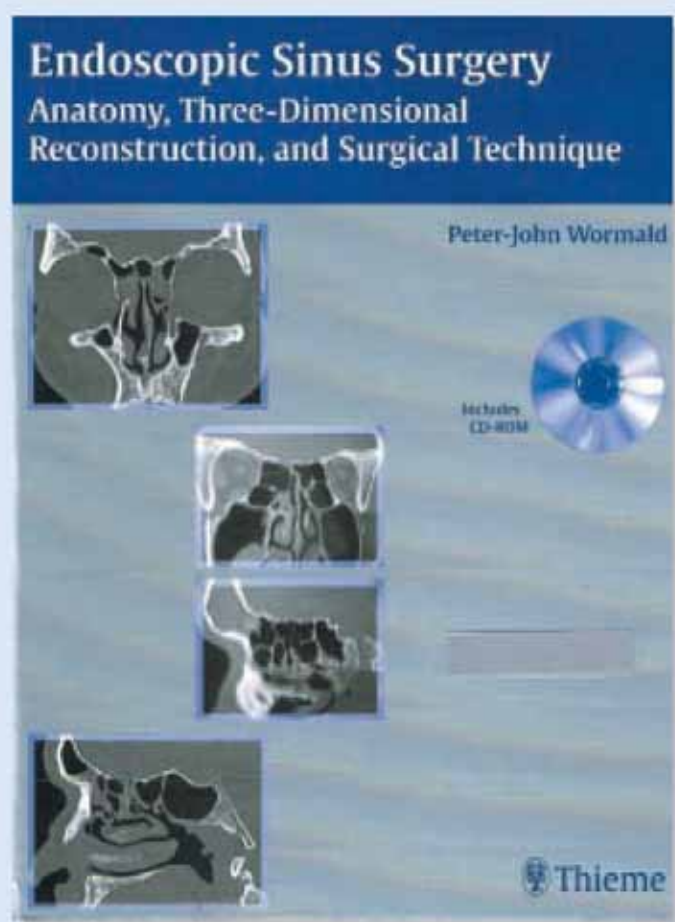


Book: Endoscopic Sinus Surgery — Anatomy, Three-Dimensional Reconstruction, and Surgical Technique

Author: Peter-John Wormald

Publisher: Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc. 2005

Endoscopic sinus surgery (ESS) is an integral part of our daily ENT practice. To perform it safely and effectively, a thorough understanding of the anatomy and the possible anatomical variations of the nose and the sinuses is essential. While image-guided surgery helps in difficult cases, it is by no means a substitute for sound anatomy knowledge.



This book was written by Professor P J Wormald who is one of the leading Rhinologists internationally. It is a surgical manual of a full range of FESS procedures from simple uncinectomy to endoscopic pituitary tumor surgery and optic nerve decompression. The central theme of this book is to help the reader create a three-dimensional mental image of the anatomy from the computed tomographic scans. This should allow the surgeon at any point during the operation to turn to the CT scans and point out on the scan the exact cell that is being dissected. Well-illustrated with schematic diagrams, CT scans, corresponding intraoperative photos and video clips, this book, together with the enclosed CD-ROM, is a truly practical manual for residents and actively practicing specialists. The brilliant discussion on dealing with the frontal recess and posterior ethmoid region is particularly impressive.

Aside from illustrating the anatomy, the video clips in the CD-ROM also demonstrate very effectively relevant surgical steps and manoeuvres which could not be learnt from any written material. Suffice to say, this is a book worth owning.

Declaration of Competing interests: None declared.

Siu Kwan NG

Overseas Courses and Attachments

California Experience



First day at the HEI, Los Angeles

In February 2006, I had a 4-week clinical attachment at the House Ear Institute (HEI), together with my colleague Willis Tsang, which turned out to be an invaluable learning experience for us both.

As a Visiting Physician, we joined the clinical meetings, temporal bone surgical dissection course lectures and observed surgical procedures. Obviously, we enjoyed the surgery most. There were four parallel GA sessions everyday. Being able to see the masters at work and talk with them is a great experience for us. They have a broad range of otological interests, especially in neurotology. Surgery for acoustic neuroma and cochlear implantation are routine.

Typically, our day began at 8:30 in theatre, at least not 7:30. It was very compact, because there were multiple theatres running simultaneously. On average, we observed 2-3 major operations a day. And there were a lot to see apart from the surgery itself, like the

way they prepared and monitored patients, and the taking of relevant clinical history and management planning for individual patients.

Apart from the House Ear Institute we also spent time at the Advanced Bionics Corporation which is located near Los Angeles. Willis and I completed The Cochlear Implant Surgical Training Workshop at AB, met their R&D team and had a factory tour, which were very interesting indeed.

Of course we took time off work to experience the city. Living away from home alone was new to me, not to mention being in another country and in a city like Los Angeles. LA is such a diverse city that you really need to take your time to see it and like it. It is interesting to see people from different background and ethnicity mix and interact together.

In terms of weather, February is not the best time to go, but in one month we probably had the best of everything. We rented a serviced apartment in Hollywood Hills, which was a thirty minute drive from the institute, not bad at all by LA standard. This was something that we consider worth spending on, and probably one extra reason that made our LA stay so enjoyable.

You need a reliable car and a good navigator, fortunately, I had both. If you hate driving, please don't go, because on average we spend 1-2 hours on our ride everyday. The road signs and maps are fairly easy to negotiate, and the driving etiquette is pleasant in general. Stay away from certain parts of the city and you are going to be just fine.

It is also a good opportunity to travel around US, plan ahead so you can have a good time at weekends. San Francisco and Las Vegas are only an hour's flight away.

Overall, we enjoyed ourselves thoroughly and would recommend the attachment highly to you, especially if you are interested in neurotology.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Prof Michael Tong, Dr Antonio De la Cruz and Dr John House who made this trip possible and took good care of us during our stay.

Useful links:

<http://www.hei.org>

<http://www.mapquest.com>

<http://www.oakwood.com> (serviced apartment)

<http://www.enterprise.com> (car rental)



St Vincent Medical Centre, celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year



Cochlear Implant Surgical Training Workshop at AB, Valencia

John SUNG

A Leisurely Note

Chateau Beaucastel Chateauneuf du Pape Roussanne Vieilles Vignes



As the weather is getting warmer, it is time to look out for refreshing white wines. For those of us who want a change from the ubiquitous Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, etc., why not a white wine from the Rhone Valley in France. When we say Rhone wines, we mean those of the hundred and forty miles north-south stretch from Lyon to Avignon. Southern Rhone producer *Chateau Beaucastel* makes excellent and good value red Chateauneuf du Papes, but their white CDP made with Roussanne grapes is one of the greatest whites ever made in the region and is equally at home with both French and Chinese cuisine. Limited production of less than 1000 cases a year of 100% Roussanne grapes from over 85 year old vines ensures that only the lucky few will ever get their hands on a bottle. First production was in 1986 but most older vintages can only be bought in auctions. I tried an amazing 2003 a few weeks ago. It is an impressively rich wine with an elegant nose of honey caramel, refreshing palate of pineapple and apricot, with an intense body and a touch of mineral as with all Rhone whites. There is low acidity and a remarkable aftertaste. The 2003 vintage is currently selling in Hong Kong for about \$700. For frequent world travelers, check the website www.wine-searcher.com for the prices and both Hong Kong and overseas availabilities.



So when is the best time to consume these wines, as the famous wine critic Robert Parker wrote, ".....the Roussanne drinks gloriously for 2 - 4 years then seems to go into an oxidized state, with the finest vintages returning to form in about 10-12 years....." and he further commented ".....this wine is the Montrachet of the southern Rhone." Enough said.

(Robert Parker gave the 2003 vintage 94 points and 99 points to the 2000 vintage.)

Alexander Tak Kai CHOY

Declaration of Competing interests: None declared.

GOLF IN KUCHING SARAWAK



Kuching is the capital of Sarawak state of East Malaysia. About the size of Hong Kong SAR, it's home to a population of just over half a million; 48% are Chinese, 15% are Malay, the rest are Indians, Pakistani, expatriates (Europeans, Japanese & Korean) and indigenous Dayak, Bidayuh, and Iban.





There are 3 major golf clubs — Kelab Golf Sarawak (KGS) is the premier golf club set amidst 400 acres of pristinely landscaped natural tropical vegetations. It is only 10 km from the city. It features 36 holes in 4 nines with a large driving range and practice green, a grand club house with 4 restaurants serving Chinese, Thai, local, Japanese and European cuisines, (cheap but don't expect cordon bleu cooking).



Matang and Santubong 9 (named after the 2 best known mountains in Kuching) had been renovated in 2003. It features a 6394 m par 72 championship course with a combination of undulating Paspalum fairways and strategically positioned hazards which make it very challenging for golfers of all levels.

The older Siol and Demark 9 also around 6000+m par 72. It is less undulating but tends to be soggy in rainy months. Green fees are about HK\$300 for 18 holes, buggy costing only \$90 per 18 holes, and trained caddy only \$100 for 18 holes. For non-golfers, there is an eight-lane Olympic size swimming pool, tennis, badminton & squash complex. For the less active, there is a library and a karaoke room.

Damai Golf and country club is a holiday resort course run by the Holiday Inn Group. It is about 40 km (about an hour's drive) from the city by the seaside. The golf course is the first Arnold Palmer designed golf course in Malaysia. It features an eighteen hole 7807 yards par 72 championships course. The mountain 9 borders the foothill of Mount Santubong. The ocean 9 hugs the beaches, rockery outcrops and mangrove forest of the



South China Sea. The signature hole is hole 17, a 145 m par 3 driving directly toward the ocean. The wind direction is the deciding factor in the choice of clubs and decides whether you make par or loose yet another golf ball.

The scenery of the course is very enjoyable even for the duffers and hackers. Nearby are 3 hotels (Damai, Lagoon and Santubong). Damai and Lagoon are good for the family and food is fairly good. Santubong is very quiet. The cultural village is just a 5 minute drive from the golf club (5 minute walk from the Holiday Inn Damai Beach Hotel). It features purpose built local villages within the rainforest, which is an hour's walk around, with a cultural show (performed twice daily) in the theatre.





For the naturalists, a visit to the Borneo Height Resort is highly recommended. It is a resort built near the summit of Mount Kalimantan 1000 m above sea level. It's a drive of 20 km from the airport and 60 km from the city to the foothill. The resort provides free 4 wheel drive transport to the hill top (20-25 minutes). Once up there, a different world appears which is cool (18°C) with unpolluted air, blue sky with the occasional whiff of drifting fog from the sea towards the jungle.



The Hornbill Golf Club is a 6249 m par 72 uphill holes with undulating fairway interrupted by the several down-hill holes (just to give you a breather). The scenery is very refreshing and very relaxing.

For the fitness conscious visitors there is a 25 km trek up to the top vantage point of Mount Kalimantan (buggy tour available) where you can see Indonesia. For the hotel, it is back to basic. No air conditioner, no TV in the room, no mobile phone network. Food is vegetarian, fresh vegetables are organic and home grown. Spa facilities and massage services are available. However, you must plan your evening

program well either mahjong (available for rent) or big 2 or early retirement to bed.

How to get there ?

Malaysian Airline has flights from HK to Kuching with a 1 stop transit at Kota Kinabalu three times a week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday) for around \$3,500. You can also fly via Kuala Lumpur (a bit more expensive). Singapore Airline goes from HK to Singapore, then transfer to Silk Air to Kuching.

Where to stay ?

Hilton and Riverside Crown Plaza (both 5 stars) in the city centre offer Executive suite for around HK\$1,000 for two. Breakfast and afternoon tea in the executive lounge are included.

If you prefer somewhere quiet and near the beach, Holiday Inn Damai Beach hotel and the Logoon are good alternatives. You have the beach and the golf course at close proximity. Both hotels provide free shuttle service into town every 30-40 minutes.

Of course, if you love to get close to nature there is the Borneo Height Resort.

Currency — Malaysian Ringgits (1 RM to 2 HK\$)



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Declaration of Competing interests: None declared.