

Advisory Council on AIDS

Report for August 1996 – July 1997

Hong Kong

Preface

This is the fourth annual report of the Advisory Council on AIDS compiled by the Council's Secretariat. It is also the first report of the current term starting from 1 August 1996. Established in 1990, the Council has been actively working towards the development of strategies for the prevention, care and control of HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong. It also plays a co-ordinating role in the implementation of the local programme.

1996 earmarks an important advancement for the Council as it had successfully hosted its first Hong Kong AIDS Conference on November 8 and 9. With the participation of delegates from Mainland and Macau, the Conference had actually opened up the door for inducing regional co-operation. This achievement was followed by the official opening of the Red Ribbon Centre (RRC) on 30 May 1997. Being started as a research and resource Centre for the promotion of AIDS education, publicity and research/surveillance activities in Hong Kong, the RRC had been fast in developing into a 'display window' for the AIDS prevention, care and control works that had been in progress in Hong Kong and elsewhere in the World. Moreover, with the strengthening of ties between Hong Kong and its motherland, the RRC would be gradually taking up the role as a focus for the provision and exchange AIDS information with the Mainland. To document the progress of Hong Kong's AIDS programme, this report summarises all activities undertaken by the Council and its committees/Task Forces in the past one year. It also gives a brief description of its historical past. As a concise report, details of AIDS campaigns, service provision, formulated policies and guidelines are not included. Readers are welcome to contact the Secretariat if these are required.

Finally, the Advisory Council on AIDS invites comments on all aspects of programme development. This report is part of the continuing process of strengthening communication among the Council, government departments and NGOs involved in AIDS prevention, care and control in Hong Kong.

Secretariat
Advisory Council on AIDS
Hong Kong
August 1997

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1. HIV/AIDS Situation in Hong Kong

Introduction

The first case of AIDS in Hong Kong was reported in February 1985. In the same year, 55 persons were found to be infected with HIV when the sero-epidemiological surveillance programme started operation in April. To document the extent of HIV/AIDS epidemic in Hong Kong, three major methods of data collection have since been used :

HIV/AIDS voluntary reporting system
Surveillance in selected groups
Unlinked anonymous screening (UAS)

HIV/AIDS Voluntary Reporting

As of 30 June 1997, the cumulative number of reported HIV infection was 855. Among them, 274 have progressed to AIDS.

The majority of the HIV infection were Chinese, comprising 69% of the reported cases. Eighty percent of all were in the age range of 21 to 50 years. The overall male to female ratio was 7 to 1. However, HIV infections in women have been increasing rapidly in the past few years. Heterosexual contact is the most common route of transmission in both sexes. For the year 1996, 70% were infected via heterosexual contacts whereas 16% only were homosexual and/or bisexual.

Despite the blood safeguard procedures implemented by the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service and routine screening of donated blood units since 1985, one case of HIV infection was found attributable to reception of HIV-infected donors' blood in 1997. This, together with those who acquired the infection before 1985, gave a total of 67 blood/blood product infected cases.

The number of reported injecting drug users has remained low, at a total of 16 cases (1.8%). Cumulatively, there were 4 perinatally acquired HIV infections, two of whom had developed AIDS.

Surveillance in selected groups

Voluntary HIV antibody testing is offered at each of the government's social hygiene clinics and outpatient methadone drug treatment centres. For the year 1996, a total of 46,229 and 370 blood specimens respectively were sent from the above two services. There were 110 seropositive cases detected in the social hygiene clinics clients while none of the methadone clinic patients had been found positive.

Of the 190,257 blood units screened at the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service, five blood donors were confirmed to be HIV seropositive, giving a HIV seropositive rate of 0.003%.

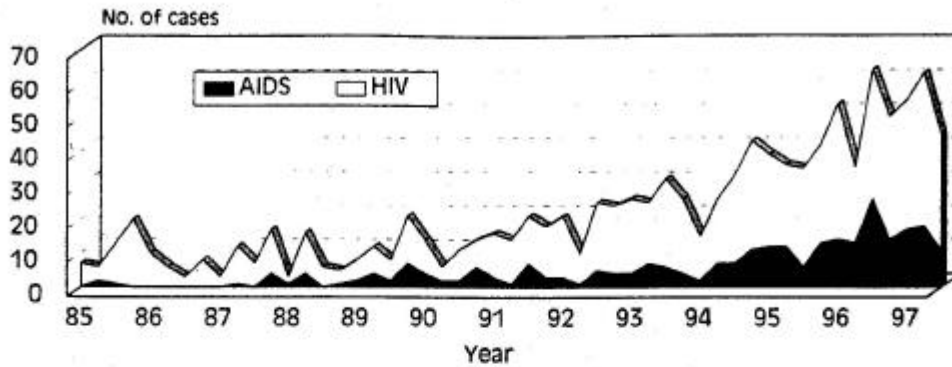
Unlinked Anonymous Screening

Unlinked anonymous screening (UAS) using residual blood or urine specimens after removal of the personal identity, had been started since November 1990. It has been conducted in the following groups: Drug addicts, prisoners, neonates, and tuberculosis patients. A total of 64,857 specimens have been tested from 1990 to the end of 1996, and 28 positive specimens were detected. This provided support to the estimated low HIV prevalence in Hong Kong of less than 1%.

As a regular exercise, UAS is conducted under the supervision of the Scientific Committee of the Advisory Council on AIDS.

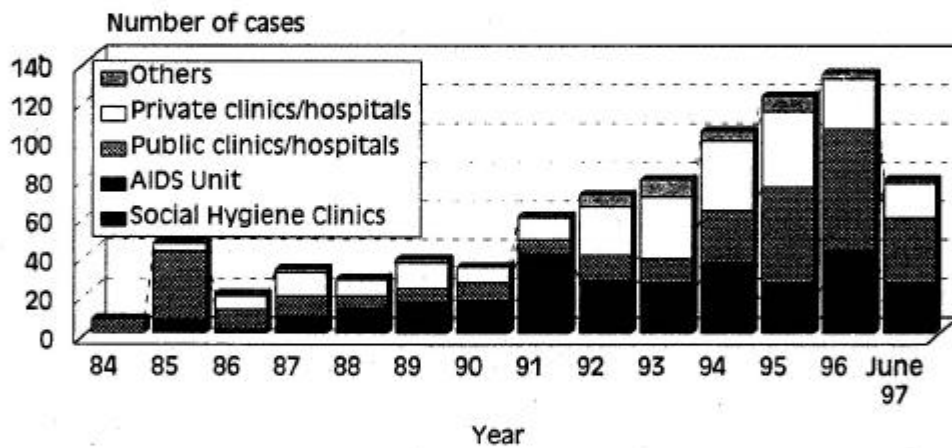
I. Quarterly Reported HIV/AIDS Statistics

1984 - June 1997, Hong Kong (N = 855)



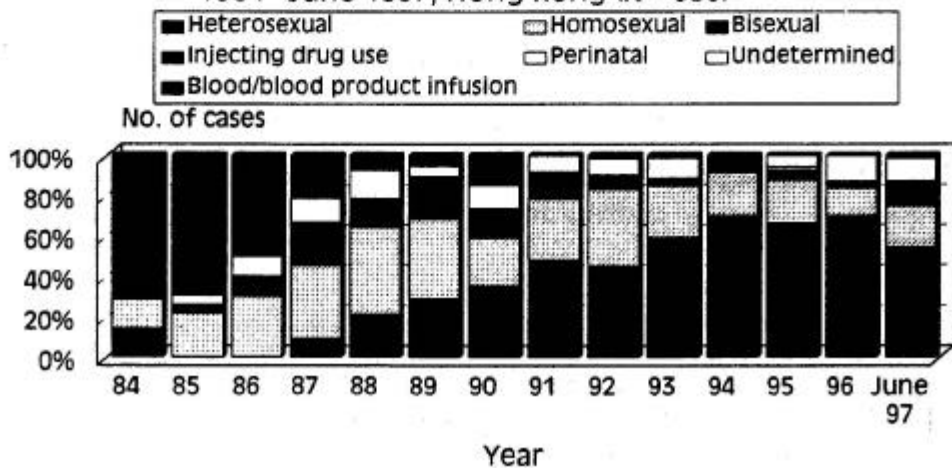
II. Reported HIV Infection - Source of Referral

1984 - June 1997 Hong Kong



III. Routes of transmission of Reported HIV infection

1984 - June 1997, Hong Kong (N = 855)



2. Historical Development of Hong Kong's AIDS Programme

The development of the Hong Kong AIDS programme can be divided into the following three phases:

The Initial Phase 1984 - 1986

At a time when less than 15,000 AIDS cases were reported world-wide and before the first AIDS case was diagnosed in Hong Kong, an Expert Committee on AIDS was set up by the then Medical & Health Department in November 1984 to "... discuss and review the medical aspects of AIDS and to work out a plan necessary for monitoring and managing the disease when required." A Scientific Working Group (SWG) was subsequently formed to implement medical, surveillance and public health activities. Between 1984 and 1986, the main emphasis of the AIDS programme was to rapidly establish an infra-structure necessary for the containment of the disease.

The key achievements of the initial phase were:

(a) Safeguarding Blood and Blood Products

The Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service commenced screening of all donated blood for HIV antibody in August 1985. In July of the same year, the Medical & Health Department procured the safer heat-treated blood product to replace all old stock of blood products used in public hospitals, thus eliminating the risk of HIV infection to haemophiliacs through exposure to contaminated blood products.

(b) Initiation of the Surveillance Programme

A surveillance programme was initiated in 1985 to monitor HIV prevalence among

certain groups, namely: haemophiliacs, patients of social hygiene clinics, prisoners. The programme was later extended to cover semen donors, clients of drug treatment and rehabilitation centres, and health care workers having sustained accidental exposure to contaminated blood.

(c) Provision of Clinical Service

The Special Medical Consultation Clinic was established in September 1985 to handle enquiries from doctors on matters relating to AIDS and to provide HIV test to clients on an anonymous and confidential basis. A telephone counselling service began operation in November 1985 for persons who believed themselves to be at risk.

(d) Initiation of Awareness Campaigns

Publicity and health education materials were produced to arouse awareness towards the disease and its related risk behaviours. The importance of safer sex and risk reduction in drug use were stressed.

The Intensification Phase 1987 – 1990

The Government felt the need of intensifying the programme, and to pay particular attention to publicity, education and counselling:

(a) Publicity

The Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS) was established in January 1987. In the same year, the Publicity Working Group was set up under CEPAIDS to formulate publicity strategies and oversee their implementation. From 1987 to 1990, it

produced 10 promotional films for screening on television. It also organized publicity activities at annual World AIDS Days. During the period, a whole range of printed materials including leaflets, newsletters, stickers, posters, comic books etc. were produced.

(b) Education and Training

From 1987 to 1990, 230 talks were delivered to 76,087 students by the AIDS Counselling & Health Education Service of the Medical & Health Department. Seminars were regularly organized for teachers, social workers and staff of drug rehabilitation programmes. Guidelines and information booklets were compiled and distributed to doctors, nurses and teachers.

(a) Counselling

An AIDS Counselling Hotline (2780 2211) was established by the Medical & Health Department for answering public enquiries on all aspects of AIDS. Between 1,000 to 1,600 enquiries were handled per month. A significant proportion of infected persons were followed up at the Special Medical Consultation Clinic.

The Consolidation Phase 1990 – 1995

The expansion of the AIDS programme had led to the call for better co-ordination and the development of a substantive effort towards AIDS prevention and control. With the establishment of the Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) in 1990, the AIDS programme became streamlined. An increase in community involvement was witnessed.

(a) Streamlined Organization Structure

The ACA was established in March 1990 to review and interpret trends and development relating to HIV/AIDS, and to advise the Director of Health on all aspects of the AIDS programme. CEPAIDS was put under the ACA, and restructured to incorporate the following working groups: research and

evaluation, publicity, training of intermediaries, drug abuse & AIDS, community, schools/students and youth. The SWG became the operational arm of the Council on matters of epidemiology, surveillance, clinical care and guidelines establishment.

At the end of the year 1993, the ACA was restructured and has since been underpinned by three committees, each focusing on a specific aspect of the programme. The three committees are Scientific Committee on AIDS (SCA), AIDS Services Development Committee (ASDC) and the Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS).

(b) Increased Community Involvement

There was a marked increase in community involvement, as evidenced in the following two aspects:

- (i) The Government Programme – There was multi-sectoral representation at the ACA and its committees/working groups to the effect that a majority of the conveners and members were community leaders, professionals and representatives of voluntary agencies rather than government officials.
- (ii) Non-governmental Organizations - AIDS Concern was formed in 1990, then the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation in late 1991. By 1993, both had established their status as organizations providing community education as well as counselling and support service to people living with HIV/AIDS. Various new organizations were formed in the following years, including Action for REACH OUT, Society for AIDS Care, AIDS Memorial Quilt Project, HIV Information & Drop-in Centre of the St. John's Cathedral, TeenAIDS. A Committee on AIDS was formed within the Hong Kong Council of Social Service in late 1994.

- (iii) Other initiatives - Apart from NGOs working specifically on AIDS, other voluntary agencies have also joined hands to promote AIDS awareness. A notable example was the launching of the Hong Kong Community Charter on AIDS by the Lions Clubs International District 303 and the Department of Health in 1994.

(c) **Expanded Surveillance**

The Unlinked Anonymous Surveillance (UAS) programme was introduced in 1990 to supplement the surveillance system already in force. UAS has been undertaken for neonates, TB patients, prisoners and drug abusers (see Chapter 5).

(d) **Structured Educational Programme**

Under the CEPAIDS structure, AIDS educational activities were either developed by its working groups or conducted as regular programmes of government departments or voluntary agencies. Essentially, educational programmes were implemented at three levels, namely:

- (i) General Public – through the effort of the Publicity Working Group and the regular media events organized by the Department of Health.
- (ii) Community Groups – programmes were designed to tailor to the needs of different community groups. The various working groups of CEPAIDS targeted respectively the schools/students, health care workers, teachers and other intermediaries, drug users, workforce, students, youth etc.
- (iii) People Practising High Risk Behaviours – through the Department of Health's AIDS Unit (formerly the AIDS Counselling & Health Education Service), and through liaison with special groups, e.g. commercial sex workers, homosexuals etc.

(e) **The AIDS Trust Fund**

The AIDS Trust Fund was set up with \$350M by the Government in early 1993 to offer ex-gratia payment to haemophiliacs who became HIV-infected through transfusion of contaminated blood/blood products before August 1985. The Fund also finance medical/support service projects and publicity/education projects.

The Current AIDS Programme

In 1996, the Advisory Council on AIDS was reformed following an internal review conducted with the input of members of the Council and its committees. Since August 1996, the Council has been chaired by a non-government official. Dr. Conrad LAM, JP, became its first chairman under the new system whereas the Director of Health functions as the vice-chairman. All members were appointed in their personal capacity except the head or representative of: Health & Welfare Bureau, Social Welfare Department, Education Department and Hospital Authority. Secretarial support has continued to be provided by the Department of Health.

The Hong Kong AIDS programme has evolved from a health-initiated programme to a multi-sectoral one involving both government and community efforts. It is overseen by ACA. The operational programmes are delivered by government departments, the Hospital Authority and non-governmental organization (NGOs). Apart from organizations working specifically on AIDS, there are other agencies which have participated actively in the AIDS programme e.g. Caritas, SARDA, Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, Hong Kong Red Cross, the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the Hong Kong Children & Youth Service.

In late 1995, the Council for the AIDS Trust Fund approved a grant to establish an AIDS Education, Research and Resource Centre at the Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic. Operative under the AIDS Unit, the Centre (called "**Red Ribbon Centre**") is charged with facilitating the conduction of AIDS education programmes in the

community. The Red Ribbon Centre had begun operation at the end of 1996, and was officially opened on 30 May 1997.

In summary, activities provided by the current programme in Hong Kong are enumerated below:

- (a) *Epidemiological surveillance & analysis*
- (b) *Policy advice and strategy development*
- (c) *Development of guidelines for professionals on the prevention, control and management of HIV infection*
- (d) *Public awareness programmes, inclusive of media publicity*
- (e) *Health promotion, AIDS education & training programmes for targeted groups*
- (f) *HIV antibody test, counselling, infoline and hotline services*
- (g) *HIV clinical management and support service, home care and hospice services*
- (h) *Infection control*
- (i) *Ensuring safety of blood/blood products*
- (j) *Research activities*

3. Advisory Council on AIDS

Introduction

The Expert Committee on AIDS formed in 1984 was transformed into the Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) in 1990 to better cope with the epidemic. The third term of the ACA came into office with effect from 1 August 1996. The membership of the third term (August 1996 to July 1999) is shown at Appendix A.

With the object of promoting community participation, ACA's membership has included community leaders, professionals and representatives of voluntary agencies. In July 1994, ACA published its first policy document *Strategies for AIDS Prevention, Care and Control in Hong Kong*. It became the blueprint of Hong Kong's AIDS strategy as endorsed by the Advisory Council. The terms of reference of ACA are:

- (a) to keep under review local and international trends and development relating to HIV infection and AIDS;
- (b) to advise Government on policy relating to the prevention, care and control of HIV infection and AIDS in Hong Kong; and
- (c) to advise on the co-ordination and monitoring of programmes on the prevention of HIV infection and the provision of services to people with HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong

The ACA is now underpinned by three committees, each supported by Task Forces and sub-committees. The committees are :

- (a) *Scientific Committee on AIDS (SCA) - the former Scientific Working Group renamed*

- (b) *AIDS Services Development Committee (ASDC)*

- (c) *Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS)*

The third term of the ACA had met four times, during the reporting period as follows :

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. (19 th meeting) | 25 September 1996 |
| 2. (20 th meeting) | 10 January 1997 |
| 3. (21 st meeting) | 11 April 1997 |
| 4. (22 nd meeting) | 11 July 1997 |

Review of Hong Kong's AIDS Programme

Since the first HIV infection case was diagnosed in Hong Kong in 1984, there has been a proliferation of AIDS programmes/activities, and an organizational structure has also been developed. After more than a decade's efforts, Hong Kong has established its own programme strategy in fighting against AIDS, and efforts undertaken by various NGOs and government departments have contributed to the low HIV prevalence in Hong Kong. However, to facilitate further development, it is an opportune time to take a comprehensive review of Hong Kong's AIDS - related efforts in prevention, care and control programmes, so as to determine on the way forward.

As step number one, a position paper summarizing the various AIDS prevention, care and control programmes in Hong Kong has been prepared by the Secretary and endorsed by Chairmen of the council and the three Committees. Based on the information, members of the council agreed that an internal review would start by the Secretariat in early 1998, to be followed by independent Consultants' assessments from

overseas to give recommendations on the future developments.

Blood and Blood Products Safety in Hong Kong

The issue was first brought to the attention of ACA in 1996, at which time the US recommendation of introducing P24 antigen test for pre-donation screening was studied by the Scientific Committee on AIDS. It was resolved that the supplemental test was not appropriate for the local system. It was further concluded that the existing voluntary arrangement for monitoring blood and blood products safety undertaken by the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Services (HKRCBTS) was adequate and that the setting up of a monitoring body for safety purpose would improve the system further. In July 1997, a child patient was found to be infected with HIV probably through blood transfusion, and the issue of blood and blood products safety was, once again, brought to ACA's attention. The Hospital Authority had undertaken to establish a monitoring mechanism to uphold the safety standard in blood transfusion.

Another related issue, the prevention of blood-borne diseases in transplantation was also discussed and, though local transplantation institutions had taken reasonable measures to prevent the transmission of blood-borne diseases; their standards and procedures were varied and therefore recommendation of an independent monitoring mechanism to streamline and monitor the safety standards was also recommended by the Council. (Details on the prevention of blood-borne diseases are further explained in Chapter 5 of this Report, P. 19)

HIV Infection and the Health Care Workers

Following the self-disclosure of HIV status by a dentist in Hong Kong in November 1992 and the resultant public concern over the possibility of HIV infection in the health care setting, the ACA commissioned in late 1992 a Special Working Group to draw up a set of guidelines on HIV infection and

the health care workers. The ACA endorsed the guidelines in January 1994 and had it printed into a booklet. Over 10,000 copies had been issued to the Hospital Authority, medical and dental associations, associations of supplementary medical professions, all practising doctors & dentists in the territory.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Special Working Group, an Expert Panel on HIV-infected health care workers was formed by the Director of Health in March 1994. The Panel serves to advise on the management of HIV-infected health care workers and to consider whether job modification or restriction is warranted, as and when advice is sought by the attending doctor of an HIV-infected health care worker. A case-by-case approach is adopted in considering all factors which may influence the degree of risk and work performance.

The Expert Panel had met to work out procedures on handling of cases. A referral system for attending physicians who take care of HIV-infected health care workers has been established. A meeting would be convened by the Panel within 7 days upon receipt of the referral. As of the end of July 1997, no cases have been referred to the panel for advice.

In mid-1996, letters had been sent to local medical and nursing associations to remind health care staff of the established guidelines and the need of seeking advice from the expert panel.

The guidelines had also been incorporated in the publication "AIDS Manual for Doctors and Dentists" published by the Department of Health in July 1995. A video on infection control in protecting staff and patients from bloodborne diseases in clinic settings was produced in 1995 while another one on dental care was completed in 1996.

ACA Newsfile

To keep members of the Council posted on the epidemiological trend of AIDS and development of the local AIDS programme, the Council Secretariat has, since January 1994, commenced issuing a monthly newsletter, the *ACA Newsfile*, for the

information of members of the ACA and all its committees and task forces. Edited by Consultant (Special Preventive Programme) of the Department of Health, 43 issues have been published up to July 1997.

Other publications distributed together with the ACA Newsfile include: (a)) **Hong Kong STD/AIDS Update** - a quarterly surveillance report published by the AIDS Unit and the Social Hygiene Service of the Department of Health; (b) **Red Ribbon** - publication of people living with HIV/AIDS, co-ordinated and sponsored by the AIDS Unit of the Department of Health and the AIDS Trust Fund respectively; (c) a four-monthly **AIDS Bulletin** prepared by the Red Ribbon Centre for youth, students and the public; (d) **Networking Voice**, a publication targeting students and youth; issued by the Task Force on Youth under the Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS of the ACA; and (e) **Project Mini** - Mini-posters publicising AIDS information on a quarterly interval by the AIDS Unit of the Department of Health.

Proposed Restructuring

The proposal for ACA re-structuring has been supported by the Government, including the proposal for redefining the role of ACA with an emphasis on its independent, advisory nature. It has also been agreed that the composition of the Council to be re-organized so that a non-official Chairman would be appointed with the Director of Health to be the Vice-Chairman. Moreover, the appointment of members has also taken a multi-sectoral approach, incorporating government representatives such as those of the Secretary for Health and Welfare, Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority, Director of Social Welfare and Director of Education. Secretarial support to ACA has been strengthened by the appointment of Consultant (SPP) as Secretary, and the AIDS Unit of the Department of Health to provide secretarial support. Working relationship between the Council and NGOs has also been enhanced by inviting NGOs to take part in ACA or other related Committee/sub-committee meetings and activities, as well as initiating visits by ACA Chairman to NGOs to provide dual way understanding/communications.

Dr. Conrad LAM was appointed the first non-official Chairman of the Council in the third term starting August 1996 whereas Dr. Homer TSO, Professor M H NG and Miss Carlye TSUI were appointed Chairman of the ASDC, SCA and CEPAIDS respectively. Members of the ACA are free to join any one or more of the committees, and to propose other persons to be co-opted as members of the committees under the Council

The Chinese name of the ACA has also been changed as “香港愛滋病顧問局” to reflect its work and status.

Hong Kong AIDS Conference

The Advisory Council had successfully hosted Hong Kong's first ever Conference on AIDS on 8-9 November 1996 at the Lam Woo International Conference Centre of Hong Kong Baptist University. The objectives of holding the conference were: (a) to promote education and research for improving the prevention, care and publish health control programmes on HIV infection in Hong Kong; (b) to share experience in research on AIDS; and (c) to co-ordinate local efforts on planning and evaluation of programmes on AIDS.

An organizing committee, led by Miss Carlye Tsui, JP, was formed by the ACA in April 1996. The theme of the Conference is *Building New Hope Together*. Mrs Lavender Patten was invited to be the patron of the Conference who officiated at the Conference on 8 November. The success of the function has laid down a foundation for the development of the Council's future activities in connection with AIDS. The Council has also resolved to hold the next conference in 2-3 years' time. About 400 participants attended the Conference of which about one-tenth was from Mainland and Macau. The event featured, among other activities, six symposia and three plenary speeches. Some 80 papers were presented, either orally or as posters, during the 2-day Conference. The event was, on a whole, very successful as it achieved not only the purpose in networking AIDS workers in Hong Kong, but also provided a forum for useful exchanges of views and ideas. At the closing

session, participants supported the organization of similar conference in future, and a proceeding of the Conference was subsequently published and sent to all participants.

Overseas Conferences

The International Conference on AIDS is now organized every two years, the next one will be held in the year 1998. The IV International Congress on AIDS in Asia & the Pacific will be held in Manila, the Philippines between 25 and 29 October 1997. Two ACA members will be representing the Council in the participation of the Congress. The Secretariat is collecting names of other Hong Kong participating organizations to establish better co-ordination among delegates.

On 24-26 May 1997, a China-Hong Kong Meeting on AIDS was jointly organized by the Chinese Association of STD/AIDS Prevention and Control and the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation. Dr. Homer TSO, JP, represented the Council Chairman in the participation of the meeting. He was joined by Dr. S S LEE, Council Secretary, and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The meeting highlighted the importance of enhancing Hong Kong - Mainland collaboration on all aspects of AIDS prevention and control.

Going Cyberspace

In January 1996, AIDS Unit launched its internet HomePage. The HomePage has included information about the Advisory Council - its structure, membership as well as publications. The ACA Newsfile can also be accessed through the HomePage. So far over 11,000 'visitors' have viewed the HomePage. The address is <http://www.info.gov.hk/health/aids>.

Red Ribbon Centre

Opened since December 1996, the Red Ribbon Centre is funded by the AIDS Trust Fund and operated under the management of the Department of Health. It is an AIDS education centre which is also a resource and research centre for the collection of AIDS related information. The setting up of the Centre was supported by ACA. Although it is not administered by the ACA, the Red Ribbon Centre has, through its various activities, provided publicity and support to the

public in revealing the epidemic and its present situation in Hong Kong. In view of the strengthening of connection between Hong Kong and the Mainland, it is expected that the Centre would soon be developed into a research and resource centre providing support to local & Mainland institutions in their combat against HIV/AIDS. Documents of the Advisory Council are shelved in the library of Red Ribbon Centre for the reference of the public. The address of the Centre is 2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic, 200 Junction Road East, Lok Fu, Kowloon.

Relocation of ACA Secretariat

On 16 April 1997, the Council secretariat was relocated to 1/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic, next door to the newly established Red Ribbon Centre. Mr. Kevin YAU, senior executive officer of the Secretariat has retired in March 1997 and his position is now succeeded by Mr. John YIP. Both the telephone & fax numbers have changed, they are 2304 6100 (tel) and 2337 0897 (fax).

4. Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS

Introduction

The Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS) was first established under the then Medical & Health Department in 1987 for designing and implementing AIDS prevention programmes. It was placed under ACA when the latter was appointed by the Governor in March 1990. CEPAIDS was originally underpinned by seven working groups, namely (a) Publicity, (b) Training of Intermediaries, (c) Youth, (d) Schools/Students, (e) Community, (f) Drug Abuse and AIDS, and (g) Research and Evaluation.

At the beginning of the second term of the ACA, CEPAIDS was restructured to streamline its operation. The Working Group on Research and Evaluation was dissolved. Instead, a Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee was set up to undertake reviews on the local AIDS educational programmes and to plan future strategies. It was to act as a 'think-tank' to CEPAIDS. The Working Group on Training of Intermediaries was also dissolved. It was considered that the training functions could generally be discharged and co-ordinated by the Department of Health and other professional bodies. The Community Working Group was replaced by the Working Group on Workplace.

Towards the third term of the ACA in August 1996, some slight changes were made and the Working Group on Workplace was dissolved as a majority of its work had been undertaken by the Government and other organizations. The 4 working groups were renamed as Task Forces to reflect their respective roles.

The restructured CEPAIDS is now underpinned by a *Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee* and four Task Forces:

Task Force on Youth

Task Force on School AIDS Education

Task Force on Media and Publicity

Task Force on Drug & AIDS

CEPAIDS has the following terms of reference:

- (a) to develop appropriate strategies on education and publicity on HIV/AIDS;
- (b) to promote education, publicity and related research on AIDS through collaboration of government departments and non-governmental organizations; and
- (c) to evaluate the effectiveness of education and publicity programmes on AIDS in Hong Kong.

Membership of CEPAIDS, its Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee and the four Task Forces for the term August 1996 – July 1999 are shown at Appendix A. CEPAIDS has met three times during the last one-year period as follows:

1. (23rd meeting) 12 November 1996
2. (24th meeting) 26 February 1997
3. (25th meeting) 30 May 1997

CEPAIDS, in implementing its publicity and educational programmes, adopts basically a target-oriented approach. The various task forces and the government units/NGOs focus on specific community groups in their conduction of tailored education programmes.

Task Force on Media and Publicity

Since 1993, Hong Kong has witnessed a shift in the emphasis of its AIDS publicity campaign from disseminating information to fostering a caring attitude towards AIDS patients and to tackling the complacency of the public.

In 1995, the campaign was characterized by the creative TV APIs (Announcement of public interest) featuring the five AIDS Awareness Ambassadors, who were all popular radio programme hosts, giving endorsement messages on AIDS. The five ambassadors were Ms. Pamela PAK, Mr. Paul TSE, Mr. HUNG Chiu-fung, Ms. LEE Bik-sum and Mr. Gary NGAN. Each of the five TV APIs brought out a core message on AIDS which was aimed at different target audience including the general public, the youngsters, the high-risk groups even the HIV carriers. As reflected by the panelists of the TV Advisory Panels and the TV viewing groups, these TV APIs with messages appealed by famous DJs were effective and convincing.

On the activities side, a campaign comprising 4 main foci in the 4 seasons has been planned for 1997. In spring, publicity has been targeted on the Hong Kong - China Travellers. Students/youngsters free from school in summer are the next target. A round of publicity would be launched in August in collaboration with Commercial Radio. A new internet homepage will be introduced around autumn for families with a PC computer; and a sculpture will be commissioned and shown to the public by the end of the year, in commemoration of the forthcoming World AIDS Campaign.

Task Force on Youth

Since 1991, the Task Force on Youth (previously known as the "Youth Working Group) has been launching annually the "**Youth Action on AIDS**" *Funding Scheme* to encourage and mobilize young people to organize innovative projects on education/publicity on AIDS. The Funding Scheme has been a tremendous success in

two aspects. Firstly, the projects which are designed by young people appeal more readily to their peers. Secondly, in the process of implementation, the participants themselves benefited by learning a great deal about AIDS and its impact on the community.

In 1996, 19 youth groups had filed in project proposals for the *Funding Scheme*. Of these, 16 proposals were approved. As in previous years, the Scheme was concluded by an exhibition-cum-award ceremony which was held on 23 February 1997 at the Red Ribbon Centre.

The *Funding Scheme* enters the sixth year in 1997. Successful applicants would be given a ceiling amount of HK\$8,000 to implement their proposed programmes. For flexibility, the *scheme* has been changed to a year-round exercise and application could be submitted at any time.

To pay tribute to the innovative projects launched under the Scheme in the past years, 2,000 copies of a Resource Casebook summarizing more than 50 AIDS education projects reports sponsored under the Funding Scheme from 91-94 had been published in December, 1996 and were distributed to concerned members, AIDS organizations, Government Departments and NGOs. A number of the copies were also distributed to secondary schools and youth organizations together with publicity materials on the Youth Funding Scheme 97 in late February and March 1997.

The Task Force organized a kick-off event for the Funding Scheme 1997 in May 1997. It focused on youth in relation to HIV/AIDS education. A game kit incorporating a collection of games and activities on AIDS for youth was designed and distributed to each of the participants in the event.

Through operating the *Funding Scheme* over the years, the Task Force had been able to identify and make acquaintance with a number of youth workers who had shown an interest in AIDS education/publicity work. In an attempt to build up a larger pool of youth workers with such interest, the Task Force has been publishing a newsletter to network workers in the field. Named

Networking Voice, the publication featured articles on all aspects of HIV prevention and care for young people, and was published once every four months on a regular basis. The first and second issue of volume 3 of *Networking Voice* with a theme on “AIDS Preventive Education” and “Youth Action on AIDS” had been published and distributed out in early February, and in May, 1997 respectively. So far, 3,500 copies per issue has been distributed and the responses and feedback from youth workers and teachers are very encouraging. They have given many suggestions for the future issues. The number of subscribers has been increasing.

. In view of the good response and the usefulness of the workshop on “AIDS and Safer Sex”, an event jointly organised by the Task Force and the Committee on AIDS of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, it had been decided that similar training activities on AIDS for youth workers would be organized as an annual event. The forthcoming one is scheduled to be held in November 1997.

Task Force on School AIDS Education

The Task Force on School AIDS Education (previously known as Working Group on Schools/Students) had produced a number of education/publicity materials for distribution to students, teachers and parents in the past years. The more important ones were :

- (a) an information leaflet on AIDS for secondary students and another for primary students were distributed through schools in June 1993;
- (b) a 44-page booklet entitled ‘ Facts about AIDS’ for teachers and parents was distributed in September 1993; and
- (c) a teaching kit on AIDS for primary schools was prepared and distributed in mid-1994.

However, in view of the lapse of time, some of the information would need to be updated. It has therefore been recommended by the Task Force to request the Education Department to update the *Teaching Kit on AIDS for Secondary School Students and the Guidelines on the Prevention of Blood-borne Diseases in Schools*.

To promote dissemination of information on HIV/AIDS, portable exhibition boards have been on loan to schools to facilitate staging of education programmes.

AIDS/HIV has been included as a topic in regular sex education courses run by the Education Department for teachers since 1994. AIDS education for teachers will be integrated into these sex education programmes for teachers together with life skills training in the long run.

A circular to spell out Education Department’s policy on issues relating to HIV-positive pupils in schools was issued to schools in February 1994. The circular set out guidelines on education placement, public education and prevention, confidentiality, legal liability and block insurance policy for aided schools.

Ongoing seminars on AIDS have been organized for teachers of secondary and , primary schools.

To enrich input to the Task Force, a representative of the tertiary students is invited to join in the Task Force and due representations would also be given to this representative such as:

- (a) at least one tertiary colleague would sit in the editorial board of the periodical for the Task Force on School AIDS Education; and
- (b) the coming Hong Kong AIDS Education Drama Festival 97 would include tertiary institutions.

A number of activities had been planned in 1997, they include:

- (a) AIDS Quiz;
- (b) Periodical;

- (c) Seminar for School Head;
- (d) Updating Teaching Kit;
- (e) AIDS Education Drama Festival; and
- (f) School Based Funding Scheme.
(to be included in the Youth Funding Scheme covered by the Task Force on Youth.)

Task Force on Drug & AIDS

In collaboration with the Department of Health's AIDS Unit, the Task Force on Drug and AIDS has been organizing regular/ongoing workshops and seminars for inpatients of drug rehabilitation centres, half-way house residents, aftercare patients, methadone users, social workers and allied workers (e.g. AMS staff) working with drug users.

Since 1991, the Task Force (formerly known as Working Group) has been conducting annual surveys on street drug users with the objective of monitoring their AIDS knowledge, awareness, attitude and behaviour over time. The 1996 survey (430 persons interviewed) showed that 20.5% respondents admitted injecting heroin regularly and sharing needles with others in the three months period prior to the survey. From the five surveys (1992-1996), it was noted that the age of the local addicts had dropped. A majority of respondents acquired AIDS knowledge from the media.

On the other hand, volunteers were recruited in the collection of abandoned syringes and a total of 128 used syringes were picked up for incineration during an out-reaching syringe collection exercise conducted in the area of Lam Tin Estate, Kwun Tong in May 1997. The objectives of the project were threefold, namely:

- (a) to organize, as an environmental project, clean up of abandoned syringes which posed a health hazard;
- (b) to educate drug users on the risks of using and abandoning injecting instruments, and needle-sharing; and
- (c) to distribute AIDS prevention leaflets.

In order to strengthen the Task Force's work in the area of harm reduction, a new agency was invited to join in as member. The new member, Medicine Sans Frontier (MSF), had pioneered a Harm Reduction project in Pillar Point, which included an experimental needle exchange programme and provided counselling service for the registered Vietnamese drug users.

Through the collaboration of the Department of Health's AIDS Unit and the Methadone Clinics, condoms have been made available for clients of the Methadone Clinics since May 1994. About 5,000 condoms are now distributed per month from these outlets.

Planning and Evaluation

A survey on "the knowledge and attitude towards AIDS-related issues among marginal youth in Hong Kong" was conducted in early 1997 by the Commission on Youth. The results indicated that about 40% of the youth (13-18) interviewed had had sex experience; but that only 17% of those youth were constant condom users. In general, the marginal youth were aware of AIDS as a killer disease but their misconceptions about AIDS transmission, and that of the development of the disease from HIV infection to full-blown AIDS were not clear. Therefore recommendations were given in approaching and educating this specific group of youth. The Task Force on Youth under CEPAIDS is considering follow up action in response to the survey results.

A review of research activities on AIDS prevention and education in Hong Kong was conducted by Dr. Joseph LAU of the Planning and Evaluation Sub-committee, CEPAIDS. The review, other than providing a stock-taking exercise for past activities organized by the CEPAIDS, also calls for more research/evaluation work to cope with the education and publicity activities of the CEPAIDS. It has been the consensus view of CEPAIDS members that in future, the research agenda should tie in with the needs of the CEPAIDS activities.

In 1997, the subcommittee, in collaboration with Centre for Clinical Trials and Epidemiological Research (CCTER) of Chinese University of Hong Kong, conducted a survey to evaluate the risk behaviour of male travellers returning from China. In order to get reliable data, the survey was conducted by administering pre-recorded questionnaire through a mobile telephone in an intercept survey. The survey was conducted in April and the report will be available later.

Between May-July 1997, the CEPAIDS and the City University jointly organized a research project "Youth Behaviours in Holiday Villa in Cheung Chau". The research is an important step to obtain a preliminary understanding of the high-risk sex behaviours of youngsters, which may have significance in the spread of HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong. Results of the survey were used in the design of a publicity campaign to be launched in August by the Task Force on Media & Publicity.

The Hong Kong Community Charter on AIDS

The Hong Kong Community Charter on AIDS is a joint programme developed by the AIDS Unit of the Department of Health and the Lions Clubs International, District 303 – Hong Kong and Macau. The objectives are to enhance AIDS awareness and to encourage adoption of non-discriminatory policy in the workplace. The project had full support of CEPAIDS.

Companies and organizations in Hong Kong, including the Hong Kong Government, have been enthusiastic in supporting the Charter by joining as signatories. New signatories including District Boards had also signed the Charter. On 19.11.1996 and 23.1.1997, two signing ceremonies of the Charter were respectively held at the New World Hotel.

In order to consolidate the Charter programme, and to appeal to new signatories, a 5-day exhibition on the activities of the Hong Kong Community Charter on AIDS was held at the Central MTR Station Hall between 23.6.1997 to

27.6.1997, which had attracted thousands of spectators.

World AIDS Day 1996 and 1997

Since 1988, the first of December every year have been commemorated world-wide as the World AIDS Day.

Since 1995, the CEPAIDS had undertaken to co-ordinate World AIDS Day activities in Hong Kong. The major activities conducted were (a) public awareness campaigns, (b) targeted education programmes, (c) seminars/conference, and (d) media events. For the convenience of the public, a joint programme listing activities undertaken by individual organizations on and around the World AIDS Day was published.

The theme of World AIDS Day 96 was "One World, One Hope". The theme emphasized the need for people everywhere to put aside their differences and to work together to face the challenge of both slowing the epidemic and alleviating its impact.

The highlight of World AIDS Day 96 was a premiere of new TV APIs held on 1 December 1996 and officiated by the 5 AIDS Awareness Ambassadors Ms. Pamela PAK, Mr. Paul TSE, Mr. HUNG Chiu-fung, Ms. LEE Bik-sum and Mr. Gary NGAN. The new APIs featured the 5 AIDS Awareness Ambassadors appealing for support of AIDS prevention & care.

Arrangement was made with the Post Office for inserting a postal slogan "World AIDS Day 1 Dec" on all local mails in the two-week period covering World AIDS Day 1996. Similar agreement will also be sought with the Post Office for printing the logo from 25 November to 7 December 1997 on local mails. The Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS) has developed the 1997 World AIDS Campaign to signal a shift from World AIDS Day initiative of the past.

A series of activities to commemorate the World AIDS Campaign 97 will be conducted by

various organizations on and around 1 December, 1997. The theme chosen by UNAIDS for the World AIDS Campaign 1997 is “Children living in a World with AIDS”. The theme emphasized the need for people to work together to face the challenge of the epidemic on children and the roles which adults can play in ensuring the safety of children against the transmission of the epidemic.

CEPAIDS Calendar

For the enhancement of communication and the avoidance of duplicated efforts, a quarterly CEPAIDS Calendar summarizing highlighted events of Government & NGOs is produced by the ACA Secretariat. The Calendar gives a panoramic picture on the type of activities which will be organized in the up coming 3 months. However, in order to maintain its simplicity and conciseness, regular activities are not be included. The CEPAIDS Calendar has been put on trial since May 1997 and would be reviewed in a year’ s time.

5. Scientific Committee on AIDS

Introduction

The Scientific Committee on AIDS (SCA) was renamed from the former Scientific Working Group on AIDS to give it equal status to the other two committees under the ACA i.e. the Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS and the AIDS Services Development Committee.

The SCA has the following terms of reference:

- (a) to supervise and evaluate the HIV/AIDS surveillance system in Hong Kong, and to interpret trends of the epidemic;
- (b) to develop and recommend technical and professional guidelines/protocols on HIV/AIDS prevention, management and control;
- (c) to recommend training for health care professionals on all aspects of HIV/AIDS prevention and management; and
- (d) to recommend and undertake research on the clinical, scientific and epidemiological aspects of HIV/AIDS with special reference to Hong Kong.

The membership of the SCA is at Appendix

A. It met three times last year as follows: -

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. (9 th meeting) | 10 December 1996 |
| 2. (10 th meeting) | 25 February 1997 |
| 3. (11 th meeting) | 7 July 1997 |

Survey on the current practice in preventing blood-borne diseases during organ/tissue transplantation

In view of the importance of the prevention of communicable diseases in the growing application of organ/tissue transplantation, the SCA, jointly with the Hong Kong Society of Transplantation, conducted a questionnaire survey on the current practice of local transplantation institutions in late 1996. The results indicated that there were loopholes, and the establishment of a watchdog body was considered necessary. Furthermore, formulation of guidelines and the role of legislation would need to be further examined.

Guidelines for management of occupational exposure to HIV

In response to the publication of provisional recommendation on chemoprophylaxis after occupational exposure to HIV by the US Public Health Service, the SCA re-examined the issue and revised the local guidelines "Procedure for Management of Needlestick Injury and Mucosal Contact with Blood or Body Fluids - recommended guidelines for Hepatitis B, C and HIV Prevention", together with the Scientific Working Group on Viral Hepatitis Prevention, Department of Health. The revised guidelines endorsed the principle of prescribing anti-retroviral prophylaxis for significant exposure to HIV. The guidelines is near completion and will be released later this year.

Consensus Statement on Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV Infection in Hong Kong

New advances on anti-retroviral therapy have been shown to improve the quality of life and outcome of HIV/AIDS patients. The SCA had discussed and concluded that combination therapy for HIV infection was desirable and that plasma viral load measurement test should be implemented

in the public service. The use of the viral load test should be subject to the indication of individual cases. These conclusions were written into a statement which was agreed to be published in February 1997. Copies had also been circulated to the medical profession via the Hospital Authority, Department of Health, AIDS Services Development Committee and Hong Kong Medical Association.

TB/HIV Registry

TB & HIV co-infection is becoming an important global issue. It is important to watch out for the underlying HIV infection when patients present with tuberculosis. After more than half a year's study and under the joint effort of the Department of Health's AIDS Unit and TB & Chest Service, the results of a newly established TB/HIV registry system, in the form of a preliminary report, was brought up for discussion in the Scientific Committee on AIDS (SCA) in July 1997. The objectives of the TB/HIV Registry are:

- (a) to study the epidemiology of TB/HIV co-infection in Hong Kong;
- (b) to better understand the presentation, features and outcome of tuberculosis in HIV/AIDS patients; and
- (c) to provide basis for enhancing prevention and control of TB/HIV co-infection.

The first report indicated that about 10% of the local HIV/AIDS patients have had TB. The SCA undertook to monitor the developments, and would alert frontline health workers in due course through appropriate means.

Unlinked Anonymous Screening

As part of an ongoing surveillance programme, unlinked anonymous screening (UAS) has been introduced since 1990, the conduction of which was under the supervision of the Scientific Committee on AIDS. Many of the exercises are now conducted on a yearly basis, or that the analyses were made annually.

In late 1996, 3,968 neonatal blood samples were tested for HIV antibody under the system and one showed positive result.

Tests were performed on urine samples of injecting drug users attending methadone clinics. From April 1992 to May 1996, 15,475 urine samples were tested for HIV antibody, a total of four (one positive in 1996) positive cases had been detected. In March 1996, 447 saliva samples were obtained from street injecting drug users and tested for HIV antibody. No positive case was detected.

From March to May 1996, 1,503 urine samples received from correctional institutions were tested for antibody. Six positive cases were detected. The Committee has resolved to continue with UAS on different groups on a regular basis, although the addition/deletion of individual target groups may need to be considered from time to time. A summary of the UAS data collected since 1990 to 1996 is now under compilation and will be released later when completed.

AIDS Scenario and Surveillance Research

Since 1996, the SCA has been supervising a new project named *AIDS Scenario & Surveillance Research*. The research project aimed at establishing a behavioural surveillance system to monitor the risk level of Hong Kong in the AIDS epidemic, and to construct scenarios to facilitate policy formulation in its prevention, care and control. The project started operation in late 1994 with the funding support of the AIDS Trust Fund.

The project is a joint programme of Department of Health and the University of Hong Kong. The first scenario report *Estimation and Projection of HIV Infection and AIDS Cases in Hong Kong* was presented by Professor James Chin at a symposium on World AIDS Day 1994. Professor Chin estimated that some 3,000 persons have been infected by HIV as of the end of 1994. At the end of 1995, with the availability of

additional epidemiological data, Prof Chin downward adjusted the estimate to 2,000. A new scenario estimate is expected in late 1997. Field tests of the behavioural surveillance programme is currently being conducted by a research team based at Special Preventive Programme Office of Department of Health. Regular surveillance of target groups will be conducted, including STD patients, drug users, people requesting HIV testing due to risk behaviours and other vulnerable groups.

Seminar

Professor James Chin, advisor of the Scientific Committee on AIDS, was in Hong Kong on 23 July 1997 on his way back to the States after a consultancy in Central Africa. He gave a presentation on the epidemiological assessment of the HIV/AIDS situation in Malawi at Red Ribbon Centre. It was both informative and of academic value to the local attendants.

Advisers & Vice-Chairman

In February 1997, the Committee endorsed the invitation of two experts to become advisers. They are Professor James Chin of University of California Berkeley and Professor Wong Siu-lun, Director, Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong.

For the first time, a vice-chairman was appointed to the Committee. Professor Y L Lau is the Committee's first Vice-chairman.

6. AIDS Services Development Committee

Introduction

In anticipation of an increasing number of HIV-infected people in coming year, it was considered necessary to examine how services for HIV/AIDS patients should be developed in the medium to long term. The AIDS Services Development Committee (ASDC) was thus formed in the second term of the ACA and charged with such responsibility.

The ASDC has the following terms of reference:

- (a) to recommend on the strategy of developing clinical and support services for HIV-infected individuals in Hong Kong;
- (b) to co-ordinate available services and facilitate their accessibility to people with HIV/AIDS and their relatives who require them; and
- (c) to evaluate the quality and availability of AIDS services in the territory.

The membership of the ASDC is at Appendix A. The Committee has met three times last year as follows: -

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. (11 th meeting) | 3 December 1996 |
| 2. (12 th meeting) | 10 March 1997 |
| 3. (13 th meeting) | 13 June 1997 |

A Review of Services Provided to People with HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong

The ASDC submitted its first review report in July 1994. The report summarized all the accomplishments and constraints of the current system of service provision. It then propounded

some basic principles which should be adopted in the planning and delivery of services and came up with 21 specific recommendations (see annual report 93/94) on future development.

In addressing the issues raised in the review, a Clinical AIDS Services Co-ordination Group, an Evaluation Working Group and an Editorial Board for compiling a manual for social welfare personnel were formed. With the appointment of the third term of office of ACA, ASDC has continued to evaluate the various service programme operated by Government & NGOs in Hong Kong.

Liaison with Service Providers

In an effort to enhance co-ordination with service providers, a Clinical AIDS Service Co-ordination Group was set up in 1994 comprising representations of private hospitals, Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Dental Association, Hong Kong Medical Association, Hong Kong College of Nursing and the Department of Health. Beginning from the third term of ACA, the group has become amalgamated with the main committee. ASDC has continued to maintain close contacts with the various institutions through correspondence.

Hospice Services

The needs of people with HIV/AIDS for hospice services have been a subject of concern in the community. Following meetings held by the Committee and other organizations, the Hospital Authority undertook to develop pilot hospice services for people with HIV/AIDS. A home/hospice care team was also formed by the Society for AIDS Care. As at June 1997, there are already two hospices which could provide services to HIV/AIDS patients, including the hospice in the Haven of Hope Hospital run by the Hospital

Authority, as well as “The Lookout” run by the Society of AIDS Care. In order to give members an opportunity to personally observe the progress, a day-tour was arranged for members to visit the two hospices on 17 March, 1997. Effectiveness and service needs are the major concern of committee members. It is envisaged that other hospitals under the Hospital Authority would soon be joining the hospice services for AIDS patients once the demands indicate that more such services are required.

Kowloon Bay Primary Health Care Centre

The Committee noted the Department of Health’s intention of setting up an integrated day treatment centre for sexually transmitted diseases (STD), skin diseases and HIV/AIDS patients. This integrated day treatment centre will be accommodated in the Kowloon Bay Primary Health Care Centre. In view of objection raised by some residents of the nearby Richland Gardens, the Committee felt that it was necessary to issue a statement, in the form a press release, to support the Government’s plan for enhancing provision and accessibility of service to people living with HIV/AIDS and to integrate AIDS service into other health programmes in Hong Kong. The Committee also expressed concern that objections might result in unnecessary delay in the provision of services planned for people living with HIV/AIDS and those with other health needs. Lastly, the Committee noted the progress made by Hospital Authority and the community in planning for the provision of hospice care to people living with HIV/AIDS, and it undertook to review the progress from time to time.

Disability Discrimination Ordinance and the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)

The *Disability Discrimination Ordinance* (DDO) was passed by the Legislative Council on 3 August 1995. The Ordinance provides cover for everyone in Hong Kong against discrimination based on disability. HIV/AIDS has been specifically mentioned in the Ordinance as one form of disability.

Pursuant to the passing of the *Disability Discrimination Ordinance*, the government has endorsed the formation of the *Equal Opportunities Commission* whose main function is to execute the provisions of the Ordinance. Ever since the Commission was in function, the ASDC had invited their representative to attend the meeting with a view of formulating co-operative projects. Recently, a draft leaflet of the DDO in relation to people with HIV/AIDS was tabled in the meeting held in June 1997 for members’ discussion. Subject to some amendments, it is expected that the leaflet will be published as a part of the “Good Management Practice series”, in both Chinese and English, and will be distributed to the public, and private organizations by the EOC. This will give clearer directives on protection on persons against discrimination even though they are infected with HIV/AIDS.

Appendix A : Membership Lists

Advisory Council on AIDS

(Third Term: August 1996 – July 1999)

Chairman :

Dr. LAM Kui-shing, Conrad, JP

Vice-Chairman:

Dr. Margaret CHAN, JP

Members :

Ms. Carlye TSUI, JP

Prof. M H NG

Dr. Patrick LI

Dr. Homer TSO, JP

Dr. Lawrence LAI, JP

Mrs. Pamela CHAN, JP

Mr. Walter CHAN, JP

Sister Maureen McGINLEY

Mr. S M TSUI

(up to March 97)

Mr. K C NG

(from April 97)

Mrs. Leslie HUNG

(up to June 97)

Mrs Diana WONG IP Wai-ping

Mrs. Eliza LEUNG

(from June 97)

Dr. Richard TAN

Prof. C N CHEN, JP

Mrs. Doris HO

(up to April 97)

Mr. Gregory LEUNG

(from April 97)

Mr. Patrick MAULE

Mr. Y F HUI, JP

Prof. Y L LAU

Fr. A J DEIGNAN

(resigned in March 97)

Secretary :

Dr. S S LEE

Council Secretariat:

Mr. YAU Sin-ying

(up to February 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from April 97)

Miss Teresa TO

(up to March 97)

Miss Elaine SIT

(from March 97)

Miss Windy LAU

Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS [CEPAIDS]

Chairman:

ACA Member: Ms. Carlye TSUI, JP

Members:

<i>ACA Members:</i>	Mr. Patrick MAULE Mrs. Diana WONG IP Wai-ping
<i>Health & Welfare Bureau:</i>	Mrs. Maureen CHAN
<i>Department of Health:</i>	Dr. Constance CHAN Dr. S S LEE
<i>Social Welfare Department:</i>	Mr. FUNG Man-lok
<i>Education Department:</i>	Mr. HO Chung-nin
<i>Hospital Authority:</i>	Dr. Lawrence LAI, JP
<i>Information Services Department:</i>	Mrs. June TONG (up to February 97) Ms. Eva TSANG (from February 97)
<i>CUHK Centre for Clinical Trials and Epidemiological Research:</i>	Dr. Joseph LAU
<i>Representative of the HK Haemophilia Association:</i>	Mr. TSE Wang-lap
<i>HK AIDS Foundation:</i>	Ms. O C LIN (up to February 97) Mr. William KAM (from February 97)
<i>HK Council of Social Service:</i>	Mr. Tony S F PANG
<i>HK Memorial Quilt Project:</i>	Ms. Janie ROWE
<i>HK Sex Education Association:</i>	Mr. LI Man-chiu
<i>HK Information & Drop-In Centre:</i>	Ms. Elijah FUNG
<i>Society for AIDS Care:</i>	Miss Xanthe WONG

Teen AIDS:

Mrs. Atty LAI

Action for Reach Out:

Sister Ann GRAY

AIDS Concern:

Ms. Bella LUK

Co-opted Members:

Mr. CHEUNG Che-kwok

Dr. James CH' IEN

Rev. CHU Yiu-ming

Fr. A J DEIGNAN

(resigned in March 97)

Mr. Billy C O HO

Ms. Emily MOK

Ms. YAU Yuk-lan

(from February 97)

Secretaries:

Department of Health:

Mr. YAU Sin-ying

(up to February 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from April 97)

Dr. Thomas CHUNG

(up to June 97)

Dr. Teresa CHOI

(from July 97)

**Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee
(of CEPAIDS)**

Co-conveners:

CEPAIDS Chairman: Ms. Carlye TSUI, JP
CEPAIDS Member: Dr. Joseph LAU

Members :

CEPAIDS Member: Mr. CHEUNG Che-kwok
Department of Health Dr. S S LEE
Dr. Thomas CHUNG
(up to June 97)
Dr. Teresa CHOI
(from July 97)

Secretary:

Department of Health: Mr. YAU Sin-ying
(up to February 97)
Mr. John YIP
(from April 97)

**Task Force on Youth
(of CEPAIDS)**

Convener:

CEPAIDS Member : Mr. Billy C O HO

Members:

CEPAIDS Member: Miss YAU Yuk-lan

Department of Health:

(from February 97)

Mr. YAU Sin-ying

(up to February 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from April 97)

Dr. Thomas CHUNG

(up to June 97)

Dr. Teresa CHOI

(from July 97)

Miss Clara CHAN

(up to February 97)

Miss Anita CHU

(from October 96)

Social Welfare Department:

Mr. CHAN Ping-wa

(up to February 97)

Miss MOK Yuen-ngar, Monica

(from April 97)

HK Children & Youth Services:

Mr. MA Yun-kwong

HK Council of Social Service:

Miss Yan CHAN

HKYWCA:

Mr. YUEN Wai-sum

Salvation Army:

Miss Wendy WU

Teen AIDS:

Mrs. Atty LAI

Caritas - HK:

Mr. KO Chun-wa

Chinese YMCA of HK:

Mr. Roger CHAN

Co-opt Member:

Mr. CHAN Chiu-kwong

Secretary:

Department of Health:

Mr. S Y MAK

**Task Force on School AIDS Education
(of CEPAIDS)**

Convener :

CEPAIDS Member: Mrs. Atty LAI

Members:

ACA/CEPAIDS Member: Mrs. Diana WONG IP Wai-ying

Department of Health: Dr. S S LEE

Dr. Thomas CHUNG
(up to June 97)

Dr. Teresa CHOI
(from July 97)

Ms. Victoria KWONG

Ms. Anita CHU
(from January 97)

Education Department: Mr. HO Chung-nin

Chinese University of Hong Kong: Mrs. Pauline KAN

HK Institute of Education: Ms.. Carole TANG

HK Professional Teacher's Union: Mr. CHAN Hon-sum

HK Sex Education Association: Mr. LI Man-chiu

HK Technical College: Ms. Donna LO

Mr. Martin YEUNG

Teen AIDS: Mr. Terence CHANG

Tseung Kwan O Government Secondary School: Mrs. Gloria YU WAN Oi-man

Vocational Training Council: Mrs. Rhoda WONG

Secretary:

Education Department: Mr. Tony T K HUI

**Task Force on Drugs and AIDS
(of CEPAIDS)**

Convener:

CEPAIDS Member: Dr. James CH' IEN

Members:

Community Drug Advisory Committee: Mr. Joe PIANPIANO

Finnish Missionary Society: Mr. Paul TSANG

Government Secretariat, Narcotics Division: Mr. Kenneth NG

HK Council of Social Service: Mr. Augus LAM

Medicins Sans Frontier: Mr. Thierry TAXEZUX

(up to July 97)

Ms. Gilla NEMSAYECHI

(up to July 97)

Mr. John BRINDLE

(from July 97)

Dr. Paula CALLAHAN

(from July 97)

Pui Hon Self-Help Association: Mr. LEUNG Ping-shing

SARDA: Miss Cherry LEE

Dr C Y SAM

St. Stephen's Society Hang Fook Camp: Mr. Timothy KWAN

The Society for the Rehabilitation of Mr. FUNG Cheung-tim

Offenders, HK:

Wu Oi Christian Centre: Mr. CHAN Shun-chi, Peter

Mr. LEE Fai-ping

Correctional Services Department: Dr. TU Chie-tsing

Department of Health: Miss Florence YIU

(up to May 97)

Ms. CHENG So-kwan

(from June 97)

Dr. K H WONG

Miss Amelia LAU

(up to October 96)

Miss Jennifer AU

(from October 96)

Mr. S Y MAK

(up to July 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from July 97)

Dr. S S LEE

Mr. Y W MAK

Secretary:

Department of Health:

Miss Selina WONG

**Task Force on Media and Publicity
(of CEPAIDS)**

Convener:

CEPAIDS Member:

Mr. CHEUNG Che-kwok

Members:

Department of Health:

Dr. S S LEE

Dr. Thomas CHUNG

(up to June 97)

Dr. Teresa CHOI

(from July 97)

Ms. Victoria KWONG

Mr. YAU Sin-ying

Government Information Services:

(up to February 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from April 97)

Mrs. June TONG

(up to February 97)

Ms. Eva TSANG

(from February 97)

Ms. Diana KAM

(from July 97)

Mr. Edwin HUNG

(from July 97)

Miss Michelle LIU

(from March-July 97)

Ms. May CHEUNG

(up to March 97)

Secretary:

Government Information Services:

Miss Kitty LEUNG

(up to July 97)

Miss Michelle LIU

(from July 97)

Scientific Committee on AIDS (SCA)

Chairman:

ACA Member: Professor M H NG

Vice-Chairman:

ACA Member: Professor Y L LAU

Members:

ACA Members : Dr. Patrick LI
Dr. Homer TSO, JP

Chinese University of Hong Kong: Professor C N CHEN, JP
Professor S H LEE, JP

HK Dental Association: Dr. Nancy B S CHAN

HK Medical Association: Dr. C F LAI

HK Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service: Dr. LIN Che-kit

Queen Elizabeth Hospital: Dr. Dominic TSANG

Queen Mary Hospital: Miss Patricia CHING
Dr. Brian JONES

SARDA: Dr. J B HOLLINRAKE

The Family Planning Association of HK: Dr. Susan FAN

The Society for AIDS Care: Dr. Emma Bowen SIMPKINS

Correctional Services Department: Dr. C T TU

Department of Health: Dr. K M KAM
Dr. S S LEE
Dr. W L LIM, JP
Dr. K K LO
Dr. TAM Cheuk-ming

Advisers:

UC Berkeley:

Professor James CHIN

Hong Kong University:

Professor S L WONG

Secretaries:

Department of Health:

Dr. K H WONG

Mr. YAU Sin-ying

(up to February 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from April 97)

**AIDS Services Development Committee
(ASDC)**

Chairman:

ACA Member: Dr. Homer TSO, JP

Members:

ACA Members: Sister Maureen McGINLEY

Dr. Richard TANG

Health & Welfare Bureau: Mrs. Maureen CHAN

Department of Health: Dr. K H MAK

(up to March 97)

Dr. Y C LO

(from March 97)

Dr. S S LEE

Social Welfare Department: Miss Ann HON

Equal Opportunities Commission: Mr. Frederick TONG

Hospital Authority: Dr. Lawrence LAI, JP

HK AIDS Foundation: Ms. O CLIN

(up to June 97)

Ms. Rene KO

(from June 97)

HK Council of Social Service: Mr. Tony S F PANG

Representative of HK Haemophilia Association: Mr. TSE Wang-lap

AIDS Concern: Mr. Graham SMITH

Caritas – HK: Mr. KO Chun-wa

Co-opt Members: The Hon Liu Sing-lee

Mr. Andrew LO

Mr. MAK Hoi-wah

Dr. Patrick WONG

Mr. Vicent YEUNG

Secretaries:

Department of Health:

Mr YAU Sin-ying

(up to February 97)

Mr. John YIP

(from April 97

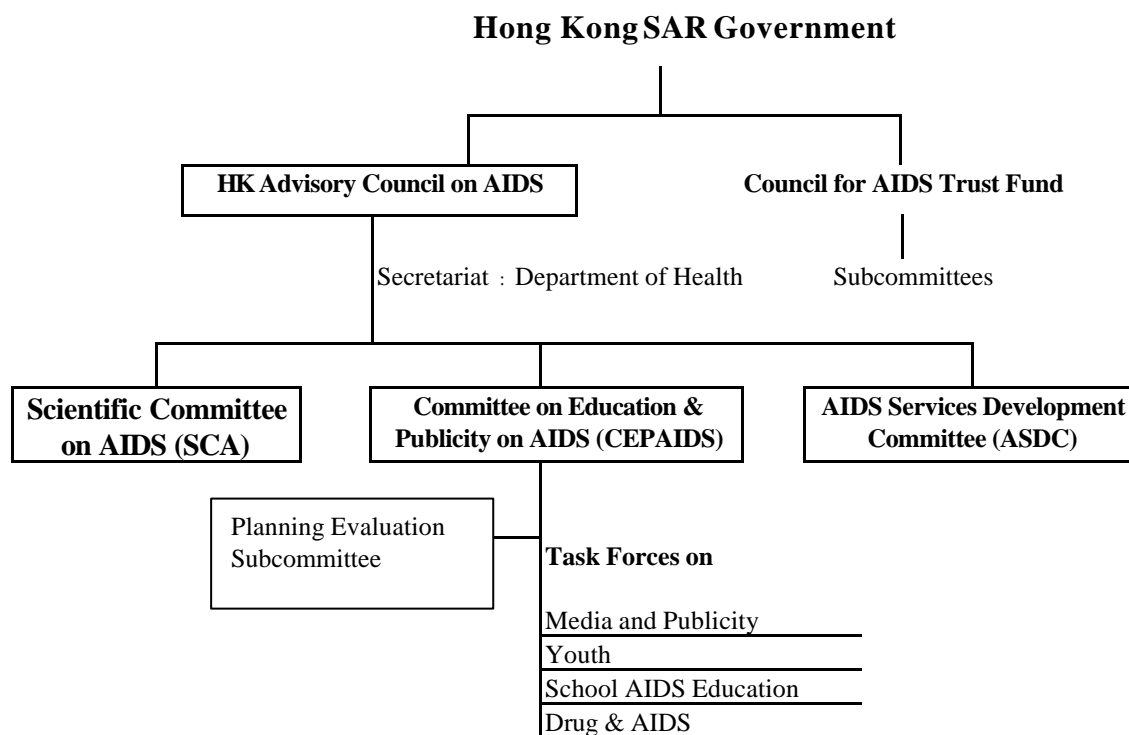
Dr. Thomas CHUNG

(up to June 97)

Dr. Teresa CHOI

(from July 97)

Appendix B. Organizational Structure of Hong Kong's AIDS Programme



Operational government departments
and public organizations
(major ones):

Department of Health
Information Services Department
Education Department
[Hospital Authority]
Social Welfare Department
Correctional Services Department

Non-governmental organizations:
(on AIDS):

Hong Kong AIDS Foundation
AIDS Concern
AIDS Memorial Quilt Project
Society for AIDS Care
HIV Information & Drop-in Centre
TeenAIDS
AIDS Project, HK Council of Social Services
Action for REACH OUT

ACA Secretariat

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