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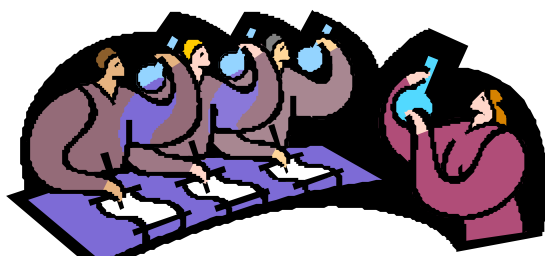
Web site: <http://www.aca-hk.com>

**The Third Conference on HIV/AIDS
International Cooperation Projects in China**

Prof CHEN Char-nie, JP, the newly appointed Chairman of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS, will attend the Third Conference on HIV/AIDS International Cooperation Projects in China (第三屆中國愛滋病防治國際合作項目經驗交流會會議) to be held from 3 to 4 September 2005 at Kunming, Yunna.

The Conference is organized by the National Center for AIDS/STI Control and Prevention of the Chinese Center for Diseases Control and Prevention.

The theme of the Conference will focus on the sharing of experiences by government and non-government agencies in HIV/AIDS projects in China.



*The first ACA meeting in its 6th term will be held on **7 October 2005 (Friday)** at 2:30pm at the DH Conference Room, 21/F Wu Chung House, Wan Chai. This will be the 52nd meeting since its inception in 1990.*



ACA in its 6th Term

The Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS held a reception gathering on the Saturday afternoon on 27 August 2005 at the Red Ribbon Centre. The purpose of the gathering was to

allow ACA members, old and new, to know each other in a leisurely setting and to get basic information about HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong and the operation of the ACA.



Research Corner



Patterns of health care utilization and health behaviors among street sex workers in Hong Kong.
[Wong WC](#), [Gray SA](#), [Ling DC](#), [Holroyd EA](#). *Health Policy*. 2005 May 24; [Epub ahead of print]

Dr. Wong WC, et al of the Department of Community and Family Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong conducted a community outreach study between October 2003 and February 2004 on the current health service use and their beliefs of 89 street female sex workers (FSW) recruited by direct approach and snowballing in Hong Kong. The study subjects underwent a 30 minute face-to-face interview, followed by a focus group discussion for selected clients. Dr. Wong found that while these FSWs' perception of personal health was good, a

considerable proportion suffered from illnesses but the consultation rate was a third of the mean rate of the general population in Hong Kong. Many street workers experienced difficulty in utilizing health service in Hong Kong and even when they did, it was mainly for acute problems. Affordable access to health public services was excluded and many found private services unaffordable due to the high price charged by the practitioners. It was common for these women to self-medicate, delay in seeking medical help, or travel back to China for treatment. The

authors concluded that to reduce sexually transmitted infections and HIV among the street sex workers, it is essential to address the fundamental issue of health care access.

