



## Editorial Board

Executive Editor: Mrs Ellen LAU, ACA Secretariat

**AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211**



**Congratulations** to **Dr FAN Yun-sun, Susan**, ACA Chairperson on her appointment as a Justice of the Peace, and **Miss LAU Man-man, Lisa, MH, JP**, ACA Member on her award of the Bronze Bauhinia Star.

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## Public consultation on draft of Recommended Guidelines for HIV Infection and Health Care Workers

On 17 June 2013, the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) launched a public consultation on the draft of HIV Infection and Health Care Workers - Recommended Guidelines (the Guidelines). The consultation will last for three months until 16 September 2013.

The draft Guidelines have been uploaded to the ACA website ([www.aca.gov.hk](http://www.aca.gov.hk)). The current 2003 Guidelines are also available on the website - ([www.aca.gov.hk/english/archives/archives\\_strategy.html](http://www.aca.gov.hk/english/archives/archives_strategy.html)).

Views and comments may be sent to the ACA by post (address: 3/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic, 200 Junction Road East, Wang Tau Hom, Kowloon), by fax (2337 0897), or via e-mail ([aca@dh.gov.hk](mailto:aca@dh.gov.hk)) on or before 16 September 2013.

## A Summary of the 82nd ACA Meeting held on 12 April 2013

### Public health response to MSM HIV epidemic in Hong Kong

The HIV situation in Hong Kong was still predominated by sexual transmission in the past few years, with MSM including homosexual and bisexual contact in men as the commonest routes. The MSM figures reported to DH rose from 68 cases (25%) in 2004 to 254 (49.5%) in 2012 among all newly reported cases in the same year. ACA also identified MSM as the top priority population for targeted HIV prevention in its last and current Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies. Members were briefed on the current response to the HIV epidemic among MSM which could be broadly categorized as follows –

- ✧ gaining policy support;
- ✧ securing resources;
- ✧ concerted prevention, care and control efforts; and
- ✧ collaboration with overseas and regional counterparts.

It was noticed that despite the various moderate and soft messages on HIV prevention disseminated in the past few years, the number of new MSM continued to rise. Alternative stronger approaches might be worth reconsideration to warn the public of the possible serious consequences of unprotected sex including HIV infection. Moreover, MSM should be reminded of the rising trend of HIV infection among their community which was the current epidemiologic situation.

In controlling infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS, Hong Kong had all along taken reference of the recommendations of World Health Organization. While treatment of HIV infection could reduce the risk of onward transmission, the practice of safer sex in particular using condom effectively prevent HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Under the current programme, partner referral was in place together with HIV management, and doctors were encouraged to report any infection to DH through the existing reporting system.

### Report of the Community Forum on AIDS

Members were briefed on the major discussion of the 28th CFA Meeting held on 14 March 2013 (and a summary of this CFA Meeting was given in the ACA Newsfile issued in May 2013).

## Self HIV test and its relevance to Hong Kong

Members agreed that relevant information should be made readily available to those who intended to use self HIV testing, while there was at present no legal restriction on sale of test kits in Hong Kong. Both the English and Chinese version of the relevant information (including potential false negatives and positives, the concept of window period, need of linkage to care once positive and ways to prevent HIV transmission) had been prepared and uploaded to the websites of DH on HIV/AIDS (included in the update of HIV testing and counseling). The information had also been shared with NGO stakeholders.

## Review of HIV situation in Hong Kong as of 2012

Members were presented the updates of the HIV/AIDS statistics in Hong Kong gauged from the voluntary reporting system. There were 513 HIV cases and 86 AIDS cases newly reported in 2012. Cumulatively, DH had received 5,783 HIV reports and 1,353 AIDS cases as of 2012. While MSM infections stayed high, heterosexual male infections had been stable and female infections appeared to have some increase over time.

## 83rd ACA Meeting

Date : 26 July 2013 (Friday)  
Time : 2:30 pm  
Venue : Conference Room, Department of Health, 21/F, Wu Chung House  
213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

### Three main items on the Agenda

- ✧ Baseline study on life-skills based HIV education in secondary schools
- ✧ Population viral load to enhance HIV surveillance in Hong Kong
- ✧ Report on the National HIV/AIDS and STI Programme Managers 2013 Meeting for Asian Countries in the Western Pacific Region

## CHALLENGES OF HIV / AIDS PREVENTION, CARE & TREATMENT IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

A Public Lecture by :

**Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi**  
Recipient of Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2008



**24 JULY**  
**2013**

**13:15**

Lecture Theatre 1  
Cheung Kung Hai Conference Centre  
William MW Mong Block  
21 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong



**REGISTRATION:**  
<http://hkuems1.hku.hk/hkuems/hkuevent.aspx?guest=Y&service=24110>.

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**CME /CNE ACCREDITATION:**  
In progress.



香港大學 - 巴斯德研究中心  
HKU-Pasteur Research Pole



Jointly organized by HKU-Pasteur Research Pole, HKU AIDS Institute and the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS. Registration is on a first-come first-served basis.