

# ACA NEWSFILE

(Publication of the Advisory Council on AIDS, Hong Kong)

**Editor:** Dr S S Lee, ACA Secretary

**Vol 4, no.5-- May 1997**

## **.Calendar.**

**XIIIth Meeting of the  
AIDS Services  
Development  
Committee (ASDC)**  
2:30pm 2 June 1997

**XIth Meeting of the  
Scientific Committee  
on AIDS (SCA)**  
to be announced

**XXIInd Meeting of the  
Advisory Council on  
AIDS (ACA)**  
2:30pm 11 July 1997

**XXVth Meeting of the  
Committee on  
Education and Publicity  
on AIDS (CEPAIDS)**  
5:30pm 30 May 1997

## The XXI Meeting

THE twenty-first meeting of the Advisory Council on AIDS was held on 11 April. The plan of reviewing the AIDS prevention, care and control programmes in Hong Kong was critically examined. Members generally considered it timely to evaluate our past and current activities with a view of working out the direction for the future, both for the Council as well as for the entire programme now contributed by the Government and the community.

The meeting also reviewed the subject of condom as a means of preventing HIV transmission, in contexts of its access and standard. Finally, the publicity and education plan for the coming year was raised and discussed. ]

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**Expo '97**  
CEPAIDS  
(Committee on  
Education and  
Publicity on AIDS)

is planning an exhibition on both sex and AIDS education later this year. The purpose is to better integrate the two forms of activities in Hong Kong. The 'expo' will feature display of education resources to facilitate schools and youth workers in the design of relevant programmes in their own settings.

CEPAIDS is developing the plan in association with Hong Kong Sex Education Association. ]

## **We've moved**

**THE Secretariat of the  
Advisory Council on  
AIDS has been  
relocated to the first  
floor of Wang Tau  
Home Jockey Club  
Clinic on 15 April. The  
new telephone number  
is 23046100, and fax  
23370897. ]**

**AIDS HOTLINE 2780 2211**  
**DR SEX HOTLINE 2337 2121**

Advisory Council on AIDS Secretariat

21/F., Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong. Tel.: (852) 2961 8549

## What's New

The official opening of the *Red Ribbon Centre* is now scheduled for 30 May (late morning). Members will be receiving the invitation soon. Please do mark on your diary and watch out for the details!

### Charter

THE Hong Kong Community Charter on AIDS is launching a new round of publicity by staging an exhibition at the Central MTR station from 23 to 27 of June. Seventy-eight compaies/organisations have joined as signatories to date. The Charter is a joint project of the Department of Health and Lins Clubs International. ]

### New Staff

MR John Yip has taken over Mr Kevin Yau as the senior executive officer of Special Preventive Programme, Department of Health. He is heading the secretariat of the Advisory Council on AIDS now based at Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic. The secretariat is just next door to Red Ribbon Centre. ]

## China A I D S Network

PROFESSOR KL Zhang of *China AIDS Network* has left some applications forms with our Red Ribbon Centre. Members interested in joining the Network are asked to contact the Centre for further details. ]

## Beijing Meeting

A *Hong Kong - China AIDS meeting* will be held in Beijing from 23 to 26 of May 1997, with the participation of workers on AIDS from the two places. This is a function of a special committee co-chaired by Dr CH Leong (Hong Kong) and Dr Dai Zhi-cheng (China). Secretarial support is provided by the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation. Dr Homer Tso will be representing Advisory Council on AIDS in this coming meeting. ]

## Line of production

RED Ribbon Centre is now producing or coordinating the production of an expanding range of regular publications. These are: *AIDS Bulletin* (in Chinese) - which has become the official publication of the Centre, *Red Ribbon* (in Chinese) - a publication for people living with HIV/AIDS, *Networking Voice* of Task Force on Youth, CEPAIDS, *Hong Kong STD/AIDS Update*, and *ACA Newsfile* which you are now reading. The Centre has just released a mini-poster carrying the theme of safer sex. This is the fifth of a series on various subjects on HIV infection and AIDS for the use of community organisations. Mini-posters are produced quarterly. ]

**1** RRC  
Tel : 23046268

## Sex Education

THE Education Department has published its draft Guidelines on Sex Education Schools. The Working Group on the Review of the Guidelines is inviting comments on the documents. Limited copies (4 books, bilingual) are available to members of the Council and committees at the Red Ribbon Centre. ]

## HIV/AIDS Update

THE Department of Health announced its latest reported HIV/AIDS statistics on 21 April. In the first quarter of 1997, 45 cases of HIV infection were reported, the highest number recorded so far. Of the cumulative total of 821 HIV+ individuals, 261 have already progressed to AIDS. Sexual contact has remained the single most important route of HIV transmission. Overall, the reported ratio of hetero- versus homo-sexually acquired infection is 2:1. Fifteen percents of the newly diagnosed persons are female. Of all reported AIDS cases, Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia has been and still is the commonest AIDS defining illness.

The updated statistics will be detailed in the coming

issue of *Hong Kong STD/AIDS Update* - a quarterly surveillance report published jointly by AIDS Unit and Social Hygiene Service of the Department of Health.

Reported HIV/AIDS situation is updated by AIDS Unit on a quarterly basis. ]

### Cumulative HIV/AIDS Statistics in Hong Kong updated 31 March 1996

	<i>total</i>	<i>(AIDS)</i>
<b>Gender</b>	male	721 (241)
	female	100 (22)
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Chinese	567 (198)
	non-Chinese	252 (65)
<b>Transmission</b>	heterosexual	414 (139)
	homosexual	202 (68)
	bisexual	50 (22)
	Injecting drug use	16 (5)
	blood/bl products	66 (14)
	perinatal	4 (2)
	undetermined	69 (13)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>821 (263)</b>

Department of Health, Hong Kong

## UN Figures

In 1996, there were 3.1 million new infections globally. HIV/AIDS associated illnesses caused the death of some 1.5 million people in the year, including 350000 children. ]





