



Dinner Symposium

Saturday, 7 December 2019 • 18:00 – 19:30 • Function Room 1&2 (2/F)

Influenza Infection, Cardiac Complication, Treatment and Prevention



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Professor Ivan Fan Ngai HUNG is currently Ru Chien and Helen Lieh Endowed Professor in Health Sciences Pedagogy, Clinical Professor and Assistant Dean (Admissions), Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, and Honorary Consultant in Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong. Professor Hung is a dual specialist in Infectious Disease and Gastroenterology & Hepatology. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Bristol Medical School, England in 1996. After working in the University of Cambridge Medical School and Charing Cross Hospital, the Imperial College Medical School, London, he returned to Hong Kong in 1999 and joined the Department of Medicine, Queen Mary Hospital. He obtained his M.D. degree from HKU in 2011 and was awarded the Sir Patrick Manson Gold Medal award for best M.D. thesis. He was awarded the Richard Yu Lectureship and medal in 2016 by the Hong Kong College of Physicians. He is currently the Fellow of Royal Colleges of Physicians of London and Edinburgh.

Professor Hung has published more than 180 international peer reviewed original articles, including research articles in the Lancet, the Lancet Infectious Diseases and the Clinical Infectious Diseases. He and his team have pioneered the use of topical imiquimod before intradermal influenza vaccination, which results in protection against heterologous non-vaccine and antigenically drifted viruses. His team was also the first to prove convalescent plasma and H-IVIG reduced mortality in patients with severe influenza infection in prospective clinical trials. He is ranked as HKU Scholars in the world top 1% in 2013 and 2018.

Influenza poses a heavy burden to both global and local health services. The WHO estimated half a million death worldwide annually is secondary to influenza infection and its complication. Elderly subjects, young children and patients with chronic illness are at high risk in acquiring severe influenza infection. Recent studies have demonstrated that patients with influenza infection are at risk of developing cardiac complications. Such complications could be prevented by annual seasonal influenza vaccination. Unfortunately, in Hong Kong, influenza vaccination rate has been low among high risk patients and subjects. Therefore, strategies to improve the and expand the antigenic breadth, immunogenicity, clinical efficacy and vaccination rate will be of utmost importance.

In the treatment of influenza infection, the new endonuclease inhibitor baloxavir marboxil has proven to be a potent antiviral agent. Other adjunctive therapy including convalescent plasma, hyperimmune IVIG, clarithromycin and NSAIDs have been studied and proven to improve the clinical outcome in severe influenza infection when given with oseltamivir.

References

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7. Hung IF, Leung AY, Chu DW, et al. Prevention of acute myocardial infarction and stroke among elderly persons by dual pneumococcal and influenza vaccination: a prospective cohort study. *Clin Infect Dis* 2010;51:1007-16.