



ACMA  
AUSTRALIAN CHINESE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

澳華醫學會



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

December 2017 Edition





# AUSTRALIAN CHINESE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The Australian Chinese Medical Association (ACMA) Inc in NSW was formed on the 20th September, 1990. ACMA is also a foundation member of the Australasian Council of Chinese Medical Associations across Australia and New Zealand. Membership is open to all registered medical practitioners in Australia.

## THE AIMS OF THE ACMA ARE:

- To promote professional standards for its members
- To provide a forum for professional and social exchange amongst members
- To promote and conduct continuing medical education and research
- To respond to community issues affecting its members
- To acquire knowledge and respond to health issues affecting the Australian Chinese community
- To contribute to deserving charitable causes and organisations
- To promote mutual understanding and liaison with other medical organisations

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## SUBMISSIONS, CORRECTIONS, ENQUIRIES

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## COVER PHOTO

ACMA Career Day 1

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# PRESIDENT ADDRESS

## Christmas Reflections – Us as Doctors and ACMA

*PROF DANFORN LIM*

Christmas has different meanings to different people. For some, it is a time of warmth, family and worship. For some others, it is a time for gifts and events. For a significant few of our colleagues, it will be a time for work on the Christmas shift, and that shift can be as lonely as it is quiet, or as draining as it is busy.

It's been 2 years since I have last written the President message in 2015 after I finished the full term of 3 years of presidency in ACMA. Being a member who has been servicing in the Management committee in the last 8 years, I have witnessed a lot of changes within our own organization and the wider community and medical market circles.

Many of us will be familiar with this story, either through personal experience or anecdote: an elderly patient arrives a day or two before

Christmas. There is no clear pathology, no clear precipitant, and no one from the family to take them home. What is clear is that somebody will eventually come to bring them home after the public holiday period. I was told when I was an intern that this is "Christmas Disease". Perhaps the underlying diagnosis is not the failure of a tangible physiological system, but the deterioration of something more intangible and more precious.

That is why Christmas, for me, is a time to reflect on what we have, and how we can help those who have not. Likewise for ACMA, we have great tradition and wonderful foundation as a professional medical association. However, with the significant medical market changes in the last few years, ACMA has to find its way to survive in this tsunami

of changes. Any organization wants to survive, it is inevitable to go through constant changes. Across complex and connected issues, we must be able to challenge, inform and support our member from medical practice, business and policy to deliver change towards sustainability.

At a meeting held earlier this year amongst a few former presidents, it was decided that we need to have our management system and culture change within ACMA in order to reconcile profitability and sustainability. Thus, I have been asked to participate in the president's election for this year, within the aim to restructure the management committee and to source revenue income for ACMA to maintain its sustainability. Furthermore, with the continual medical education system change among various specialty

colleges, ACMA's original role of being an education provider has to be re-evaluated. With my other commitments within the University and the community as well as my other professional circles, I have clearly indicated that I shall remain in the president office for one 12 months' term. A succession plan is already well under its way as we speak in order to maintain good leadership transition within the management committee. Since the inception of the current management committee (MC) terms from September, management committee has set various priorities. First of all, we have streamlined several subcommittees in order to avoid duplication of work. In order to be more productive and provide greater efficiency to ensure attendance and make timely decision, MC meeting has been moved from monthly face to face format to online portal system while all MC members remain to meet face to face once a quarter. In the last 3 months, ACMA house has a major facelift. We have completed all the rubbish and furniture removal, paving of the concrete driveway, re-tiling of the toilets, fixing all the locks, building up the new

garden fences, removal of the non-safe walkway outside the house, fixing of the electricity, plus enclosure of any potential asbestos fixtures. We are now ready to rent the house out and the real estate agent has been informed and it will be on the market soon in January. This will in no doubt assist in ACMA's revenue generation so that we can have constant income to support our office operation as well as to our ACMA Charitable Trust on an ongoing basis. Douglass Hanly Moir (DHM) Pathology has been our partner for more than 2 decades and they've agreed to continue to support us in the upcoming year. Instead of having the regular Wednesday evening education meeting, DHM will support us through running of a few networking events at different places of Sydney. This will create a fantastic networking opportunity among our primary and secondary care colleagues while at the same time in a cosy situation. The frequency of Wednesday night education events will be replaced by these networking dinner activities. With my recently negotiated collaboration agreements with various private and public hospital networks, we shall

let our members aware of any forthcoming education opportunities / events being held in the hospitals or local health districts. As such, members have more choices and flexibility to choose the education topic they want. We shall also run the Sat workshop in 2018 so that our GP members can have the opportunity to fulfill their mandatory 40 Category I points CME requirement.

Despite it's only a short 3-months period, MC has been trying very hard to implement the new changes within our organization and to pave the path for all our new activities in 2018.

As Pope Francis once said in 2003, each day we all face the choice to be Good Samaritans or to be indifferent travellers passing by. Which pathway do we wish to take? May the peace of Christmas fill our hearts and strengthen us in carrying out our duties as clinicians. Merry Christmas to all of us.



# ACMA 2017 ANNUAL CHARITY DINNER

Our Charity Dinner was held on October 28th at the Grand Ballroom of the InterContinental Hotel Sydney. A hundred members and guests gathered together, networking and having fun.

ACMC Trust Fund also donated funds to the Westmead Women Institute of Research and Data collaboration (W2IRED) for supporting their research work and doctors' training.

2017-2018 President, Professor



Danform Lim announced the official start of the dinner. He particularly appreciated Douglass Hanly Moir, a working partner that has been supporting ACMA for nearly two decades.

The customer manager of Douglass Hanly Moir Pathology, Ms. Zita Dettori also made a speech to express the honour of collaborating with ACMA. She recognized the significant contribution to Australian society made by doctors from Chinese Ethnic Background.

The Entrée served was accompanied by a graceful music show performed by Affinity Live

Production, followed by the award ceremony. Prof. Danforn Lim, Dr. Michael Suen, and Dr. Seng Chai Chua awarded the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation for the following guests to showcase their ongoing support and services to ACMA and the Chinese community on health education : Mrs. Anny Chan – Director of 2CR Radio, Janey Tham and her husband Mr Randy Wu – Directors of 2AC Raio, and Dr. Suyi Chan Dr Gabriel So and A/Prof Vincent Lam. Meanwhile, Prof. Danforn Lim announced the establishment of the Urology Special Interest Group in ACMA. The members of Urology group that attended the ceremony included, Dr. Audrey Wang (Chair), A/Prof Vincent Tse, Prof Howard Lau, Dr. Dominic Lee and Dr. Raymond Ko.

The performance of the Broadway Trio brought a huge surprise for the guests and pushed the party to a climax. In the end, the President of W2IRED (Westmead Women’s Institute for Research and Data Collaboration), Dr. Seng Chai Chua made a speech and expressed their appreciation as the fundraising beneficiaries of the dinner party. Dr. Chua endeavoured AMCA’s persistence

is supporting doctors’ continued training, encouraged doctors to apply skill and technologies learnt overseas to apply in Australia.

The happiest moment was at the lucky draw session. Ms. Zita Dettori from DHM, Mr. Stuart Chan from Cutcher & Neale Accounting and Financial Services, Dr. Brian Lam from Norwest Medical Imaging Group, Ms. Linda Chen from Maxmillian Group and Mr. Steven Macarounas from The Private Practice delivered the gifts and blessings to the lucky guests respectively.

Finally, accompanied by the melodious music, guests merrily danced and brought the dinner to a successful conclusion.

***The group photo taken by President Danforn Lim, Vice Presidents Dr Michael Suen, Dr. Seng Chai Chua and Dr Audrey Wang (Chair of Urology SIG) and members, A/Prof Vincent Tse, Prof Howard Lau, Dr. Dominic Lee and Dr. Raymond Ko.***

## DEVELOPING JMO CAREERS:

# A CAREERS DAY AND INTERVIEW SESSION

### **Dr Eric Li**

- Medical Registrar, Concord Repatriation General Hospital  
Chair of DIT (Doctors in Training) Subcom

Career development for Junior Medical Officers (JMOs) undoubtedly have become increasingly competitive and complicated over the years. An increasing number of medical graduates, a trend of Curriculum Vitae (CV) inflation and a lack of training spots certainly added to the pressure faced by our JMOs. This year, the ACMA rolled out a range of initiatives to support our JMOs through this daunting process.

Our first event was "JMO and Beyond", a careers development day held at Burwood RSL in July. We were very fortunate to have many specialist speakers who were familiar with career progression in their respective field. They



**Interview Workshop**

included Dr Tony Pang (Surgery, Westmead), Dr Howard Chan (Physician, Nepean), Dr Suyin Tan (Anaesthetics, Nepean), Dr Hua Chang (ED, Westmead), Dr Catherine Wong (Paediatrics, Private), Dr Graham Lee (GP Synergy) and A/Prof Vincent Lam (Surgery, Westmead). The event was attended by around 60 JMOs. Complimenting this event was a CV advisory service, where our





ACMA Careers Day 2



ACMA Careers Day 1

specialists provided CV feedback to all our attendees prior to the event. For many, constructing their first CVs was not easy!

A follow up Interview Workshop was held in August prior to the formal interviews. This was an exclusive event to JMOs who were part of the ACMA. A/Prof Vincent Lam, Dr Tony Pang and Dr Michael Suen facilitated and provided a face to face interview training to the candidates. A simple “Why do you want to train in [specialty of choice]” was enough to get our candidates thinking hard!

A big thank you to all our speakers who made the event possible. In

addition, fellow ACMA members Dr Dominic Ku and Dr Mona Liu were immensely helpful in the organisation of the event. I would also like to thank MIGA for their sponsorship and their attendance of the event!

In 2018, we will certainly continue these events. We are looking to expand the career development program to include Research Workshops and a mentorship program. We can't wait!

# THE ACMA GYNAECOLOGICAL AND COLORECTAL CANCERS SYMPOSIUM 2017

## Dr Winnie Ling

- Chair, Education & Sponsorship Subcom

The ACMA Gynaecological and Colorectal Symposium was held on Saturday 14th October 2017 at the Douglas Hanly Moir Macquarie Park (Central) Laboratory. This event was approved for Cat 1 40 QI &CPD points by RACGP. We had 29 delegates for the full day symposium. The event was kindly sponsored by Douglas Hanly Moir Pathology. We were very honoured to have the presence for the following doctors; to present to us many key topics and address the important conditions in their areas of expertise;

- 1) Dr Marisa Martin (Ovarian cysts in younger patients),
- 2) Dr Reena Mohan (Gynaecological Cancer – Abnormal Uterine Bleeding),
- 3) Dr Jeff Chang (Bowel cancer prevention methods, types of colonic



polyps and its effects in surveillance strategies),

- 4) Dr Michael Suen (Bowel cancer treatment-updates in common preoperative work up, enhance recovery after surgery and surveillance in bowel cancer),

- 5) DHM Pathologists Dr Sophie Corbett-Burns, Dr Kambin Nejad and Dr Esther Myint

A site visit to the State of Art



Laboratory was certainly an eye-opening experience enjoyed by all attendees. The morning tea and lunch provided were also delicious. A big thank you to Miss Zita Dettori, the Client Service Manager of DHM and her team for their huge support and highly skilled coordination and planning in ensuring the smooth running of the Symposium.

Another big thank you goes out to our Senior Vice President, Dr Michael Suen and Vice President (external affairs) Dr Seng Chua for facilitating and bring together our esteemed line up of speakers for the day. 87 % of those completed the evaluation form commented that their learning objectives were entirely met and 91% said the activity was entirely relevant to their practices. What a fantastic and successful Symposium and we very look forward to another in 2018! Hope to see you there!



# EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

**Dr Winnie Ling**

– Chair, Education & Sponsorship Subcom



**ACMA Education Seminar 15th November 2017**

***“How to keep Your Practice Happy and Healthy? – A dose of  
medico-legal expectations to avoid problems later”***

The ACMA November 2017 Education Seminar was held on Wednesday 15th November 2017 at Rhodes Phoenix Restaurant. We had a fantastic number of 46 attendees! The seminar was kindly sponsored by Miga. Mr. Timothy Bowen, MIGA's Senior Solicitor (Advocacy, Claims and Education) presented us with comprehensive information on Medicare billing, prescription medication issues,

mandatory data breach obligations, advertising, doctors' health and well-being. It was very much an enjoyable and interactive evening with many questions asked and answered on the floor. Looking forward to many many more successful and similar events in the future!

# ACMA AND WESTMEAD HOSPITAL COLLABORATION

**Dr Winnie Ling** – Chair, Education & Sponsorship Subcom

ACMA is proud to announce that we will be collaborating with Westmead Hospital in 2018 for educational events. ACMA will assist Westmead Hospital to submit points and obtain approval for their Education Events for 2018. ACMA members will

be most welcome to all educational events. Please stay tuned for further updates and announcements on these events next year.

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## UROLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

**Dr Audrey Wang** – Chair of Urology SIG

The Urology Special Interest Group (SIG) was established in September this year following approval by the ACMA Management Committee. The main aim of the Urology SIG is for urology members of ACMA to formalise and contribute to the education and outreach efforts of ACMA in the field of urology. We hope to contribute to ACMA Education Seminars, hold Urology SIG meetings, participate in Chinese Community outreach and advise ACMA on matters of sub-specialty interest. Current Urology SIG members include Dr Audrey Wang, Prof Howard Lau, Prof Lewis Chan, A/Prof

Vincent Tse, Dr Raymond Ko and Dr Dominic Lee. Our inaugural Urology SIG business meeting will be held in February 2018 during the Urology Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne to plan for SIG activities for 2018.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the Management Committee for giving us this opportunity. I look forward to a fruitful year ahead!

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## ACMA HOUSE REPORT

**Dr Michael Suen** – Senior Vice President and Chair of ACMA House Subcom

In recent months, ACMA house has the opportunity to undergo an essential refurbishment to upgrade some of its structures that are almost 25 years old. These included a new driveway, repainting of the internal walls, smoke alarm installation and backyard maintenance etc. We are pleased to inform our

members all these were completed at the end of November 2017. We can now proceed to the next step as planned to rent out the ACMA house in the near future.

# NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS



**Dr Ziggy (Zeigfeld Yu-Ting) Yeh**

Dr Ziggy (Zeigfeld Yu-Ting) Yeh is a General and Colorectal Surgeon who completed his training at Westmead Hospital. He received further sub-speciality training in Acute Care/ Emergency Surgery at Nepean Hospital and Colorectal Surgery at both Nepean Hospital and prestigious Singapore General Hospital.

After completed the post-graduate fellowships, He was appointed as Surgical Superintendent in Blacktown Mt Druitt Hospital and Concord Hospital. Dr. Yeh is specialised in open and laparoscopic procedures for abdominal emergency, diverticular disease, inflammatory bowel disease and colorectal cancer. He is also experienced in treating other gastrointestinal illness, such as benign anal conditions, skin lesions, carpal tunnel syndrome, gallstone diseases and abdominal wall hernia.



**Dr Danae (Chee Zhen) Lim**

Dr Danae (Chee Zhen) Lim is a cosmetic physician based in Sydney Alexandria, with over 12 years of experience in emergency and cosmetic medicine. Dr Lim has special interests in Asian aesthetics and dermal science, and also performs a major proportion of corrective work. She is the conference planning chair of the Australasian College of Asian Aesthetics, which is the first medical training body in Australasia to focus on Asian aesthetics. Dr Lim believes in bringing out the best of each and every individual, allowing them to look the best at every stage of their lives.

**Restaurant:** Dragon Boat Restaurant 金龍閣  
**Address:** Level 2, Shop 445-451/2-10 Darling Drive,  
Harbourside Shopping Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney 2000  
**Phone:** (02) 9282 9922  
**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (農曆六月初九)  
**Time:** 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm start  
**Parking:** Harbourside Car Park at 100 Murray Street, Pyrmont  
[https://www.wilsonparking.com.au/park/2047\\_Harbourside](https://www.wilsonparking.com.au/park/2047_Harbourside)  
 Get discounted parking ticket after dinner at the restaurant  
 entitles a rate of \$15 flat

新年好

Come to enjoy the  
Great Time,  
Live Band,  
Magic Show  
and Lion Dance!



戊戌年吉祥

Good health, good luck  
and much happiness throughout the year

Happy Chinese New Year

Sponsored by  
ACMA Partner 2018:



DOUGLASS  
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PATHOLOGY  
Quality is in our DNA

RSVP by 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

Names of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Dietary restrictions Y/N: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child's Name(s) & Age: \_\_\_\_\_  seat with parents  seat with other kids  
 No preferred seating  Preferred seating with (Table of 10) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Member/spouse/family</b>	<b>\$88 each</b>	_____ Ticket(s)	<b>Amount:</b> _____
<b>Non-member</b>	<b>\$108 each</b>	_____ Ticket(s)	<b>Amount:</b> _____
<b>Kids at age of 6 or less</b>	<b>\$45 each</b>	_____ Ticket(s)	<b>Amount:</b> _____
<b>Kids at age of 7 or above</b>	<b>\$88 each</b>	_____ Ticket(s)	<b>Amount:</b> _____

**Total Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque enclosed (payable to Australian Chinese Medical Ass Inc) or charge my  Visa /  Mastercard  
 Card No \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nomination for HSC High Achiever with ATAR>99, PLEASE ALSO SEND Email to [office@acma.org.au](mailto:office@acma.org.au):  
 My Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ ATAR \_\_\_\_\_ University \_\_\_\_\_  
 Program in 2018 \_\_\_\_\_



# Faecal pathogen PCR

## Introduction

Nucleic acid testing (NAT), most commonly using polymerase chain reaction (PCR), has many advantages over traditional microbiological techniques. These include greater diagnostic sensitivity and specificity and more rapid availability of results. Molecular tests have therefore become the diagnostic tests-of-choice for many infectious diseases.

Douglass Hanly Moir Pathology (DHM) has been at the forefront in the provision of a high quality molecular diagnostic service to medical practitioners in private practice. Assays are currently available for a wide range of bacterial and viral pathogens and we are committed to the evaluation and implementation of additional molecular assays for the rapid and accurate diagnosis of infection.

Recently, DHM has introduced a range of new molecular tests which detect multiple organisms at once ('multiplex' assays) and which are Medicare rebatable. This newsletter outlines key testing developments in this area. If you have any questions, our clinical microbiologists would be delighted to discuss any of the above-mentioned assays in more detail.

Dr Ian Chambers  
Dr Miriam Paul  
Dr Michael Wehrhahn  
Ph: (02) 9855 5312

## Faecal pathogen PCR

- ▶ Multiplex PCR for 10 most prevalent enteric pathogens (new)
- ▶ *Clostridium difficile* PCR

Since January 2014, in addition to PCR for *Clostridium difficile*, a multiplex PCR for 10 additional faecal pathogens has been available through DHM. This assay includes five bacterial pathogens: *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Aeromonas* and *Yersinia* and five protozoan pathogens: *Giardia*, *Cryptosporidium*, *Entamoeba histolytica*, *Dientamoeba fragilis* and *Blastocystis hominis*. One important advantage is the more rapid time to results, particularly for the bacterial pathogens, with results expected within 24 hours rather than 48-72 hours. Also of special note is the far greater ability to detect *Dientamoeba fragilis*. This is an under-diagnosed pathogen which may cause nausea, diarrhoea, fatigue and which may be the cause of failure to thrive in some children. Until now, it has been poorly detected without the aid of a formalin preserved/SAF collection. Similarly, the faecal PCR allows the rapid differentiation of *Entamoeba histolytica* (the cause of amoebic dysentery) from the more common, morphologically identical but non-pathogenic *Entamoeba dispar*.

However, it is important to note that while PCR improves the detection of those pathogens which are targeted, it cannot detect those which are not and does not provide information on antibiotic susceptibility. It is recommended that faecal PCR is not requested on its own as conventional methods, such as microscopy and culture, will continue to have the great virtue of being able to detect the unexpected and potentially allow susceptibility testing. This should be borne in mind, particularly when investigating gastrointestinal illness in returning travellers, immigrants and the immunocompromised.

To comply with Medicare, the request must be written as faeces MCS, OCP and PCR and only one sample per 7 days will be rebatable.

## Additional molecular testing available for diagnosis of infectious diseases

### Respiratory pathogen PCR

Influenza menu expanded to include 14 more viral targets.

### Genitourinary pathogen PCR

Additional genital pathogens added to menu.

### Vesicular rash PCR

Improved testing added for diagnoses.





DOUGLASS  
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PATHOLOGY

BARRATT & SMITH  
PATHOLOGY

Quality is in our DNA

# Proudly supporting ACMA

## Quality is what doctors rely on

Douglass Hanly Moir Pathology (DHM) and Barratt & Smith Pathology (BSP) are highly respected and well-established pathology practices, serving doctors and their patients throughout NSW. Underlying everything we do is our aim to deliver a highly professional and personalised service to our referring doctors in order to provide the best possible pathology care for their patients.

The specialist pathologists at DHM and BSP offer an outstanding breadth and depth of expertise. They include specialists in all major sub-disciplines of pathology (biochemistry, haematology, immunology, molecular biology, microbiology, histopathology, cytopathology and genetics) and so are able to provide expert and up-to-date advice in all areas.

Our pathologists warmly encourage doctors to contact them if they can be of assistance in any way. They are available to discuss individual patients and to provide information or advice on ordering of tests, result interpretation, or any other aspect of pathology.

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Please do not hesitate to contact our pathologists for consultation — they welcome your call.

P: (02) 9855 5222 | E: [Pathologist@dhm.com.au](mailto:Pathologist@dhm.com.au)

[www.dhm.com.au](http://www.dhm.com.au) | [www.bsp.com.au](http://www.bsp.com.au)

