



The Hong Kong Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry

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HKAPI 45th Annual General Meeting (Click [here](#) for more photographs)

HKAPI's 45th Annual General Meeting was held on 27th March, 26 Full members and 6 Associate member companies attended the meeting. The AGM began with Dr Sian Ng, President, and Mr. Roe Shaha, Vice President delivering the President's report for 2012-2013, which gave an account of various initiatives undertaken by the Association and the results achieved in the past year.

Following the development of a strategic plan based on member survey on issues which are of high importance and urgency to member companies, key initiatives that aim to improve drug accessibility, drug safety and member communications were identified. For drug accessibility, the Association has continued to work on improving the transparency of the drug enlistment mechanism and provide our views to the DAC review initiated by the Hospital Authority (HA). With the increase in drug budget and funding to subsidized programmes such as the Samaritan Fund and Community Care Fund, the Association will continue to communicate with HA to understand the selection criteria on drugs that will be included in the safety net and subsidized.

To ensure patients in Hong Kong have expedient access to new and effective medicine, improving the efficiency of drug registration is also a key focus area for the industry. The Association has been working closely with the Drug Office and the Food and Health Bureau in ensuring there are clear guidelines on registration submission, approval criteria and reasonable evaluation timeline.

Other key initiatives that have been carried out include the on-going effort in combating counterfeit medicine through close collaborations with the Customs and Excise Department, Department of Health and various professional organizations; active participation in the discussion of various healthcare related policy and regulations such as patent system in Hong Kong, Schedule 4 of the Undesirable Medical Advertisement Ordinance (UMAO), medical beauty treatment regulations.

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Editorial Board

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Looking forward, HKAPI will continue to make positive contributions to healthcare policies and regulations in Hong Kong as well as enhancing its position as a key stakeholder in the healthcare community with the appointments of the Board members in various statutory bodies such as the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, Business Facilitation Advisory Committee.

Last but not least, the Board thanked Mr. Sunny Cheung of Servier and Dr. Grace Lau of MSD for serving the Association in the past years and all the support of our members, without which the Association would not be able to contribute to the development of the above initiatives.



Dr Sian Ng, HKAPI President, delivered the President's Report for 2012.



Mr. Roe Shahr, HKAPI Vice President, shared with members some on-going initiatives on improving drug accessibility.



Ms. Sabrina Chan, HKAPI Executive Director chaired the 45th AGM.



26 Full members attended the meeting and casting their votes.

HKAPI 44th Annual Dinner (Click [here](#) for more photographs)

The 44th Anniversary Annual Dinner of the HKAPI was held on 8th January this year. We are very honoured to have the presence of Dr. Ko Wing-man, Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, Under Secretary for Food & Health as well as many distinguished guests from the healthcare sector including legislators, officials from the health authorities, Customs and Excise, Consulates, healthcare professionals, academia and friends from patients' groups.

The Event began with the welcoming speech by Dr. Sian Ng, HKAPI President. Dr. Ng shared with the audience three types of innovations that have been carried out by the industry. On the clinical dimension, members have continued to invest in clinical trials in Hong Kong and the industry looks forward to collaborate with academic and the Government to further enhance HK's capacity as Asia's clinical research hub. In terms of innovation in process improvement, the Association has been working closely with the Drug Office and the Hospital Authority on enhancing the assessment of new drugs and enlisting drugs in the formulary through knowledge sharing. To have a sustainable healthcare system, reforms to healthcare delivery and healthcare financing will be another key area of structural changes that needs innovative measures.

Other than innovation, drug safety, patient education, combating counterfeit drugs were also the key focus areas of the pharmaceutical industry. With the trust already built up with the stakeholders in the healthcare sector, we are confident that solutions to complex healthcare issues can be worked out through continuous collaborations among all the stakeholders in the years to come.

Dr. Ko, in his address, shared with the guests the progress of various recommendations on strengthening the drug regulatory system that are made by the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products which aim to enhance the standard of drug safety. He also stressed the commitment from the Government in ensuring patients' access to innovative medicine and quality public healthcare services, for example, through injecting funding to the Samaritan Fund and public-private partnership programmes.

Mr. Roe Shahar, Vice President of HKAPI provided the vote of thanks on behalf of the Association. While the industry will continue to put in our best effort in the research and development of innovative medicines to improve patient access to quality and effective medicines, we are very glad to hear that the Government has committed 17% of the recurrent expenditure to public healthcare services and has injected substantial funding to the Samaritan Fund which provides subsidies to

patients on self-financed drugs and medical items. As in the past years, the industry will collaborate and work closely with all the stakeholders in the healthcare sector on healthcare reform initiatives and public-private partnership programmes that will further enhance the healthcare services in Hong Kong.

The rest of the evening was filled with splendid performance from our guests: Dr. Alan Ng, Mr. Anthony Wong, Dr. Henry Yeung, Professor Joyce You, guests from the Drug Office and the Hospital Authority. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Hong Kong Tourism Board for sponsoring the live band and Erhu Soloist performance, the organizing committee led by Ms. Wyeman Tan, Board of Directors as well as members' continued support which make this gala event a great success.



The Board of Directors welcomed Dr. Ko Wing-man, Secretary for Food and Health and Prof. Sophia Chan, Under Secretary for Food and Health.



Dr. Sian Ng, President of HKAPI, delivered her welcome speech.



Our Guest of Honour, Dr. Ko delivered his speech at the 44th Anniversary Annual Dinner.



Mr. Roe Shahar, Vice President of HKAPI, delivered the vote of thanks.



Dr. Cheung Wai-lun, Director (Cluster Services), Hospital Authority and colleagues from the Chief Pharmacist's Office were invited on stage.



Ms. Linda Woo, Assistant Director (Drug) and colleagues from the Department of Health were invited on stage.

2013 Policy Address and 2013-14 Budget

The first [Policy Address](#) from the new government was presented on 16th January followed by the [Budget 2013-14](#) delivered by the Financial Secretary on 27 February. Please refer to the following links for key policies proposed on the public and private healthcare services.

<http://www.policyaddress.gov.hk/2013/eng/p157.html>

<http://www.budget.gov.hk/2013/eng/budget24.html>

HA Briefing to Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Suppliers

A briefing to pharmaceutical manufacturers and suppliers was organized by the Chief Pharmacist's Office of the Hospital Authority on 26th March. The briefing provided details on the recent amendments to the tender requirements, from procurement to technical and registration requirements. Major amendments include layout of the tender document, format of submission, supply plan, patent information required, quality assurance tests were explained with illustrations and examples.

The presentation also covered the performance monitoring provisions under the Tenderer's Schedule where quality of products and availability of products attributed to the contractor or manufacturer will be monitored during the contracted term and unsatisfactory performance will affect future tender.

Briefing on Secondary Packaging

The Association has been in continuous discussion with the Drug Office and provided our views on the implementation of written order and the licensing of secondary packaging manufacturers. The Department of Health also organized a briefing to companies that are interested in applying for a secondary packaging license in January, providing details on the timetable for secondary packaging licensing.

CUHK Career Fair

The Chinese University of Hong Kong organized its 2013 Career Fair during 29 Jan – 1 Feb and invited members of the HKAPI to participate so that both undergraduate and postgraduate students can meet with potential recruiters from the pharmaceutical industry at the booth area as well as during the presentation. Four member companies including Novartis Pharmaceuticals (HK) Limited, Roche Hong Kong Limited, sanofi-aventis Hong Kong Limited, Takeda Pharmaceutical (HK) Limited joined the Career Fair. Each member introduced the background of their company and more importantly the job nature and career path for different kinds of positions such as regulatory affairs, clinical research, sales and marketing to enable students to have a better understanding of the operation of an R&D-based pharmaceutical company. Over 60 students participated in the career talk and they had the opportunity to speak to graduates who are now working for the pharmaceutical companies.



Ms. Emily Li, Novartis Pharmaceuticals (HK) Limited.



Ms. Natalie Lau, Roche Hong Kong Limited.



Mr. Simon Yung, Merck Sharp & Dohme (Asia) Ltd.



Ms. Rachel Hung, Roche Hong Kong Ltd.



Ms. Emily Li (Left) and Ms. Celine Chan, Novartis Pharmaceuticals (HK) Limited.



About 80 students attended the recruitment presentation.

PhRMA Asia Managers Annual Conference and Seminar

Ms. Sabrina Chan, Executive Director, attended the PhRMA Asia Managers Annual Conference which was held 30th Jan – 1st Feb on behalf of the Association. The focus of this year's conference is on IP protection, health technology assessment and regulatory convergence with participants sharing their views and recent developments in these areas through panel discussions, Work Group meetings and Task Force meetings.

New HKAPI Member (Jan – Mar)

HKAPI is pleased to welcome [AbbVie Limited](#), [Dechert](#), [Fleishman-Hillard Hong Kong Limited](#) and [Wyeth \(Hong Kong\) Holding Company Limited](#) who joined as Full Member and Associate Member in Jan-Mar 2013.

AbbVie Limited

AbbVie is a global, research-based biopharmaceutical company formed in 2013 following separation from Abbott. AbbVie combines the focus and passion of a leading-edge biotech with the expertise and structure of a long-established pharmaceutical leader. The company's mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to develop and market advanced therapies that address some of the world's most complex and serious diseases. AbbVie aims to help patients live healthier lives and collaborate on sustainable healthcare solutions. In 2013, AbbVie will employ approximately 21,000 people worldwide and markets medicines in more than 170 countries.

Dechert

An international law firm with 26 offices in U.S., Europe, Asia and Middle East, Dechert's life sciences group is dedicated to providing quality, cost-effective legal services to the life sciences community. We recognize the complex business, legal and regulatory issues that confront life sciences companies in all stages of growth. We know the challenges posed by the development and commercialization of a new technology in a highly competitive environment. We have dedicated our resources and experience to serving life sciences companies located nationally and internationally. We have represented companies involved in all aspects of the life sciences industry, including biotechnology, bioinformatics, drug discovery, genomics, biopharmaceutical, diagnostic and medical device companies.

Fleishman-Hillard Hong Kong Limited

Fleishman-Hillard is a global, full-service communications agency, with over 80 offices worldwide. Fleishman-Hillard has operated in Hong Kong for over 15 years and has a strong heritage in delivering integrated communication programs for healthcare clients in Hong Kong, greater China and across Asia. As a center of excellence within Fleishman-Hillard, the Hong Kong healthcare practice provides public relations, medical education, public affairs and digital services across product, corporate and internal communication initiatives.

Wyeth (Hong Kong) Holding Company Limited

Wyeth Nutrition, formerly Pfizer Nutrition, is part of Nestlé S.A. Wyeth Nutrition develops premium-quality nutritional products scientifically-designed to meet the needs of infants and young children, as well as pregnant and lactating mothers. As pioneers in infant nutritional science, our mission is to provide the best nutritional support for future healthy outcomes. For nearly a century, Wyeth Nutrition has leveraged clinical rigor, scientific research, world class manufacturing and product safety standards to drive scientifically-sound solutions that offer parents confidence, help nourish children and support their healthy futures.
