

The First Symposium on Cancer Staging and Prognostication in China

Dear Colleagues,

An accurate staging system is crucial not only for predicting prognosis, but also for guiding clinicians in treatment decision for different risk groups, evaluating the results of treatment and facilitating exchange of experience among centers. The TNM Staging System jointly adopted by American Joint Committee for Cancer Staging and End-results Reporting (AJCC) and the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) is currently the international standard on staging. Continual improvement of the system is built on critical review of published data and consensus by international experts.

Upon the invitation by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the National TNM Cancer Staging Committee of China (including Hong Kong and Macau, Special Administrative Regions) will be established under the Chinese Anti-Cancer Association. This committee will serve as an important channel for exchange between Chinese and international experts. Data from China will have valuable input particularly on cancers with exceptionally high local incidence.

With the aim to start disseminating information about TNM staging to different centers in China and promoting academic exchanges, UICC leaders deeply treasure our coming committee and earnestly hope to meet leading experts from different disciplines in China. Therefore, the Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society and the Hong Kong College of Radiologists will organize the captioned Symposium in Hong Kong on **10 September 2011**. Symposium will be conducted in English and Putonghua (please see the attached poster).

The goal of this symposium is to bring together experts comprising surgical oncologists, clinical oncologists (medical/radiation), radiologists, pathologists, and epidemiologists from different regions in China:

- To deepen our understanding of the current staging systems,
- To share knowledge on the strengths and weaknesses of the current systems,
- To identify knowledge gaps and promote collaborative research on staging and prognostication,
- To work towards global unification on staging.

In addition to academic exchanges, the symposium will serve as an excellent opportunity to meet Dr Mary Gospodarowicz (President-Elect of UICC, Co-Chair of TNM Prognostic Factors Group, Chair of TNM Process Task Force and Chair of TNM Prognostic Factors Task Force) and Dr Brian O'Sullivan (Leader and Coordinator for Advisory Group on Prognostic Factors Development).

We are most grateful to all the Chinese experts for their support and participation. Following are members of the Scientific Subcommittee:

Xishan Hao (Tianjin)	Lee Sum Ping (HK)	Zi-Hao Yu (Beijing)	Sun Yan (Beijing)
G L Jiang (Shanghai)	Anne Lee (HK)	YeXiong Li (Beijing)	Taixiang Lu (Guangzhou)
D W Ye (Shanghai)	C K Law (HK)	Jinming Yu (Shandong)	Jinyi Lang (Sichuan)
Z T Yu (Tianjin)	Hextan Ngan (HK)	Yilong Wu (Guangdong)	Jianji Pan (Fuzhou)
H Q Wang (Tianjin)	William Wei (HK)	Ning Wu (Beijing)	Ding Yu (Wuhan)
C S Hu (Shanghai)	S T Fan (HK)	Ning Lu (Beijing)	Zhimin Shao (Shanghai)
Z G Zhu (Shanghai)	Jin Gu (Beijing)	Wen-tao Fang (Shanghai)	Jihui Hao (Tianjin)
Tony Mok (HK)	Yingbo Tan (Beijing)	Jun Ma (Guangzhou)	John Chan (HK)
Anil Ahuja (HK)	X Cheng (Shanghai)	T K Yau (HK)	S F Leung (HK)
P C Tam (HK)	Judy Ho (HK)	Xiao Guangli (Macau)	

The program for the First Symposium on Cancer Staging and Prognostication in China: (See Appendix II for detail information)

Title of presentation	Speaker
Introduction of UICC – Global Initiatives and Targets	Dr. Mary GOSPODAROWICZ
UICC TNM Staging – development and overall perspectives	
Improving the UICC TNM Staging by Good Quality Evidence	Dr. Brian O’Sullivan
The Hong Kong Cancer Registry and Use of TNM staging	Dr. LAW Chun Key
Survey on Staging Systems used for Different Cancers in HK	Dr. CHEUNG Foon Yiu
Survey on Staging Systems used for Different Cancers in Mainland China	Prof. GL JIANG
Staging and Prognostication for nasopharyngeal cancer	Prof. PAN Jian-ji
Staging for Nasopharyngeal Cancer –Strength/Weakness of UICC 7 th Edition and Proposal for Future Improvement	Dr. Anne WM LEE
Staging and Prognostication for Esophageal Cancer	Dr. FANG Wen-tao
Staging and Prognostication for Gastric Cancer	Prof. ZG ZHU
Staging and Prognostication for Pancreatic Cancer	Prof. J HAO
Staging and Prognostication for Lymphoma	Prof. LI Ye-xiong
Staging and Prognostication for Lung Cancer	Prof. WU Yilong
Staging and prognostication of liver cancer- changing from UICC 5 th to the 7 th edition	Prof. FAN Sheung Tat
Staging and Prognostication for Colorectal Cancer	Prof. Jin GU
Staging and Prognostication for Breast Cancer	Dr. YAU Tsz Kok
Staging and prognostication of gynaecological malignancies	Prof. Hextan YS NGAN

In addition, a **satellite symposium** will be held in the evening of **9 September 2011** and we are exceedingly grateful to Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz and Dr. Brian O’Sullivan to give additional lectures to share with us the most updated knowledge on prostate cancer and head & neck cancer.

We earnestly hope that you will help to disseminate this information and encourage all interested colleagues to join us at the Symposium. Registration is available at: www.hkacs.org.hk. More detailed information can be obtained from Mrs. Tammy Lee, Senior Education Officer of The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society (education@hkacs.org.hk).

The conference hotel is the L’Hotel’ Island South (<http://www.lhotelislandsouth.com/eng/front>), which is a 4-star hotel within walking distance from the Symposium venue. The corporate rate booked through our Society/College is as follows:

City View Room –

HK\$550 + 10% service charge per room per night (room only)

HK\$630 + 10% service charge per room per night (room with one daily buffet breakfast)

Hill View Room –

HK\$680 + 10% service charge per room per night (room only)

HK\$760 + 10% service charge per room per night (room with one daily buffet breakfast)

We look forward to seeing you and your team in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Anne WM LEE,
Vice-Chairman, The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society