

PRESS RELEASE

Doctors' engagement in clinical research improves patient outcomes

(Hong Kong, 12 September 2025) – **A recent study reveals that public hospital doctors in Hong Kong who actively participate in clinical research achieve better patient outcomes, including lower mortality rates and fewer hospital readmissions. The findings of the research have been published in the *Hong Kong Medical Journal*.**

This pioneering Hong Kong-wide survey of frontline doctors' research performance showed that even in non-university teaching hospitals, more than 10% of clinical doctors lead original clinical research as principal investigators, contributing nearly one-third (29%) of Hong Kong's medical research output.

The study was led by the Kwong Wah Hospital Clinical Research Centre. The research team analysed various clinical studies conducted by doctors in non-university public hospitals between 2016 and 2021. The findings demonstrate that, despite their demanding workloads, public hospital doctors in Hong Kong actively engaged in medical research. Among all specialties, clinical oncology doctors were found to be the most research-productive, publishing an average of 0.56 paper per doctor. Papers from all medical specialties received citation rates above the international average in their respective fields. Also, lower hospital mortality rates were associated with higher research citation rates, suggesting that impactful research correlates with better patient survival. Similarly, patients were less likely to be readmitted within 30 days when treated by doctors whose research was more frequently cited.

The research team recommends increasing research resources and support for non-university public hospitals, which would effectively enhance overall healthcare outcomes. The findings clearly demonstrate that doctors' participation in clinical research not only advances medical knowledge but also directly improves patient treatment outcomes, including reduced mortality and readmission rates. Therefore, investing in research capabilities across Hong Kong's public hospital system will bring long-term benefits. Looking ahead, the team plans to use more precise research methods to analyse in depth the exact correlation between doctors' research activities and clinical outcomes.

The article "The scope and impact of original clinical research by Hong Kong public healthcare professionals" was published in the *Hong Kong Medical Journal*.
<https://doi.org/10.12809/hkmj2311155>

新聞稿

醫生參與臨床研究有助改善患者治療效果

（香港，2025 年 9 月 12 日） — 最近一項研究顯示，香港公立醫院醫生積極參與臨床研究與患者治療效果密切相關，不僅有助降低死亡率，亦可減少患者重返醫院治療的機會。研究結果已刊登於《香港醫學雜誌》。

這項全港首次針對前線醫生研究參與情況的調查發現，即使在非大學教學醫院，仍有逾一成臨床醫生以主要研究員身分參與原創性臨床研究，為香港醫學界貢獻了近三分之一（29%）的研究成果。

研究由廣華醫院臨床研究中心主導。團隊分析了 2016 至 2021 年間非大學公立醫院醫生進行的各類臨床研究，結果顯示，即使工作繁重，香港公立醫院醫生仍積極投入醫學研究。研究發現臨床腫瘤科醫生研究成果最為豐富，平均每位醫生發表 0.56 篇研究論文，而各專科發表的論文引用率均高於同領域的國際平均水平。此外，研究亦發現醫院的死亡率與醫生研究成果的引用率成反比，即研究被引用愈多，死亡率愈低。同樣地，研究引用率愈高，患者 30 日內重返醫院的比率亦愈低。

研究團隊建議增加非大學公立醫院的研究資源與支援，以提升整體醫療效果。研究結果清晰顯示，醫生參與臨床研究不僅促進醫學進步，更直接改善患者治療成效，包括降低死亡率及減低再入院率。因此，在全港公立醫院系統投資發展研究能力將帶來長遠效益。展望未來，研究團隊計劃採用更精確的研究方法，深入分析醫生研究活動與臨床成效之間的確切關聯。

詳細內容可參閱原文《香港公共醫療專業人員原創臨床研究的範圍和影響》。

###

Source: Peter YM Woo, Desiree KK Wong, Queenie HW Wong, et al. The scope and impact of original clinical research by Hong Kong public healthcare professionals. Hong Kong Med J 2025;31:Epub 12 Sep 2025. <https://doi.org/10.12809/hkmj2311155>.

Follow us:

