

Inaugural message from the President of the Hong Kong Medical Association

On behalf of the Hong Kong Medical Association, I wish to congratulate the editorial board of the *Hong Kong Medical Journal* in publishing this first issue.

As this journal is jointly published by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and the Hong Kong Medical Association, and is a continuation of the *Journal of the Hong Kong Medical Association*, it is apt to put on record the development history of this journal.

For the past 46 years, the Hong Kong Medical Association has supported the publication of its own medical journal in Hong Kong. In 1948, the then Hong Kong Chinese Medical Association commenced annual publication of the *Bulletin of the Hong Kong Chinese Medical Association* to enable doctors in Hong Kong to record their local experiences in medical practice and services. When the Hong Kong Chinese Medical Association became the Hong Kong Medical Association in 1970, the name of the

journal was also changed to the *Bulletin of the Hong Kong Medical Association*.

As more and more of the contributed articles contained original research, a major change to the journal format and editorial policy was introduced in 1985. The name of the publication was then changed to the *Journal of the Hong Kong Medical Association*. Since then, the journal has been published quarterly.

When the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine was established, it was obvious that publication of a journal was a major function. To avoid duplication of effort, the council of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and the Hong Kong Medical Association decided to jointly publish the *Hong Kong Medical Journal*, with input from both organisations. I am confident that under the able editorship of Professor Joseph CK Lee and Dr YL Yu, this journal will further develop and gain international recognition.

KH Lee
President
The Hong Kong Medical Association