

# Editorial

(Vol.8 No.5 --- July 2003)

## **A Bunch of "Chap - Shui"**

- Can we have a meeting to let different groups of health care workers to express their view and experience in this combat against SARS? The FMSHK has done that in its recent Scientific Meeting. The Meeting was held just less than 2 days before Hong Kong was declared SARS-free by the WHO - a near perfect timing. The fact that most audiences had stayed till the end of an overrun meeting to 7 o'clock in the evening reflects how valuable the meeting was. I have summarized the talks here for those who have not come. Of course I can not reproduce at all the glamour of the presenters and the high standard intellectual interaction that had taken place but this is the best that I can do. Please also be reminded that the speakers had not been given chances to proof-read the summaries because the editorial deadline of this issue was just a couple of days after the meeting. I instead of the speakers should be held responsible for any mistake made.
- Dr. David Heymann, the WHO Executive Director on Communicable Diseases described the Hong Kong's final success "a very significant achievement". He also said that Hong Kong with its dense population and fluid border with China had one of the hardest outbreak to control.
- On June 23rd, there were:
  - 1755 case in total (329 from Amoy Gardens)
  - 296 deaths (42 from Amoy)
  - 28 still in hospitals (11 in ICU)
  - billions of financial loss
  - 8.3% unemployment
  - a lot of grievances (against what /whom ?)
  - more respect for the health care workers (but for how long ?)
  - numerous questions on how to rebuild our society
- I am fed up with this SARS and I want to take a break. Aren't you ?!

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