

AIDS CONCERN CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF FIGHTING HIV IN HK



HIV Virtual Conference 2020: **ENDING HIV BY 2030** ARE YOU READY?

20th November 2020



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HIV

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To look at how Hong Kong can cut new HIV infection rates AIDS Concern is holding our 30th anniversary conference Ending HIV by 2030 - Are you ready?’

In view of Covid-19, the conference will be held virtually on 20th November 2020. In this conference, we are happy to bring different local and overseas speakers to share their experience in HIV infection control and HIV social enterprise development, as well as local evidence on PrEP, HIV self-testing and sexuality education.

Up to June 2020, there have been 10,550 cumulatively reported HIV infections in Hong Kong. 2015 was the last peak of cases with 725 HIV infections reported that year. In 2019 there were 565 new HIV infections reported which is a drop of 22% compared to 2015. However, HIV remains a threat to the health and lives of people in Hong Kong. Ms Bonnie Wong will update the conference on the current HIV situation.

In some places like Taiwan and London, HIV infection rates have been falling by an even bigger margin with many different methods of HIV prevention implemented. In Taiwan, the number of new HIV infections dropped from 2511 to 1755 between 2017 and 2019, a 30% decrease. Taiwan has driven up HIV diagnoses rates and started to introduce PrEP medication. Nearly 1500 people have joined the trials. Some HIV clinics in London have seen a drop of 80% in new HIV cases and say that it is caused by a mixture of PrEP, HIV testing and treatment as prevention.

AIDS Concern will make use of the conference to learn from other places on HIV prevention to support the ambition to end HIV by 2030. Dr. Benny Huang from Taiwan and Mr. Alex Sparrowhawk from the U.K. will explain the evidence from their countries about why infection rates are falling.

We are also delighted that Mr. James Chau the international broadcaster will give his reflections at this conference on AIDS in the era of Covid-19.

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About AIDS Concern

AIDS CONCERN was established in 1990 as the first non-government charity organisation committed to the service of AIDS care in Hong Kong. Our vision is to create 'TRIPLE ZERO' Hong Kong. This means ZERO new HIV infections, ZERO stigma for people living with HIV and ZERO AIDS deaths. AIDS Concern will lead social change by individuals, organisations and society to achieve TRIPLE ZERO, to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and eliminate stigma for people living with HIV.



30th anniversary of AIDS Concern

AIDS Concern was founded on 1st December 1990 as the first HIV NGO in Hong Kong. Over 30 years we have been working to prevent new infections and support people affected by HIV. We would like to show our gratitude to everyone who has worked with us and continues to do so.

Scan to know more about AIDS Concern



Time	Programmes
09:00-09:30	Registered participants login to the conference
09:30-09:35	Opening Speech ■ Mr. Andrew Chidgey Chief Executive, AIDS Concern, Hong Kong
09:35-09:50	Presentation 1: Current HIV/AIDS Situation in Hong Kong ■ Dr. Bonnie Wong Chun Kwan Senior Medical & Health Officer (Special Preventive Programme), Department of Health, Hong Kong
09:50-10:10	Presentation 2: Insights from Local PrEP Studies ■ Prof. Grace Lui Chung Yan Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
10:10-10:30	Presentation 3: PrEP Study in AIDS Concern ■ Mr. KB Lee Kai Lung Programme Manager, Men who Have Sex with Men Team (MSM), AIDS Concern, Hong Kong
10:30-10:45	Q&A
10:45-11:15	Break
11:15-11:35	Presentation 4: An Update on the Taiwan HIV Epidemic and Innovations in the Prevention Response ■ Dr. Benny Huang Shih Tse Chief, Division of Infection Control, National Yang-Ming University Hospital, Taiwan
11:35-11:45	Q&A
11:45-12:05	Presentation 5: A Feasibility Study of Using Web-based Ordering and Result Upload to Support HIV Self-testing among Men who Have Sex with Men in Hong Kong ■ Dr. Alfred Sit Yao Wai Medical and Health Officer (Special Preventive Programme), Department of Health, Hong Kong
12:05-12:25	Presentation 6: HIV Self-testing Report in AIDS Concern ■ Ms. Charmaine Chan Shuk Ming Programme Manager, HIV Testing & Counselling Team, AIDS Concern, Hong Kong
12:25-12:35	Q&A
12:35-13:55	Lunch
13:55-14:15	Presentation 7: Social Enterprise- A Path of Sustainability for Social Impact Creators ■ Mr. Doan Thanh Tung Executive Director, Lighthouse Social Enterprise, Vietnam
14:15-14:35	Presentation 8: How NGOs Can Help to End HIV by 2030 Using a Social Enterprise Approach for Social Impact Creators ■ Mr. Andrew Chidgey Chief Executive, AIDS Concern, Hong Kong
14:35-14:45	Q&A
14:45-15:10	Presentation 9: AIDS in a Time of Covid-19 ■ Mr. James Chau International Broadcaster and World Health Organisation Goodwill Ambassador for Sustainable Development Goals and Health
15:10-15:25	Q&A
15:25-15:40	Break
15:40-16:00	Presentation 10: Sexuality Education in Hong Kong: Positive Sex Education and AIDS ■ Prof. Ng Man Lun Retired Psychiatrist, Council Member in the Family Planning Association, Hong Kong
16:00-16:10	Q&A
16:10-16:30	Presentation 11: HIV Rates Falling in London ■ Mr. Alex Sparrowhawk Programme Officer, Terrence Higgins Trust
16:30-16:40	Q&A
16:40-16:50	Closing Remarks
16:50-17:00	Evaluation by Zoom

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With a lot of research evidence showing the effectiveness of PrEP for HIV prevention, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) has been recommended by the World Health Organization. However, it is not yet available in the Hong Kong public health system, meaning that PrEP is only available in private clinics, and social enterprise services like AIDS Concern.

Pilot research has been conducted by a team at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The latest findings show no new infections among 71 men who have sexual with men receiving thirty weeks of PrEP (TDF/FTC) and regular monitoring, no matter which dosing regimen participants used. Those research results suggest PrEP is effective and AIDS Concern has invited Professor Grace Lui to give a presentation about the research. Meanwhile, AIDS Concern launched PrEP checkups in 2019 to increase the coverage of PrEP use and Mr KL Lee will give an update.



The Department of Health and many HIV NGOs are providing HIV testing to the community in Hong Kong. The Department of Health recommends people who have had unsafe sex to take an HIV antibody test early and its "HIV Prevalence and Risk behavioural Survey of MSM in Hong Kong 2017 (PRiSM)" study also encourages gay and bisexual men to do regular HIV testing.

In 2019, the Department of Health conducted a feasibility study of using web-based ordering and results upload to support HIV self-testing among MSM in Hong Kong. Focus on HIV self-testing can help to boost the testing rate in target groups. AIDS Concern has been offering HIV self-testing since April 2019, following successful pilots. In this conference Dr. Sit from the Department of Health will present about their study and Ms. Charmaine Chan from AIDS Concern will also provide our service data about self-testing.

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Social Enterprise for HIV-related services

AIDS Concern is already providing many free services to the community. However, it is tough to attract funding to grow and develop more services which can have impact on HIV. Therefore, we have launched My Place by AIDS Concern. This is a social enterprise project where the community can buy products and services which are related to HIV prevention and sexual health. We provide products and services at a reasonable price to give more choice to the community. Meanwhile in Vietnam the Lighthouse Social Enterprise is one of the first LGBTQ community led organizations which aims to improve the sexual, reproductive health and rights of LGBTQ. Mr. Andrew Chidgey from AIDS Concern will present about My Place and the Mr. Doan Tung will present about Lighthouse.



Sexuality Education

In order to achieve the mission of ending HIV, structural interventions like sexuality education are essential. In Hong Kong, the guidelines on sexuality education have not been updated since 1997. AIDS Concern believes that guidelines and curriculum updates are needed to support young people and improve sexual health. Besides, good sexuality education also provides people with opportunities to develop knowledge, understanding and skills relating to sexual development - physical, emotional and social. It also offers people the opportunity to enhance their sexual and reproductive health by looking at personal and interpersonal skills, respect for themselves and other people, effective communication skills and problem-solving.

In this conference Professor Ng Man Lun will give his insights on how to improve sexuality education in Hong Kong and the importance of sex positivity.

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MY PrEP
HONG KONG

Get PrEP in

3

Steps

步提升HIV防禦力



檢查 ▸ 會見醫生 ▸ 服藥

Checkup ▸ Doctor Consultation ▸ Take PrEP



Presentation:

**Current HIV/AIDS
Situation in Hong Kong**

Dr. Bonnie Wong Chun Kwan

Senior Medical & Health Officer
(Special Preventive Programme),
Department of Health,
Hong Kong

Biography

Dr. Wong graduated from The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and is a specialist in Infectious Disease. She also serves as the honorary Clinical Assistant Professor of the Faculty of Medicine, CUHK.

Dr. Wong is an HIV physician at the Kowloon Bay Integrated Treatment Centre, which is the main location for clinical care of ambulatory HIV patients in the Department of Health.

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Presentation:

Insights from Local PrEP Studies



Prof. Grace Lui Chung Yan

Assistant Professor and Head,
Division of Infectious Diseases,
Department of Medicine & Therapeutics,
Faculty of Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Biography

Dr. Lui's main research interest is in the understanding of epidemiology, pathogenesis and treatment of co-morbidities in People Living with HIV (PLHIV). She has conducted research exploring subclinical atherosclerosis, fatty liver disease and liver fibrosis, kidney tubular dysfunction, and diabetes and insulin resistance in HIV-infected patients.

She also did work on new diagnostic tools to aid early diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary and extra-pulmonary tuberculosis in hospitalized patients. Her research team is heavily involved in research to evaluate strategies in optimizing antimicrobial use.



Presentation:

PrEP Study in AIDS Concern

Mr. KB Lee Kai Lung

Programme Manager,
Men who Have Sex with Men Team
(MSM), AIDS Concern,
Hong Kong

Biography

As the Programme Manager of AIDS Concern, Mr. Lee has worked in a variety of frontline, promotion and education services, from youth education projects that provide sex education among young people, to support services for People Living with HIV. He got experience on HIV education programme from primary prevention to tertiary prevention of HIV. His current work mainly focuses on prevention programmes among the MSM (Men who Have Sex with Men) community. He is also in charge of AIDS Concern's Social Enterprise Project, My PrEP, that provides PrEP health check-up, prescription, consultation and education to service users.

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Presentation:

**An Update on the Taiwan
HIV Epidemic and
Innovations in the
Prevention Response**



Dr. Benny Huang Shih Tse

Chief, Division of Infection Control
National Yang-Ming University Hospital,
Taiwan

Biography

Dr. Huang is a principal investigator of health behaviors among MSM in Taiwan. He also takes care of HIV-positive people in his clinic. His major interest lies in infectious disease, HIV, sex-transmitted disease, epidemiology, and outbreak investigation. Dr. Huang has recently been engaged in HIV prevention, sexual health education, health promotion and communication. Dr. Huang has assisted the development of national AIDS prevention strategies and designed and implemented both the PrEP demonstration sproject and HIV home self-testing program since 2016.

Dr. Huang got his medical degree from China Medical University and his master degree of public health from National Taiwan University. He received clinical training at Taipei Veterans General Hospital and attended the Field Epidemiology Training Program in Taiwan. He became a medical officer in chronic infectious disease division of Taiwan CDC since 2011. He is now a chief in Division of Infection Control at National Yang-Ming University Hospital.



Presentation:

**A Feasibility Study of Using
Web-based Ordering and
Result Upload to Support
HIV Self-testing among
MSM in Hong Kong**

Dr. Alfred Sit Yao Wai

Medical & Health Officer
(Special Preventive Programme),
Department of Health

Biography

Dr. Sit has been with the Special Preventive Programme, Department of Health since 2015 and worked in the HIV surveillance team and the Red Ribbon Centre respectively. During his post in the Red Ribbon Centre, he has been responsible for multiple survey and promotion projects, including HIV Prevalence and Risk Behaviour Survey of Men who Have Sex with Men (PRiSM), Gay men's mental health and sexual health survey and HIV self-test feasibility study.

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Presentation:

**HIV Self-testing Report
in AIDS Concern**



Ms. Charmaine Chan Shuk Ming

Programme Manager,
HIV Testing & Counselling Team,
AIDS Concern, Hong Kong

Biography

Ms. Chan has been working in the HIV field for 4 years. She started to work with People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in Singapore when she was a medical social worker. Although HIV medication is very advanced, PLHIV still faces social stigma, discrimination, and higher psychological and emotional stress. She realises that HIV work is not just about treating the illness itself but offering additional support to those that may need it. The work should extend to their families and their communities. There are a lot more to do in prevention, research, public education and sex education in order to achieve the global HIV targets.

After she returned to Hong Kong, she decided to join AIDS Concern, the largest HIV NGO in Hong Kong. She leads a team that provides accessible HIV testing and counselling services for key populations and drive prevention programs. She hopes to be part of the global movement and rally for HIV prevention, social diversity and inclusion.



Presentation:

**Social Enterprise- A Path
of Sustainability for
Social Impact Creators**

Mr. Doan Thanh Tung

Executive Director,
Lighthouse Social Enterprise, Vietnam

Biography

Mr. Doan Thanh Tung is a director of the Lighthouse Social Enterprise, one of the first and largest MSM and LGBTQ community-led organization in Vietnam. He is a community expert and researcher in the field related to stigma and discrimination, sexuality, sexual health and HIV/AIDS in Vietnam. His work ranges from designing and implementing programs and innovations based on the MSM and LGBTQ community context and needs, conducting research to evidence-based intervention and advocacy.

He has 10 years of experience working with groups who are vulnerable and disadvantaged in the community in Vietnam. Currently he is managing Bridging the gap 2.0 programs in partnership with MSMGF and COC Nederland and the research project named Action for Access!. He is the country's focal point of two regional young networks YouthLEAD and Youth Voices Count which helps to raise the communities voice.

His own vision is a humanistic society where everyone can be healthy, equal and happy.

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* A pooled analysis of weight gain in 8 randomized controlled clinical trials of treatment-naïve HIV patients initiating ART (INSTI, NNRTI, or PI-containing regimens) between 2003 and 2015, comprising >5000 participants and 10 000 person-years of follow-up[†]

Reference: 1. Sax PE, et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2019;ciy999.

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ARV=antiretroviral; HIV=human immunodeficiency virus; PI=protease inhibitor; RAM=resistance-associated mutations; STR=single-tablet regimen; TAF=tenofovir alafenamide.

References: 1. Orkin C, et al. *AIDS*. 2020;34:707-18. 2. Eron JJ, et al. *Antiviral Res*. 2019;170:1045-43. 3. Huhn GD, et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2019;ciz1213.

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MY PLACE
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Presentation:

**How NGOs can Help to
End HIV by 2030 Using a
Social Enterprise
Approach for Social
Impact Creation**



Mr. Andrew Chidgey

Chief Executive,
AIDS Concern, Hong Kong

Biography

Mr. Chidgey has been Chief Executive of AIDS Concern Hong Kong since 2013. He has worked on the development of AIDS Concern's HIV prevention and support services, with the aim to increase community impact and bring innovation to the HIV response. Recently he has been working on PrEP, HIV self-testing and the launch of MY PLACE - a Social Enterprise project by AIDS Concern. He has also worked with partner organisations on HIV projects across the Asia Pacific region.

Before AIDS Concern, Mr. Chidgey worked at the Alzheimer's Society in the U.K. focusing on service development and policy research. He was one of the writers of the U.K. National Dementia Strategy and also worked on the U.K. Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia.

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Presentation:

**AIDS in a Time of
Covid-19**

Mr. James Chau

International Broadcaster and World
Health Organisation Goodwill
Ambassador for Sustainable
Development Goals and Health

Biography

James Chau is an international broadcaster and host of The China Current. He has earned a special reputation for his interviews with leaders in politics, science, and health, including Nobel Peace laureates Kofi Annan, Muhammad Yunus, and Jimmy Carter.

He has also interviewed Winnie Mandela, Christine Lagarde, Jane Goodall, Paul Kagame, Joko Widodo, Elton John, and Arianna Huffington among others.

He is the Host of The China Current, a digital storytelling experience with interviews, videos, and podcasts that explore the issues shaping the global future. Previously, he was a main anchor on China Central Television and a guest presenter on BBC World News.

In 2016, he was appointed World Health Organization Goodwill Ambassador for Sustainable Development Goals and Health. He formerly served as UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador. He has chaired and moderated international events with Bill Gates, Angela Merkel, Jack Ma, Justin Trudeau, and Laura Bush.

Born in London, he studied piano at the Royal Academy of Music and graduated from Cambridge University.

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Presentation:

**Sexuality Education in
Hong Kong: Positive Sex
Education and AIDS**



Prof. Ng Man Lun

Registered Psychiatrist.
Council Member,
The Family Planning
Association of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Ng's is a former professor of psychiatry at the University of Hong Kong, a retired psychiatrist and a council member of the Hong Kong Family Planning Association. Being one of the most influential psychotherapists in Hong Kong, his expertise lies in sexology and he has helped to promote sexual health of couples and psychotherapeutic development both locally and internationally. He has teamed up with Dr. Wai Yung Lee in promoting and facilitating a trans-disciplinary approach to clinical practice and research.

In 2003, he was awarded the gold medal of the World Association for Sexology. He was also a founding president for the Hong Kong Sex Education Association. Since 2006, Prof. Ng and his team organized the Sex Cultural Festival every other year, striving for the promotion of local sex education work.



Mr. Alex Sparrowhawk

Programme Officer,
Terrence Higgins Trust, London,
United Kingdom

Presentation:

**HIV Rates Falling in
London**

Biography

Alex Sparrowhawk joined Terrence Higgins Trust in 2015, initially working in their Policy team before moving to work on the HIV Prevention England (HPE) programme in 2018. HPE delivers a nationally co-ordinated programme of HIV prevention work designed to complement locally commissioned prevention in areas of higher prevalence. Sparrowhawk leads on the programmes sector learning and development, and systems leadership areas of work, bringing together community-based organisations (NGOs) who work with black African and gay/LGBT+ communities, NHS clinics, academics, local authorities and Public Health England.

Sparrowhawk ensures that stakeholders involved in England's HIV prevention efforts have the tools and evidence at their disposal to help: increase HIV testing to reduce undiagnosed and late diagnoses; promote condom use as a safer sex strategy; promote other evidence-based safer-sex and biomedical HIV prevention interventions; raise awareness of the role of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in the context of HIV acquisition and transmission; reduce levels of HIV related stigma within affected communities and more widely. This includes the publication and dissemination of key technical briefings, the latest surveillance data from Public Health England, bespoke strategies for stakeholders including primary care professionals and faith leaders, as well as promoting key campaigns throughout the sector, including the annual National HIV Testing Week event.

Outside of their role with THT, Sparrowhawk chairs the UK Community Advisory Board (HIV treatment advocates network) and is a trustee for STOPAIDS, a UK-based a membership network of 70 organisations with a distinguished thirty year history of engagement on international development and HIV and AIDS.



AIDS CONCERN OFFICE

17B, Block F, 3 Lok Man Road,
Chai Wan, Hong Kong

2898 4411

2505 1682

enquire@aidsconcern.org.hk

aidsconcern.org.hk

AIDS Concern

@aidsconcern

aids_concern



AIDS CONCERN HEALTH SERVICE CENTRE

Flat B, 3/F, Fu Lee Commercial Building,
14 - 20 Pilgrim Street, Jordan, Kowloon



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