



Council Report, 2024-2025

On behalf of the Council, I would like to summarise in this report the work done in the last year and highlight our plans for the future.

Anaesthesiology

In alignment with the strategic direction of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM), the Board of Education focused its efforts this year on advancing faculty development to support the implementation of competency-based medical education (CBME). Employing a tiered approach, the Board collaborated with the HKAM Jockey Club Institute of Medical Education and Development (JCIMED) to pilot and deliver training programs across the College, aiming to strengthen CBME practices at all levels of medical education.

Trainee-Level Initiatives

On 14 August 2024, the College launched a new workshop specifically designed for novice trainees entering their first year of training. This one-day course aimed to enhance trainees' understanding of workplace-based assessments (WBAs) and feedback processes, key components of CBME. The workshop emphasized the importance of early feedback literacy and familiarity with WBA processes to improve engagement and learning outcomes. Feedback from participants highlighted the program's effectiveness, and its success has ensured its continuation in future years.

Trainer-Level Development

The Board of Education continued its annual Workplace-Based Assessments (WBAs) Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Workshop, designed to equip trainers—including specialists, higher trainers, and provisional fellows—with the skills and knowledge required to effectively conduct WBAs and provide meaningful feedback. These workshops incorporated simulation-based experiential learning to enhance participant engagement and skill acquisition. The sessions were held on 17 August 2024 and 21 June 2025, respectively, and have been well-received by attendees.

Supervisor of Training (SOT) Development

At the Supervisor of Training (SOT) level, the Board organized the inaugural SOT Faculty Development Course in collaboration with the HKAM Jockey Club Institute of Medical Education and Development (JCIMED). SOTs play a critical role in CBME by designing learning activities, conducting in-training assessments, and supporting trainee development. However, recognizing that many SOTs feel underprepared for these responsibilities, the Board developed a targeted program to enhance their capabilities. Between January and April 2025, faculty members engaged SOTs in discussions and workshops on key topics, including CBME principles, instructional design, fostering supportive clinical environments, and managing challenging training scenarios. This initiative has contributed significantly to the professional growth of SOTs and the overall quality of CBME implementation.

Curriculum Review Retreat

On 22 June 2025, the College hosted a Curriculum Review Retreat to evaluate the 2018 CBME curriculum and establish a strategic foundation for its continuous improvement. The retreat brought together key stakeholders to review progress, identify areas for enhancement, and set priorities for the curriculum's ongoing development.

Acknowledgments

The College extends its sincere gratitude to the Board of Education for its unwavering commitment and leadership in advancing faculty development. The valuable contributions of all those involved in these initiatives have been instrumental in strengthening the College's educational framework and driving the successful implementation of CBME.

Accreditation

The hospital accreditation exercise, conducted every five years, was successfully completed in 2024. The College extends its sincere appreciation to the Board of Accreditation and the inspection teams for their valuable time and dedicated efforts.

Examinations

The ANZCA MCQ Paper was implemented in the 2024 second sitting of the Final Fellowship Examination, held on 13th August 2024. The Board of Examinations and Board of Education have worked closely to prepare trainees for this new paper, including providing online practices materials and sharing relevant resources.

An Examiners Workshop was held on 22 March 2025. Our sincere thanks to the facilitators for their invaluable insights and expert guidance throughout the workshop.

Additionally, two examiners have been sponsored to attend ANZCA Examiner SAQ, MCQ workshop in Brisbane in October 2025.

Intensive Care Medicine

Following extensive discussions between the Board of Intensive Care Medicine (BOIC) and the Board of Critical Care Medicine (CCM), a significant milestone has been reached in progressing toward a unified Final Examination. As an interim arrangement, a hybrid examination will be introduced starting in October 2026. This examination will incorporate shared components from both Colleges while preserving College-specific assessments. This initiative marks a significant partnership between CCM and ICM Boards, reinforcing our commitment to excellence in intensive care training.

Pain Medicine

The current Vocational Training Guidelines for the Fellowship in Pain Medicine were endorsed by the HKCA and HKAM in 2011 and revised in 2019. While the guidelines include components such as work-based assessments, they still follow a volume-based curriculum. The first cohort of HKCA Pain Fellows graduated under this curriculum a decade ago, in 2015. There is now a growing demand from both trainers and trainees for a comprehensive update of the curriculum. Consequently, it is essential to revamp the HKCA Pain Fellowship Curriculum. To facilitate this, three working groups have been established, focusing on core competencies, fellowship examinations, and work-based assessments. A Pain Medicine Curriculum Retreat is also scheduled for this year.

CME/CPD Sub-committee

In response to the rapidly evolving landscape of medical knowledge and practice, the CME/CPD Subcommittee conducted a comprehensive review of the CME/CPD Programme for the cycle of 2026-2028. The revised programme is designed to ensure that Fellows remain equipped with the knowledge, skills, and competencies essential to their professional growth. By refining its structure and content, the CME Programme continues to support lifelong learning, adaptability, and meeting the dynamic needs of the healthcare environment and our Fellows.

Clinical Simulation Committee (CSC)

Two Team-Based Trauma Management workshops, jointly developed by eight colleges, were held successfully in October 2024 and May 2025 at the Multi-Disciplinary Simulation and Skills Centre (MDSSC), Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The College also sponsored 5 trainees to attend. The College remains committed to collaborating with partner colleges to uphold the quality and standards of trauma training in Hong Kong. The Committee also nominated 3 fellows, as co-authors of our SZ–HK anaesthesiology simulation training manual.

Scientific Committee and Formal Project Sub-committee

The Scientific Committee was set up to enhance research activities and training in Anaesthesiology, Pain Medicine and Intensive Care. A key objective is to foster a culture that supports and facilitates high-quality research. A research workshop consisting of e-learning and face to face discussions is being arranged in the second half of this year. Other initiatives include setting up a platform for multi-centre collaboration.

The Formal Project Sub-committee continues to take on the role to vet the quality of trainee formal projects and select high-quality projects for formal project prize presentation. This year, discussions have been made to define the goals of the formal project.

HKCA Distinguished Young Fellows

The HKCA Distinguished Young Fellows Award was established in 2024 to recognise outstanding young fellows who, within their first 10 years of fellowship, have demonstrated remarkable academic achievements and made significant contributions to HKCA, their profession, or the community across a range of domains.

Additionally, the HKCA Achievement Award for Young Fellows was created to honour individuals who have shown exceptional dedication and promise in their respective fields.

ASM

With the aptly named theme of “The Art of Anaesthesia”, ASM 2024 was successfully conducted at a brand-new location - the Hong Kong Palace Museum and West Kowloon Cultural District. This remarkable showcase setting attracted 526 delegates from Hong Kong and Overseas, from a diverse variety of faculties and healthcare backgrounds, that made it an impactful platform for multiplying connections, exchanging values and sharing rich experiences.

Others

An Induction Workshop for the Positive Psychology Project was held on 13 July 2024 to explore the application of positive psychology in anaesthesia. Funded by a grant from MPS, the Project not only examines its impact on clinical practice, but also proposes a practical solution for integrating positive psychology into daily workflows through a mobile platform.

In addition, HKCA is now a supporting organisation of the Hong Kong Journal of Emergency Medicine (HKJEM), published by the Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine.

College Finances

The College finance is in good shape according to the financial report. The Council will make every effort to ensure that College funds are used purposefully and judiciously.

In Memoriam

With deep sadness, we remember our dear colleague Ms Fonia Lam, who passed away on 21 July 2025. Fonia was a valued member of our team whose dedication, professionalism, and warmth left a lasting impact on the College and all who had the privilege to work with her. Her contributions over the past 12 years have helped shape our mission, and their memory will remain an enduring part of our community.

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Council for their unwavering support and invaluable contribution to the College, especially to Dr Yee-Eot Chee and Dr Steven Wong (Vice-Presidents), Dr Simon Chan (Honorary Secretary), Dr Timmy Chan (Honorary Treasurer), and Chairpersons of all Boards and Committees.

My special thanks go to Ms Kristy Cheung, the CEO of the College, and the other staff members. Last but not least, I would like to extend my appreciation to all our examiners, supervisors of training, instructors, fellows and members for their continuing support.

Dr Hing-yu So

President

July 2025