

Lecture Abstract

Event: Midwifery Development in Hong Kong – Knowing Past and Planning Future cum Information Seminar on Master of Obstetric and Midwifery Care

Date: March 11, 2024 (Monday)

Time: 18:30 – 20:30 (HKT)

Format: Zoom

Moderator: Prof. LAI Chit Ying, Jessie (Professional Consultant, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong; PhD in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Registered Nurse, Registered Midwife)

This special seminar offers a unique opportunity to explore the rich history, current landscape, and future trajectory of midwifery in Hong Kong, while also providing valuable insights into advanced education pathways for those seeking to deepen their expertise in obstetric and midwifery care. Designed for midwives, nurses, obstetricians, and allied healthcare professionals, this session aims to celebrate the contributions of midwifery to maternal and newborn health, inspire reflection on the profession's evolution, and equip attendees with knowledge to shape the future of midwifery practice in Hong Kong.

The seminar is structured around two complementary components. The first half features a keynote presentation on the development of midwifery in Hong Kong, delivered by a distinguished leader who has played a pivotal role in advancing the profession. The second half serves as an information seminar on the Master of Obstetric and Midwifery Care programme, offering attendees a comprehensive overview of advanced education opportunities designed to enhance clinical expertise, leadership capacity, and research engagement in the field.

Speaker

Ms. Alice SHAM

Founding President & Honorary Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Midwives

Ms. Sham is a pioneering and highly respected figure in Hong Kong midwifery, having dedicated her career to the advancement of the profession and the recognition of

midwives as essential healthcare providers. As the Founding President of the Hong Kong College of Midwives, she has been instrumental in establishing professional standards, promoting continuing education, and advocating for the role of midwives in improving maternal and newborn outcomes.

In her presentation, Ms. Sham will trace the historical development of midwifery in Hong Kong, reflecting on the key milestones, challenges, and achievements that have shaped the profession over the decades. She will explore the evolving scope of midwifery practice, the contributions of midwives to maternal and infant health, and the importance of professional leadership and advocacy. Looking forward, she will discuss the opportunities and imperatives for midwifery development in Hong Kong, including the need for workforce planning, interprofessional collaboration, and the expansion of midwifery-led care models. Attendees will gain a deeper appreciation for the heritage of midwifery and a clearer vision for its future.

Moderator

Prof. LAI Chit Ying, Jessie

Professional Consultant, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

PhD in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Registered Nurse, Registered Midwife

Prof. Lai will serve as the moderator for the seminar, guiding the discussion and facilitating an interactive exchange between the speaker and attendees. In addition to her moderating role, she will introduce the information session on the Master of Obstetric and Midwifery Care programme, providing a detailed overview of the curriculum, learning objectives, admission requirements, and career pathways available to graduates. This segment is designed to inform midwives and nurses about advanced education opportunities that can enhance their clinical practice, prepare them for leadership roles, and contribute to the ongoing development of the profession in Hong Kong.

The seminar will conclude with a moderated Q&A session, allowing attendees to

engage directly with Ms. Sham and Prof. Lai, posing questions on midwifery development, professional practice, and advanced education pathways. This interactive component fosters dialogue and provides a platform for sharing insights and experiences.

This event is made possible through the support of the Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme (PASS) of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. By honouring the past, engaging with the present, and envisioning the future, this seminar aims to inspire and empower midwives and nurses to continue advancing the profession, ultimately contributing to improved maternal and newborn health outcomes in Hong Kong.