

Message from College President

Letter 5, December 2005

Dear Fellows,

Greetings from the College.

Since my last letter in October 2005, we have received the sad news of our colleague, Dr Eric Wong's demise. Below is the obituary that I have penned about his life and career in diagnostic radiology. His practice has recently been taken over by Radlink retaining the name Lim, Hoe and Wong.

DR WONG SOON SENG

Dr Eric Wong passed away on 30th September 05 at the age of 65 after a short illness from aortic dissection.

Eric was born in Singapore on 29th June 1940 and educated at St Anthony's Primary School and ACS Secondary School. He then left for Sydney where he did his matriculation at the Fort Street Boys High School and medical undergraduate study at the University of Sydney.

He graduated MBBS in 1967. He joined SGH as a medical officer 1968-9 and was a registrar in diagnostic radiology 1969-70. He obtained a scholarship to do postgraduate radiology training in the UK from 1970-2. He was attached to the Hammersmith Hospital, Queen Square and Atkinson Morley Hospitals (for neuroradiology) and Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital. He obtained the DMRD in 1971.

On his return from UK, he was appointed acting consultant at TTSH where he was in charge of the general radiology dept as well as starting up the neuroradiology section. The latter was in conjunction with the setting up the first neurology and neurosurgery depts in Singapore. He worked closely with Dr Loong Si Chin (chief of neurology) and Dr Tham Cheok Fai (chief of neurosurgery).

Eric left for private practice in 1974 joining the well-known practice of Lim and Hoe, the first private radiology practice in Singapore. Very soon, their practice became known as Lim, Hoe and Wong. His private practice was highly successful and served many private hospitals and clinics including Gleneagles, Mt. Alvernia, Thomson Medical, Jurong Hospital and Japan Association. He was elected Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, in 1976

Eric was a personal and valued friend. I first met him when I became an MO in radiology at SGH in 1970 just before he left for UK. When I was sent to UK for postgraduate training in 1971, Eric showed me the ropes at Hammersmith and

invited me and family to his home for meals. His specialty was Hainanese chicken rice, which he cooked very well indeed.

When I returned in 1973, I was posted to TTSH to join Eric. Again, he was my mentor in neuroradiology. Even after he left for private practice, he would regularly invite me for lunch.

Eric was a devoted family man. He often mentioned his wife and children. To Siok Lay and their children, Suzanne, Marcus and Melvin, we send our deepest condolences on their loss.

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMME (DLP)

Academy has announced the launch of DLP on 1st November. I want to encourage you to access the Radiology module through the member login via the website (www.ams.edu.sg). 2 CME points will be awarded.

The following steps will guide you:

1. Access the AMS website.
2. Click on member login at top right hand corner
3. Enter your MCR number and password. Email AMS at daniel_goh@ams.edu.sg if you have not received your password or forgotten it.
4. Click "Distance Learning Programme".
5. Click "College of Radiologists, Singapore"
6. Click quiz/questionnaire. The current module is based on an article in Radiology 03, Vol 228 pages 318-329. You should read this first.
7. Click "Take quiz now" button and answer the questions. The passing mark is 60%. You are allowed one more attempt after the first attempt.

CARDIAC CT GUIDELINES

The joint Radiology/Cardiology Committee drafting the guidelines have completed their job. This document is awaiting the Colleges of Radiology and Physicians endorsement. It will be launched by DMS at the Singapore Cardiac CT Course to be held in January 14th and 15th next year. For accreditation to report on Cardiac CT, specialists must undergo a theory course and a practical attachment at an accredited centre to do 75 cases, of which 25 should have coronary angio correlation.

The Cardiac CT course will be accredited for the theory component. College has set up a committee to accredit centres for practical attachment, I urge Fellows in Diagnostic Radiology to sign up for accreditation training as soon as possible. For the future, cardiac CT will be a core competency in the specialist training programme.

TELERADIOLOGY

The Teleradiology Accreditation Panel has started work drawing up criteria and setting up proficiency testing to accredit Teleradiology Solutions of Bangalore for plain film reporting for the NHG polyclinics.

There has been keen interest among Fellows to take part in a National Teleradiology Grid. Prof Wang will be heading a Task Force to seek the most economical and effective way of doing so. There are already point to point teleradiology connections in Singapore and we welcome those who have experience of this to share with the Task Force.

5 YEAR STRATEGY ROADMAPS

It has been 4 months since our Strategic Planning Retreat on National Day. We agreed to draw up 5 year road maps to help us achieve our strategic aims in bite size steps. Many things have popped up to distract us. I take this opportunity to remind our Fellows involved in drawing up the road maps that the deadline is 31st December. Please submit your proposals to our newly appointed administrative secretary, Wen Jie.

Council will deliberate on them in earnest from our next meeting on 26th January 06.

In closing, may I wish all our Fellows a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Warmest regards,
Dr Tan Kim Ping
President,
College of Radiologists, Singapore.