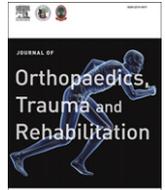




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Editorial

There were three Annual Congresses of The Hong Kong Orthopaedic Association (HKOA) held with the main theme being that of foot and ankle surgery from 1993, 2003, and 2011. Professor Roger A. Mann from Oakland, San Francisco, CA, United States, was invited as a faculty speaker in 1993 and 2011. He is a famous foot and ankle surgeon and needs no introduction.

Last year, with the support of the Co-ordinating Committee in Orthopaedics & Traumatology, COC (O&T) in Hospital Authority, a Central Commissioned Training Program on Musculoskeletal Ultrasound and Foot & Ankle Surgery was held. Professor Roger Mann was also invited for this program, which took place November 14–18, 2011, immediately preceding the HKOA 31st Annual Congress on November 19–20, 2011.

Professor Mann was very kind to support the development of scientific research in Hong Kong by submitting a scientific review article to the *Journal* during his visit last year. We can now read this paper (co-authored with Fellow Matthew Harrison) in this issue on total ankle arthroplasty, which is gaining more and more acceptance and popularity due to their improved designs and the good clinical outcomes for its use in patients with end-stage ankle arthritis. Previously, the only treatment option available for these patients is ankle arthrodesis.

The local orthopaedic fraternity in Hong Kong has always had good connections with regional- and international-renowned orthopaedic surgeons, and there are a number of academic

meetings held in Hong Kong each year involving them. If they can contribute to the development of orthopaedic surgery in Hong Kong by submitting papers to the *Journal*, it will be a very good boost to the quality and status of the *Journal* as well as the standard of orthopaedic surgery in the southern China region because of the circulation of the *Journal*. To be realistic, we can only expect a minority of them to do so. But, if we do not even mention it, then no one will submit.

Scientific papers from renowned international orthopaedic surgeons certainly can enhance the *Journal's* quality. It is also the function of the *Journal* to disseminate advanced thinking and skills to our readers in the southern China region who may not be able to listen to their talks directly at annual meetings and congresses.

With the support of our local orthopaedic fraternity involved in organizing academic activities, we look forward to seeing more papers as well as scientific meetings from the international orthopaedic surgeons who have enlightened us so much.

Yip Siu-Fai Henry, Deputy Editor-in-Chief
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