

## Editorial

### Review the past and look into the future

How time flies! Since the first issue of the Hong Kong Dermatology & Venereology Bulletin published in June 1998, five years have passed and twenty issues containing over one hundred articles in this field have been published. You may remember that the Bulletin formerly was only a collection of photocopy handouts dispatched in the monthly Social Hygiene Service academic meetings. But now it is an elegant professional publication with well-illustrated articles on a wide variety of topics. It also enjoys good popularity with a circulation of over five hundred copies per issue. This is indeed a great achievement of the persistent efforts of my predecessor Dr Chong Lai Yin and his editorial members. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincerest thanks to them.

In this issue, you may notice that there is a facelift in the book cover and a change in the format and design. This shows our continual effort to promote our Bulletin to the international level. The Bulletin is also ridged so that it can be easily identified. Starting from this issue, article summaries and names of authors in English and Chinese are included in most sections for the easy reference of our counterparts in the Mainland. Furthermore, a new column 'Pearls in Dermatology' has been created to allow authors to share their precious experience in diagnosing or treatment in succinct terms aided with illustrations. We believe that such short articles with deep insights are just as good as magnificent pieces of original or review articles. It is hoped that this column would attract busy colleagues to share their invaluable experience with us.

It is indeed my great honour to be appointed as chief editor by the council of The Hong Kong Society of Dermatology and Venereology. I am

also indebted to the whole-hearted support from the new editorial board members who have volunteered to sacrifice their precious time for the editorial work. I must express my heartfelt gratitude for their enthusiasm.

In the coming years, the editorial board will endeavour to further improve the quality of the Bulletin by canvassing higher calibre articles. However, this cannot be achieved without your enthusiastic contribution. Only when more and more doctors and specialists submit their writings will the contents of the Bulletin be broadened and our cognition of dermatological diseases and sexually transmitted infections be further developed.

Good articles also need wide publicity. It will be a pity if good articles are not accessible to most readers. In this respect, we are very fortunate to have the assistance of Medcom Limited which has integrated more functions into our E-bulletin. Among these is the new search engine which will enable us to look up articles published in the past issues. Thus, I must say a note of thanks to them.

In the long run, active contribution and support from members is a key factor to the success of the Bulletin. Up till now, the bulk of the articles have been coming from colleagues of the public sector. This is of course not conducive to the healthy development of the Bulletin. Rome was not built in a day, nor was it built by a few persons. I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to you all. Please cherish our Bulletin by giving it your active support!

**WYM Tang**  
**鄧旭明**  
**Chief Editor**