1 June 2020

To: All Medical Officers

Joint HKCPIE/MRCP(UK) Part II
Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES) October 2020

The Joint HKCPIE/MRCP(UK) Part II Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES) will be held in Hong Kong from **Monday, 5 October to Saturday, 10 October 2020**. We would like to draw your attention to the following:

1 **Eligibility**

Applicants for PACES must have passed MRCP(UK) Part I Examination within 7 years, or have exemption from it, and should have at least 12 months of Basic Physician Training in the acute general medical wards in accredited training centers before the PACES (defined by the end of the month of this PACES diet, i.e. 31 October 2020). Applicants who do not meet this requirement at the time of application (normally 3—4 months before the examination) will need to have endorsement by their Chiefs of Service or Programme Directors to prove their eligibility. It is also recommended that candidates have commenced 18 months of Basic Physician Training before attempting PACES. Since the MRCP(UK) Central Office has a new policy on the number of attempts for MRCP examinations, please refer to the enclosed document for information.

For those applicants who have registered for the March PACES 2020 and July PACES 2020 and confirmed to transfer their examinations to the October 2020 diet, they are not required to send the applications to our College again.

2 **Quota and Application procedures**

All intending applicants should complete the enclosed “Application for PACES - Supplementary Information” sheet that **must reach the College Secretariat on or before 5:00 pm on 19 June 2020**, the local closing date for new and re-entries. The College will reject applications that reach the Secretariat after the deadline.
The quota of candidates in this PACES diet is 90 (after deducting the confirmed applicants from the March and July PACES 2020 diet, the remaining available quota is 27). Should the number of applicants exceed the quota, priority would be given according to the following:

(i) registered trainees of our College
(ii) applicants who were not selected in the lots in the last PACES diet
(iii) applicants who re-sit PACES
(iv) applicants who have passed MRCP Part II (Written) examination only
(v) applicants who have less than 18 months of Basic Physician Training

If the number of prioritized candidates still exceeds 90, the College will draw lots immediately after the local closing date. Successful applicants will be advised on further details such as application forms, examination fees and withdrawal procedures.

For your information, the format of the March PACES in 2021 will likely be according to the current format rather than the new format of the exam.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Ronald Ma
Chairman
Examination Committee

Encl.

cc Director of Health (attn: Staff Training Unit)