

Interactive Forum on Clinical Ethics

In response to the newly added section of “Care for the terminally ill” of the Professional Code and Conduct by the Hong Kong Medical Council, the Hospital Authority formulated the “HA guidelines on Life-sustaining Treatment in the Terminally Ill”, which was formally issued in April 2002. An interactive forum was held on 13th May 2002 to promote understanding and discussion of the guidelines. More than 100 participants, mainly doctors and nurses, attended the forum. Clinical cases with ethical issues on withholding/ withdrawing of life sustaining treatment were presented for discussion. The participants also raised other related ethical questions they encounter in their clinical practice. The atmosphere during discussion was good and the response from the audience was quite encouraging.