

The 20th Hong Kong International Optometric Symposium
on 10 November 2022 (Thursday) at HKCEC

**Global Trends In Optometry:
Paediatric Optometry and Primary Care Practice**
(全球視光學趨勢: 兒童眼科與基層醫療)

Event Report



Overview:

- 6 experts from Australia, Hong Kong, the UK and the USA shared the latest research on 6 different topics under the theme “Global Trends In Optometry: Paediatric Optometry and Primary Care Practice”
- 906 participants attended the Symposium in the hybrid event with 870 local participants;
- 96% respondents rated the Symposium as fair to excellent;

Event Report

1. With the collaboration with the Hong Kong Optometric Association (HKOA) and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), the Symposium recorded a total attendance of 906 participants with 870 professionals from Hong Kong.
2. Mr Fan Hung-ling, Chairman of the Hospital Authority, was the Guest of Honour who delivered the opening remarks at the Opening Ceremony.
3. Under the theme “Global Trends In Optometry: Paediatric Optometry and Primary Care Practice 全球視光學趨勢: 兒童眼科與基層醫療”, the HKIOS was organised in a hybrid format to facilitate an onsite and online experience for attendees allowing for remote and face-to-face opportunities to take part in the Symposium.
4. Six experts from Australia, Hong Kong, the UK and the USA shared six sub-topics under the theme. Global trends and the latest research findings on paediatric optometry were discussed by the 4 overseas speakers, and the two Hong Kong experts shared the case studies of the role of optometry in the primary care practices of special education needs (SEN) children and older adults.
 - i. Prof Susana CHUNG, University of California, Berkeley, USA
 - ii. Dr Kate GIFFORD, Myopia Profile Pty Ltd, Australia
 - iii. Dr LEE Mun Yan Florence, Developmental-Behavioural Paediatrics Subspecialty Board, Hong Kong
 - iv. Prof James WOLFFSOHN, Aston University, UK
 - v. Prof Peter HENDICOTT, World Council of Optometry, Australia
 - vi. Prof Jean WOO, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

[Download [Event Booklet](#) for Speakers' details]

5. To encourage interactions, the audience onsite and online were all invited to submit questions at the Q&A sessions after the presentations of each speaker. There was a total of 59 questions submitted.
6. Considering that quite some optometrists had to work at clinics or retail stores during the weekdays, the hybrid model (physical and online) of the Symposium provided

convenience and flexibility to optometrists who might not be able to attend the event physically for the whole day and the feedbacks collected from the questionnaire were very positive, the hybrid format is recommended to put forward.

- Physical speakers are preferred to attract onsite practitioners who also want to have networking opportunities at the Symposium.

Well Recognised Event Quality by Attendees

- A post-event questionnaire was conducted with a total of 695 respondents. 96% respondents rated the HKIOS as good to excellent and found it very helpful/ useful to their work.
- The most popular topics suggested by the participants for future editions were myopia control, the latest knowledge of the industry, contact lenses and dry eye treatment.

Key Takeaways

<p>Prof. Susana CHUNG</p>	<p>Current Research on Managing Amblyopia in Children</p>
	<p>Amblyopia is a leading cause of vision loss in children and affects 2–4% of the population. It is a developmental abnormality resulting from abnormal binocular visual experience during the “sensitive period” early in life. If detected and treated early, amblyopia can often be reversed. Conventional clinical management or treatment of amblyopia in children includes correction of refractive errors, patching of the stronger eye, penalization of the stronger eye using atropine or optical methods. Over the past three to four decades, a lot of effort has been devoted to the development of active methods to treat amblyopia. These methods include perceptual learning and videogame playing. Improvements in visual functions have been observed following these treatment methods. More recently, dichoptic training targeting binocular functions has been suggested as a more effective treatment of amblyopia. The lecture provided an overview of the current management and recent research related to the treatment of amblyopia in children, and discuss the challenges associated with using these methods and their efficacies.</p>
<p>Dr. Kate GIFFORD</p>	<p>Four Steps To Best-Practice Children's Vision Care</p>



This lecture combined the latest science with clinical translation and practical advice to increase participants' skills and confidence in managing children. The four steps to best-practice children's vision care will be achieving accurate refraction, measuring binocular vision, managing myopia risks and prescribing for myopia control. Each of the four steps includes the 'why' (a brief research review), the 'how' (practical steps to take) and advice on 'what' to explain to parents.

**Dr LEE Mun Yau
Florence**

Special Education Needs (SEN) Children and Their Assessments





This presentation shared the basic concepts on child development and to give an overview on some common types of developmental problems in children (e.g. developmental delay, cerebral palsy, visual impairment, hearing impairment, autism spectrum disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, developmental language disorder, dyslexia.). Children with developmental problems or special education needs (SEN) are more likely to have eye or visual problems than their typically developing peers. The visual characteristics and problems of children with different types of developmental problems and the challenges in their assessment will be explored. The role of optometrists in the assessment and co-management to better serve the needs of these children will also be discussed.

**Prof James
WOLFFSOHN**

Updates on Myopia Control



Myopia is a global epidemic, expected to affect half the population by 2050. Surveys in 2015 and 2019 identified a high level of eye care practitioner concern about myopia with a reported a moderately high level of activity, but the vast majority still prescribed single vision interventions to young myopes. This lecture updated these findings from a self-administrated, internet-based questionnaire distributed in eight languages, through professional bodies to eye care practitioners globally. The questions examined: awareness of increasing myopia prevalence, perceived efficacy of available strategies and adoption levels of such strategies, and reasons for not adopting specific strategies. The results were discussed in light of the latest evidence of when and how long to treat, and the effectiveness of the differing environmental, optical and pharmaceutical treatment modalities.

<p>Prof Peter HENDICOTT</p> 	<p>Optometry and meeting the future challenges in eyecare</p> <p>The recent World Report on Vision outlines the challenge of avoidable vision impairment facing eye care going forwards due to the increasing prevalence of ocular disease, and the inequity of access to eye care. This presentation discussed how the profession of optometry needs to respond to these issues through the potential of changing scope and/or roles in health care, in order for the profession to play an increasingly significant role in improving eye health outcomes.</p>
<p>Prof Jean WOO</p> 	<p>Role of Optometry in Primary Care of Older Adults</p> <p>The importance of vision in primary care of older adults as a component of healthy ageing will be described. The United Nations has named 2021-2030 to be a decade of healthy ageing. The World Health Organization has proposed intrinsic capacity as a metric of health ageing, where the goal is the maintenance of functional ability using an integrated community care model (ICOPE), using a step care approach. Common visual abnormalities to be screened include refraction errors, cataracts, glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, and various retinopathies related to chronic diseases, as well as retinal detachment. Visual impairment is common, and is an important risk factor for adverse outcomes in older adults such as self-care, frailty, incontinence, poor self-rated health, and hospital admissions. The case study about the Cadenza Hub represented a model of how optometry can be integrated into a one-stop community centre, using a self-financing model.</p>

Event Replay

The replay of the Symposium is available on the event website : [REPLAY](#)

Acknowledgement

The Symposium has been one of the most important annual events for optometric and ophthalmological professionals to gather, interact and knowledge exchange. With its pivotal position in Asia and Hong Kong, the Symposium was proudly supported by the Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme (PASS) with another 4 commercial sponsors: Skyview Optical Company Limited, Bravo Vision Optical Limited, Carl Zeiss Far East Co., Ltd., Euclid Trading (Shanghai) Co. Ltd.

Enquiry:

For more information or any inquiries about the Symposium, please contact:

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