

Connect


ISSUE 02
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**With You Together
In This Fight**

Leading cancer care
during COVID-19

Preventing
COVID-19 from disrupting
cancer care

Now open
Hung Viet General Clinic

A portrait of a middle-aged woman with short, dark, wavy hair, smiling gently. She is wearing a black short-sleeved top with a large, ornate butterfly-shaped brooch on the left side of her chest. The brooch is made of gold-toned metal with clear crystals and a central pearl. She is also wearing a diamond stud earring and has her hands clasped in her lap. The background is a soft-focus indoor setting with a large white curved shape on the right side. An orange circular graphic contains a quote in the bottom left corner.

“ At IOC, we know that these safety measures will become a new normal in the future and we remain watchful and ready to adjust the measures in response to any changing circumstances. ”

Covid-19: Message from CEO

Dear friends,

In a blink of an eye, we have made it through to the third quarter of the year. 2020 has been a challenging year especially with the Movement Control Order enforced in different countries across the world to curb the spread of Covid-19.

For all of us in IOC, as an essential service provider, we remain operational to ensure seamless care to our patients. We have to quickly adapt and familiarize ourselves with virtual meetings in place of physical interactions, setting up triage counters, implementing visitor guidelines and most important of all to have intensive disinfecting procedures in place.

At IOC, we know that these safety measures will become a new normal in the future and we remain watchful and ready to adjust the measures in response to any changing circumstances.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our staff at IOC who went above and beyond their call of duty during last few months to support daily operations. Thank you for their hard work and commitment in upholding the values of IOC. In challenging times like this, our values matter a lot to the patients that we serve.

My heart also reaches out to all our patients across the region. While undergoing treatment for cancer, the worry of being infected by the Covid 19 virus and the separation from loved ones due to the Movement Control Order in your country may be mentally and emotionally difficult for some of you. As the pandemic creates uncertainty in different parts of the world, your anxiety and level of stress may naturally follow. I am however confident our patients are strong warriors and unique individuals who can overcome the battle. I together with our IOC team are committed to go through the journey with you. You won't be alone in this fight against cancer.

In any moment of doubt and worry, our IOC team is always here to support and stand by you. Please do reach out to them if you need assistance. They – and I – will support you every way we can.

Stay safe and healthy.

Phoebe Ho
Chief Executive Officer

Leading cancer care during COVID-19

Where there is a challenge, there is an opportunity



COVID-19 certainly knows no geographical boundaries and has created challenges to healthcare globally. In Indonesia, with lockdown and social distancing policies in place, cancer patients immediately faced the dilemma of going to clinic for essential treatments versus to risks of contracting COVID-19 in medical facility. While some opted for treatment abroad, the medical costs and subsequent 14-day quarantine restrictions were equally devastating, creating practical and psychological burdens to patients.

Addressing these concerns, Adi Husada Cancer Center (AHCC) in Surabaya, Indonesia reacted with a safety protocol consisting of temperature check, a one-accompanying-visitor-per-patient rule and frequent disinfection of clinic facilities.

Making use of social media and face-to-face education, AHCC reminded its staffs, patients and caregivers how to maintain proper hand hygiene and social distancing, so that patients would feel confident and empowered to continue life-saving treatments and minimize the risks of infections.

The safety protocol has received welcoming responses from patients, especially among those previously decided to seek treatment abroad. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of patients returning to AHCC has increased by 67%, with 116% more patients receiving chemotherapy at the centre.

As Luluk Widyasari, Marketing Manager at AHCC pointed out that its responses to the COVID-19 situation have demonstrated AHCC's ambitions and capability to provide seamless oncology care in Eastern Indonesia.







Preventing COVID-19 from disrupting cancer care

Going the extra mile to keep the treatment going

As part of its initiative to fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, Central Luzon Integrated Oncology Centre (CLIOC) has adopted several measures to protect its patients and staffs following the guidelines by the Department of Health of the Philippines. Consultations and treatments are rescheduled to avoid crowding. On arrival, all patients and visitors are carefully assessed at the triage for their body temperature, symptoms, exposure and travel history before entering CLIOC's facility.

To minimize the risks of transmission, all staff are required to maintain good hygiene practices in the clinic – to wear masks, maintain proper physical distances and make use of the hand sanitizers provided. The management team of CLIOC has also installed glass barriers in the clinic and extra Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) were supplied to fully protect the medical professionals.

With the measures combined with efforts of our medical team, patients and families are confident to continue cancer treatment at CLIOC. Many of the patients and team members also took to the social media to share their experiences of continuing treatment at CLIOC, as well as how to stay healthy amid the COVID-19 situation.





Now Open - Hung Viet General Clinic

Expanding outpatient specialist care to more patients

On 31 July 2020, the new Hung Viet General Clinic opened its doors in Hanoi, Vietnam to patients needing specialist outpatient consultation.

The new Hung Viet General Clinic, located on 40 DCV, is a comprehensive centre covering 12 specialties in 13 clinics, providing one-stop services from health screening, diagnostics and consultations, minor surgical and out-patient procedures. The opening is its latest move to expand the existing Hung Viet Group's healthcare services – following the well-established reputation of Hung Viet Cancer Hospital.

To protect our staffs and patients from the risks of COVID-19, a virtual ceremony was held to celebrate the opening of Hung Viet General Clinic. During the ceremony, Dr. Dam Thu Nga, Medical Director of Hung Viet General Clinic emphasized, “While Hung Viet Cancer Hospital has received positive feedbacks from patients as a quality service provider, we will expand our services to help more

patients with different medical needs with this new clinic”.

As outpatient procedures are now directed to the new General Clinic, the existing Hung Viet Cancer Hospital is now undergoing expansion, which is expected to be completed in 3 to 4 years' time, pathing the way to provide more focused inpatient oncology services.



A virtual ceremony was held to celebrate the opening of Hung Viet General Clinic. 2020-08-06 15:19:44

New Drugs and Technology

Neratinib further reduced risk of recurrence in HER2 + HR + early-stage breast cancer after trastuzumab-based treatment^{1,2}



When we are combating a disease, it is always important to act early and act fast! The golden time of treating breast cancer is certainly at the early stage. . Different subtype of breast cancers can be treated with different approaches. A subset of patients having HER-2 overexpression can be treated with targeted therapy together with other treatment modalities. Cure is possible for this group of patients!

HER-2 overexpression represents a relatively more aggressive type of breast cancer. Among roughly 4,000 new breast cancer cases in Hong Kong and 400,000 new breast cancer cases in Asia, around 19-24% of them were positive for HER-2 overexpression¹⁻². For HER-2 positive breast cancer patients, targeted therapy can lower the risk of progression and recurrence and hence, enhance the survival for this subtype of breast cancer patients.

Common first-line targeted therapies for early breast cancer include trastuzumab, pertuzumab and neratinib. Trastuzumab and pertuzumab can be used before and after surgery as neoadjuvant and adjuvant treatment³. They can be used for one year after initial treatment to prevent disease recurrence. Extended adjuvant treatment with neratinib also showed significant reduction in disease recurrence. According to a randomised, double-blind and multinational phase 3 clinical trial, neratinib as 1-year extended adjuvant treatment, risk of recurrence of those who are HER2+, HR+,

completing prior trastuzumab-based therapy less than 1 year from randomization is further reduced by 51% at 2-year follow up and 42% at 5-year follow up. Furthermore, in an exploratory analysis of patients who did not achieved pathologic complete response (pCR) after neoadjuvant therapy, the absolute iDFS benefit at 5 years for the neratinib group was 7.4%⁴.

Currently, neratinib was approved by FDA and is commercially available in Hong Kong. It is an oral tablet and indicated as an extended adjuvant treatment for adult patients with HER2+ HR+ early breast cancer, following the adjuvant trastuzumab-based therapy less than 1 year ago. Neratinib is a pan-HER tyrosine kinase inhibitor. It works by targeting a group of HER receptors, irreversibly binds with HER1, HER2 and HER4, resulting in decreased tumour cell proliferation and increased tumour cell death. The dose-limiting toxicities of neratinib are diarrhoea and gastrointestinal upset. These toxicities can be managed by life-style modification, dose adjustment and using loperamide to control diarrhoea.

With the manageable side effects and good clinical efficacy of new drugs, early breast cancer can potentially be cured. Adding the new drug technology and expertise in IOC, we are confident that we can bring hope and the best quality of oncology service to our patients.

¹ Bhatia H. Breast Cancer in Asia, Genre, June 2016

² Hong Kong Cancer Registry 2017

³ Olson EM, et al. Ann. Oncol. 2013;24(6):1526-33.

⁴ Martin Miguel, Holmes Frankie A, Ejlersen Bent et al. Neratinib after trastuzumab-based adjuvant therapy in HER2-positive breast cancer (ExteNET): 5-year analysis of a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial.[J] .Lancet Oncol., 2017, 18: 1688-1700.

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www.iocasia.com



Meet Our Leaders

In this issue, meet the leaders of each centre who are leading their teams to make a difference in cancer treatment and care in their respective countries.



MS. EMMY ARIANI
Deputy General Manager,
Adi Husada Cancer Center (AHCC)

Emmy is the Deputy General Manager at AHCC, Indonesia and has led the centre to further success through building strategic relationships with various parties.

Emmy has more than 10 years of experiences in healthcare finance and the hospitality industry, with a strong background in Economics Management. Well-known among team members as an efficient and result-oriented leader, Emmy will lead the team in AHCC towards its mission to provide seamless and patient-centred care.



MR. JEROME PAULE
General Manager,
Central Luzon Integrated Oncology Centre (CLIOC)

Jerome has been leading the operations of CLIOC since 2018. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering, Jerome continued to establish himself in the pharmaceutical industry, with experiences in operational management at several healthcare organisations including Zuellig Pharma Corporation and Metro Drug Inc.

Jerome is known for his big bright smile and his charisma to connect with people within and outside of the organization, a common trait shared by leaders across the IOC Centres. He also seeks to apply the Lean Six Sigma concepts in the company's management to bring out the best quality care.

MR. TONG KA KEI

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO),
Hong Kong Integrated Oncology Centre (HKIOC)**



Tong Ka Kei or known as KK to many is in charge of the strategic business development and supervising all daily operations of Hong Kong Integrated Oncology Centre, Hong Kong Integrated Diagnostic Imaging Centre and Hong Kong Adventist Hospital Oncology Centre.

KK graduated from the Chinese University of Hong Kong with two master's degrees. With an untiring passion for self-enhancement, KK is also taking a part-time doctoral program in Health Science at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Before joining HKIOC, KK was the Country Director of Amgen (Hong Kong and Macau), a global leading biotechnology company. He brings over a decade of management experience from pharmaceutical multinationals, including GlaxoSmithKline and UCB with an impressive track record in growing business under highly competitive market environments in Hong Kong and other Asia markets.

KK has made every effort in promoting communication in the medical service management industry in Hong Kong. He is currently an Associate Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Health Service Executives and the Australian Medical Service Management Institute. Besides, his role as the Founding Director of the Society for Innovative Healthcare Hong Kong also makes him a resourceful leader for HKIOC in connecting to health institutes in HK and mainland China.

MR. SAM LEE

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO),
Hung Viet Cancer Hospital and Hung Viet General Clinic**



Sam has extensive experience in building healthcare facilities that are first-of-its-kind in different countries. Prior to joining Hung Viet in 2019, Sam was responsible for the setup, commissioning and operations of Adi Husada Cancer Center (AHCC) in Eastern Indonesia, Cardiac Vascular Sentral Kuala Lumpur (one of the Malaysia's first private cardiac and vascular hospital), as well as Ng Teng Fong General Hospital in Singapore.

In just one year at Hung Viet, Sam has led and created more firsts, with the latest being the launch of Hung Viet General Clinic, a standalone private ambulatory centre in Hanoi, Vietnam. He is currently leading the transformation of Hung Viet Cancer Hospital into an integrated oncology hospital which will see the introduction of radiotherapy and day chemotherapy services.



Our centres across the Asia Pacific region

Find IOC centres at:

Hong Kong Integrated Oncology Centre

Central and Kowloon, Hong Kong

www.hkioc.com.hk

Hong Kong Adventist Hospital Oncology Center

Hong Kong

www.hkah.org.hk

Adi Husada Cancer Center

Surabaya, Indonesia

www.ahcc.co.id

Hung Viet Cancer Hospital

Hanoi, Vietnam

www.benhvienungbuouhungviet.vn

Central Luzon Integrated Oncology Centre

Pampanga, Philippines

www.clioc.com.ph