



President's Column

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June sees the start of a real hot season this year. I hope members could stay cool in this hot and challenging environment for medical practitioners in general and paediatricians in particular in view of the tight manpower supply in the public sectors. Paediatricians in the public sector face the double challenge with the surge in demand for NICU and SCBU service with the increased delivery of babies born from parents who are mainland Chinese citizens. Dr. Alfred Tam, convener of the accreditation subcommittee of respirology, is busy working on the submission with inputs from within the subcommittee as well as from our overseas advisors, Prof. Andrew Colin and Prof. Andrew Bush. Members are urged to contact Dr. Tam if they have any opinion about the accreditation.

In the current issue, Dr. Johnny Chan et al. look at the use of a common over-the-counter substance, i.e. xylitol in the prevention of acute otitis media and Dr. Jeff Wong et al. presented a rare case of organising pneumonia. Both papers should be of clinical interest to paediatric respirologist.

This year sees the Third Cross-strait Paediatric Respiriology Congress to be held here in Hong Kong to be hosted by this Society. It will be held on October 8th and 9th in the Hong Kong Convention Centre followed by a post-ASM sleep workshop. We have world-class speakers from this region and beyond to talk on respirology, sleep medicine and intensive care. I refer you to the detailed program listed on the flyer enclosed. I look forward to seeing your active participation in the meeting and young investigators are encouraged to submit papers for presentation in the young investigators sessions.