



August 2026

NEWSLETTER I

Emergency Medicine

Hong Kong College
of Emergency
Medicine

LET'S CELEBRATE
30
YEARS OF
PROFESSIONALISM
TOGETHER!

25th International Conference on Emergency Medicine



The 25th International Conference of Emergency Medicine (ICEM) was held in Hamburg on **9th- 13th June**.

With 3260 participants from 85 countries, this has been the biggest ICEM so far. The President, **Dr. Clara Wu** led a group of HK delegates who had a great time learning about EM advances, making new friends and meeting old buddies from across the world.



TSEM Annual Conference on 26 June 2026

Dr. Des Ng from QMH represented HKCEM at the Taiwan Society of Emergency Medicine Conference in June 26. He gave a talk on "POCUS in the Emergency Department: Opportunities and Obstacles" at the Residents Forum. Dr. YC Chan was one of the co- chairs.





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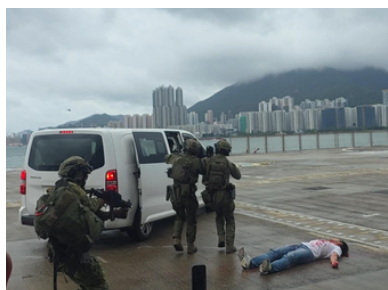
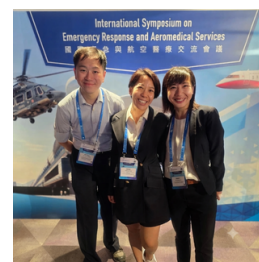
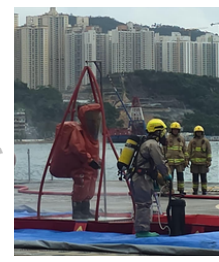
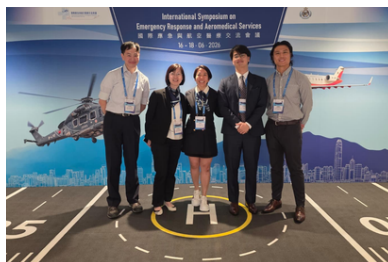
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Upcoming Events

International Symposium on Emergency Response and Aeromedical Services (ISERAS)

ISERAS hosted by the GFS and was held on **14 to 16th June** at the **Kai Tak Sports Park**.

The conference kick started with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the **GFS** and **HKCEM**. The 3 day symposium brought together world leading experts who shared their experiences on emergency response strategies and clinical application in aeromedical services. One of the highlights was an action-packed joint operational Counter Terrorism (CT) Drill, in collaboration with the HK Police Force and the Fire Services Department.





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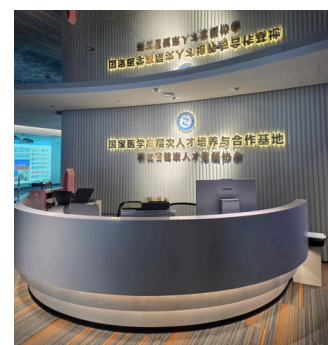
Upcoming Events

HKAM YFC China Exchange Trip

Dr. Y Cheung represented the Young Fellow's Chapter (YFC) at the Mainland Exchange and Study Trip to Hangzhou in July, co-organised by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM) and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government (LOCPG).

The enriching and insightful trip included visits to Westlake University, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, the Zhejiang Provincial Health Commission, and Zhejiang Provincial People's Hospital.

We were also given tours of Alibaba, one of Hangzhou's six tech dragons, and the Hangzhou City Brain Operation Command Center. The trip offered a valuable opportunity to make new friends and build connections for future collaboration.



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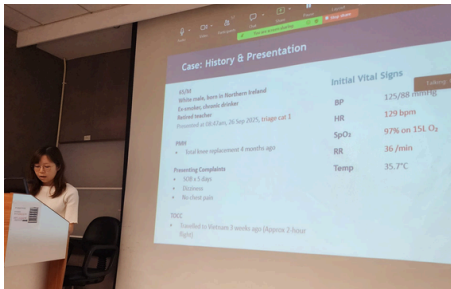


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JCM

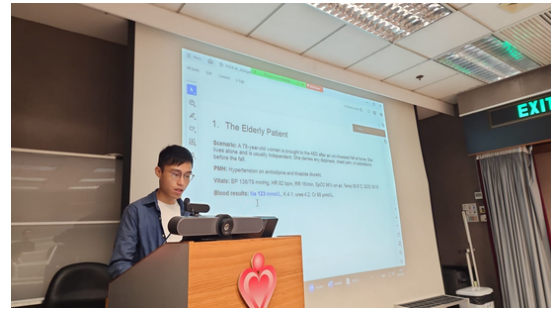
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JCM JUNE 2026



TKOH Dr LI Yuen Wai

OSCE NDH Dr CHAN Sai Yiu Kevin



Date: 3 June 2026 (Wed)

Time: 5:30- 7:30pm

Venue: Seminar Room, G/F Block A, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

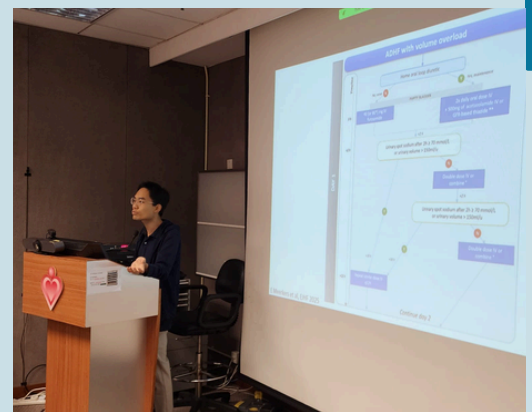
Program

5:30-6:15pm Case Presentation by AED, TKOH

6:15-7:00pm “Revisiting Heart Failure - Basics and Beyond”

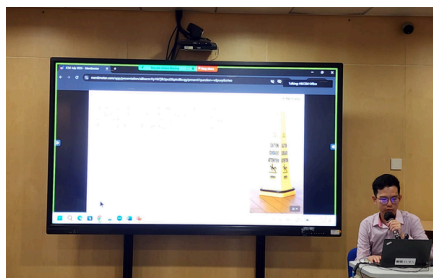
Dr MOK Ho Fung, Corbin, Resident,
Department of Medicine & Therapeutics, PWH

7:05-7:30pm Discussion on OSCE by AED NDH

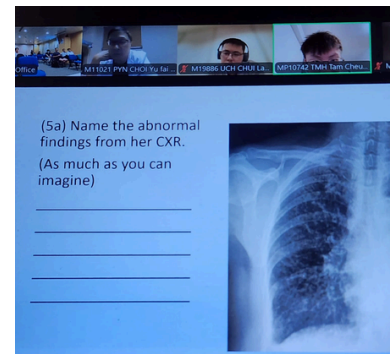


Guest Speaker -
M&T Dr. MOK Ho Fung, Corbin

JCM JULY 2026



Case presentation -
Dr LEE Tsun Sing Case - TSWH



Quiz (OSCE) PYNEH Dr CHOI Yu Fai (by Zoom)

Date: 8 July 2026 (Wed)

Time: 5:45- 7:45pm

Venue: H702, 7/F Block H, Princess Margaret Hospital

Program

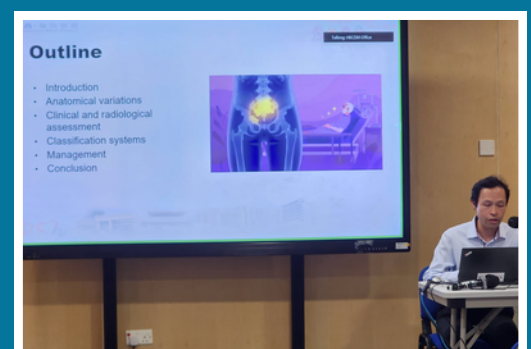
5:45-6:30pm Case Presentation by AED, TSWH

6:30-7:15pm “Fragility Fracture of the Pelvis”

Dr CHAN Wai Ming
Consultant, Department of Orthopedics
and Traumatology, Tuen Mun Hospital.

7:15-7:45pm Discussion on Quiz by AED PYNEH

Guest Speaker TMH Orth -
Dr. CHAN Wai Ming





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HKCEM 30th Anniversary Cake Making Workshop

HKCEM 30th Anniversary event: Cake Baking Workshop- May 2026 :

Sweet times were had at our Cake Baking Workshop! EM doctors, kids, and families teamed up in pairs to whip up some delicious cakes, shared lots of laughs, and enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon together. To top it all off, the cake with the most votes took home a prize! Well done Dr. Debbie!





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Upcoming Events

Digital Sub-committee

The Dawn of Autonomous Driving: Promises, Challenges, and Progress



(image created by ChatGPT Images 2.0)

Autonomous driving represents one of the most transformative breakthroughs of our time. It has the potential to revolutionise how we move, traffic logistics and urban designs. These vehicles use a combination of sensors, cameras, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to "see" the world around them. Instead of a person making every decision, the car's software identifies obstacles and navigates the road on its own. This shift from human-controlled to machine-operated vehicles will help address longstanding issues in transportation such as road safety, traffic efficiency, and accessibility.

Understanding the Levels of Automation

The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) has standardized the levels of driving automation in its J3016 framework, providing a clear taxonomy from Level 0 to Level 5. [1] These levels guide manufacturers and regulators as technology advances from assisted driving to fully driverless systems.



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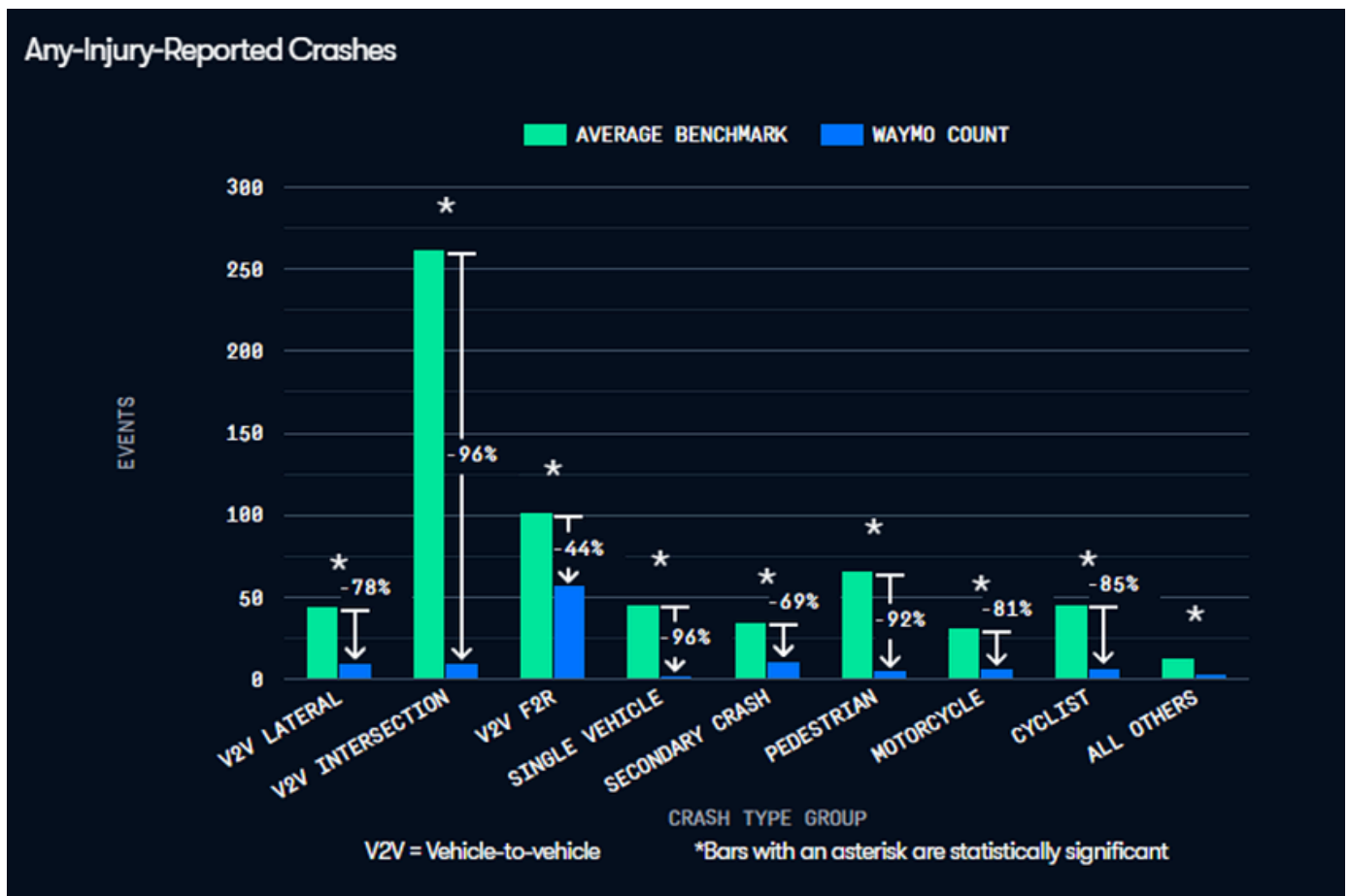
Event

Level	Name	Description	Illustration
0	No Automation	The human does all the driving.	
1	Driver Assistance	The car helps with either steering or braking.	
2	Partial Automation	The car handles steering and braking, but the human must remain engaged and monitor the environment.	
3	Conditional Automation	The car drives itself under specific conditions, but the human must be ready to take over when requested.	
4	High Automation	The car can drive itself without human intervention in specific areas (geofencing).	
5	Full Automation	The car can drive everywhere a human can, in all conditions, with no steering wheel required.	

SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) developed a J3016 classification system

Current Industry Status: Real Progress

As of early 2026, the autonomous driving industry has successfully transitioned from experimental testing to viable commercial operation. While the majority of consumer vehicles currently utilize **Level 2 or Level 3** Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), true Level 4 autonomy has found its primary foothold in the "robotaxi" sector. Leading this charge is **Waymo**, which now operates fully driverless services across more than a dozen U.S. cities. With a fleet of approximately 2,500–3,000 vehicles and over 170 million autonomous miles logged, their data suggests a significant safety advantage: reporting **92%** fewer serious-injury crashes and **82%** fewer injury crashes compared to human-operated vehicles. [2]



Source: Waymo Safety Impact: Any-injury-reported crashes

Other global players are scaling rapidly to compete in this space. Tesla has deployed its Full Self-Driving (FSD) software to more than 1.1 million personal vehicles worldwide, logging over 8.4 billion cumulative miles, and has launched unsupervised robotaxi operations in Austin, Texas. [3] Tesla's official data for FSD (Supervised) on personal vehicles claims it is substantially safer than manual driving, with reports of **7x** fewer major collisions, **7x** fewer minor collisions, and overall collision rates that improve road safety by over **80%** compared to baseline average U.S. vehicles. However, these figures are for supervised use (a human driver must remain attentive). [3]



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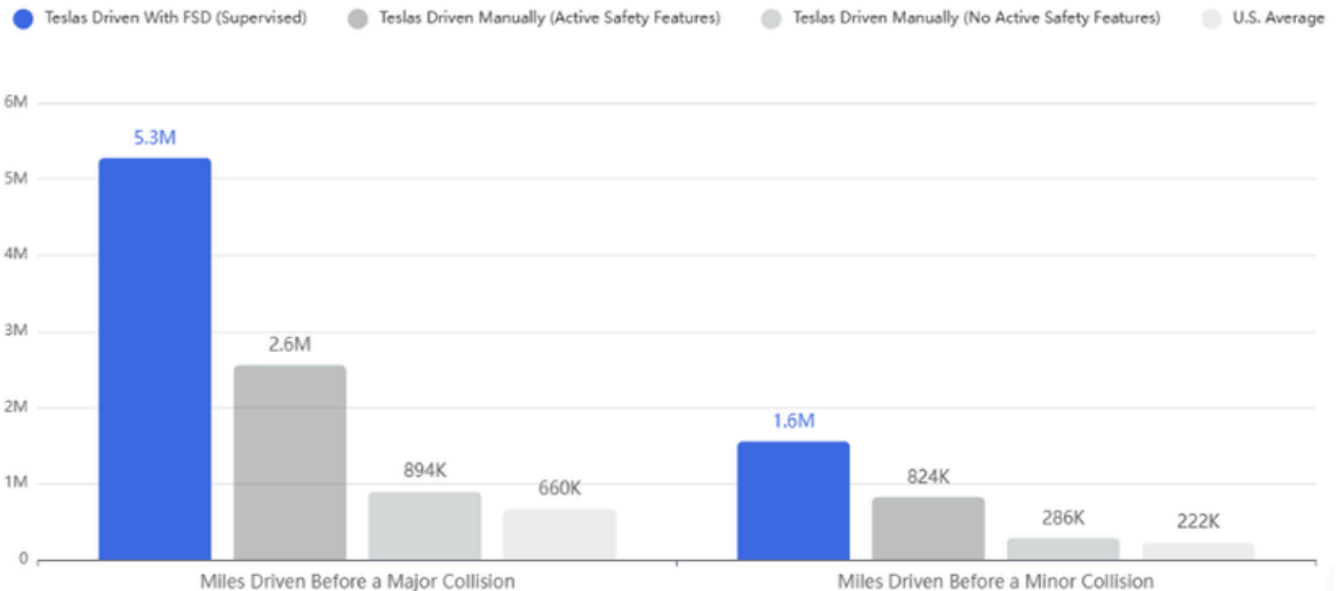
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All Road Classes

Worldwide



Source: Tesla FSD safety report, April 2026

Meanwhile, in China, Baidu's Apollo Go has aggressively expanded its footprint, now operating robotaxis in around 20 cities. These developments indicate that 2026 is a pivotal year; as regulatory frameworks catch up to the technology, autonomous ride-hailing is moving from a niche innovation to a mainstream transportation staple.

The Sensor debate: LiDAR vs Vision system

Engineers building autonomous vehicles face a fundamental choice between LiDAR and camera-based vision systems for perceiving the world around the car. LiDAR sends out laser pulses to generate accurate three-dimensional maps, providing precise distance measurements that work especially well in darkness or low-light conditions. Its main drawback, however, is that performance drops sharply in bad weather—such as heavy rain, fog, or snow—because the laser beams scatter and lose strength before they can return useful data. [4]

Vision-only systems, by contrast, rely on cameras paired with artificial intelligence to interpret scenes in a way similar to human eyesight. These setups are much cheaper to produce and easier to scale for millions of vehicles, while also capturing rich details like colors, traffic signs, and road markings. However, they are highly sensitive to lighting conditions and can struggle badly with glare from bright sunlight, fog that obscures visibility, or low-light situations where important details become unclear. Companies such as Waymo therefore combine LiDAR with radar and cameras for added safety in busy cities, while Tesla bets entirely on vision, trusting that powerful AI will close the gap.



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Ethical Dilemmas and Legal Responsibility

Even though autonomous vehicles promise major safety gains, they still raise difficult ethical and legal questions. The classic “trolley problem” is often used to illustrate the challenge: in a no-win crash situation, how should the vehicle’s software decide whom to protect and whom to sacrifice? While this thought experiment sparks important debates about moral programming, it is argued that it rarely matches the real decisions autonomous cars face on the road. In practice, potential crashes usually involve more than two simple options, and the vehicle’s software can select from a wide, continuous range of possible paths and trajectories rather than being forced into a strict binary choice. [5]

In practice, the more pressing issue is liability—who is legally responsible when something goes wrong? Under current product-liability laws, courts usually hold manufacturers accountable for defects in hardware or software, rather than shifting blame to the vehicle owner or a remote operator. The gaps remain: the roles of software developers, operators, and regulators are still unclear, and there is not a single global standard exists. Without fair, transparent rules that clearly explain who is responsible in an accident, many people may hesitate to trust or adopt the technology.

Progress in Hong Kong: Trials and Regulations

Hong Kong is actively testing autonomous vehicles under a clear new framework introduced in 2024. The Transport Department has granted pilot licences to operators like Baidu Apollo International.

As of January 2026, Baidu has successfully logged over 100,000 kilometers of testing with a record of zero serious accidents or major traffic congestion. [6] Trials in North Lantau have expanded to include cross-district connections between Airport Island and Tung Chung, while also extending to areas like Sunny Bay and Kowloon East. These advancements demonstrate the stability of autonomous driving technology while adapting to Hong Kong's specific traffic regulations and busy urban settings.

The Next Frontier:

Autonomous Navigation in Medicine

Autonomous driving is no longer a distant vision. With growing real-world safety data, expanding robotaxi services, and ongoing trials in Hong Kong, the technology is becoming part of everyday life. The same AI that enables vehicles to navigate safely is also beginning to transform healthcare. In 2026, researchers demonstrated an Autonomous Colonoscope Robot System (ACRS) capable of automated colonoscope insertion in a training model, offering an early proof of concept for autonomous medical procedures under physician supervision. [7] Although still at an early stage, these advances point to a common goal:



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using AI to perform complex technical tasks more safely and consistently. Whether navigating city streets or the human body, the aim is the same—to reduce human error, improve safety, and allow clinicians to focus on the uniquely human aspects of patient care.

References:

1. Hopkins D, Schwanen T. Talking about automated vehicles: What do levels of automation do?. *Technology in Society*. 2021 Feb 1;64:101488.
2. Waymo LLC. Waymo Safety Impact [Internet]. Mountain View (CA): Waymo; 2026 [cited 2026 Apr 12]. Available from: <https://waymo.com/safety/impact/>.
3. Tesla. Full Self-Driving (Supervised) Vehicle Safety Report [Internet]. Austin (TX): Tesla; c2026 [cited 2026 Apr 12]. Available from https://www.tesla.com/en_ph/fsd/safety.
4. Soltanirad M, Baghersad M. Perception Technologies for Autonomous Transportation: A Comparative Analysis of LiDAR, Radar, Camera, and Sonar.
5. Geisslinger M, Poszler F, Betz J, Lütge C, Lienkamp M. Autonomous driving ethics: From trolley problem to ethics of risk. *Philosophy & Technology*. 2021 Dec;34(4):1033-55.
6. Baidu autonomous vehicle trial progress and North Lantau route extension plan. Island District Council Paper No. 1/2026. Hong Kong: Transport Department; 2026 Jan 13 [cited 2026 Apr 12]. 4 p. Available from: https://www.districtcouncils.gov.hk/island/doc/2024_2027/en/dc_meetings_doc/31511/IS_2026_1_EN.pdf
7. Kume K, Taira T, Terao S, Sakai N. In vitro development of the Autonomous Colonoscope Robot System (ACRS) for fully automated colonoscope insertion. *Communications Medicine*. 2026 Jun 30;6(1):366.



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Upcoming Events

AED City Hunt Competition



<https://hkceevent.com/event/aed-city-hunt-competition/>

Objective: Promote public awareness of AEDs and emergency preparedness.

Event Details

HKCEM 30th Anniversary Activity-Public Access AED City Hunt Game & Competition

Date: Saturday, 8 August 2026

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: Public access AEDs in Hong Kong

Registration Fee: Free of charge

Deadline: 2 August 2026

Organization Team:

Team Size: 2-3 students per team
(Team members may include students and/or teachers)
(At least age ≥ 15 on event date)

Family Team:

Team Size: At least 1 adult (Age > 18 on event date) and 1 Kid/Teenager (Age 5-15 on event date)

慶祝香港急症科醫學院成立30周年
應急三十載 守護向未來
AED城市尋蹤挑戰賽

新增公眾參與
親子組

帶我返屋企啦!
完成挑戰可以獲得精美紀念品及證書, 競逐高達 \$2000 獎項

2026年8月8日(六)
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

活動詳情 <及規則

機構組 親子組

免費報名

截止日期: 2026年8月2日

豐富紀念品及獎項

最快完成獎
於活動正式開始後, 最快成功提交 10 個有效 AED 記錄的隊伍

AED 探索者獎
於下午 3 時前提交最多有效 AED 記錄的隊伍 (若記錄數量一樣, 將取較快完成者)

隊名獎
5 個最佳 (最具創意) 隊名獎
每隊可獲 \$500 現金券

人人都有
每位完成挑戰的參賽者:
1. 香港急症科醫學院 30 周年紀念之「AED」掛牌
2. 電子完成證書
3. 獲邀出席「聯活人生嘉年華」
4. 數碼港 5 號 (多功能會議廳)
2026年10月25日(日)

詳情請留意
發行公佈

AED城市尋蹤挑戰賽

NEW
新增公眾參與
親子組

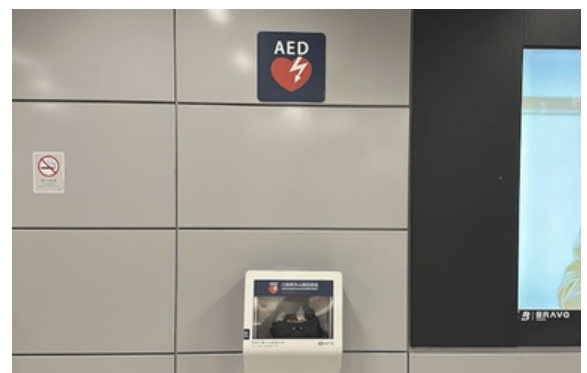
親子組如何組隊?
2-3人一隊, 最少一位成人及一位小朋友。任何人都可以參加, 快啲報名啦! 額滿即止!

完成挑戰可以獲得精美紀念品及證書, 同時可競逐其他獎項

SPECIAL DEAL
公眾親子組
特別禮遇
最快完成獎
首 60 隊親子組隊伍成功提交 10 個有效 AED 記錄
*每隊可獲 \$50 現金券

遊戲玩法
尋找 AED
於2026年8月8日上午9點至下午3點, 利用香港消防處「AED你搵到」網上資訊平台, 在香港各處找尋最少 10 個不同地點的 AED

AED城市尋蹤挑戰賽





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Upcoming Events

HKCEM

FREE PAPER PRESENTATION

Date: 02 Oct 2026

Time: 9am – 5pm

Venue: HKAM

This event provides a platform for trainees to showcase their academic research and fulfill the mandatory research requirements for the College Training programme, as stipulated by the Education Committee.

Please note that in the event of adverse weather, the presentation will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Besides, participation in this Free Paper Presentation is restricted to EM trainees only.



Key Submission Deadlines:

To ensure eligibility, please adhere to the following timeline:

- Title and Abstract Submission:

By **15 August 2026** via email (Jacky at jacky@hkcem.org.hk)

- Notification of Acceptance:

Successful applicants will be notified via email by **26 August 2026**

- Full Paper Submission: For successful applicants, the full paper must be submitted to the College e-Portfolio no later than **02 September 2026**.

Important Notice:

Late submissions will not be entertained.

Please refer to Guidelines for Conduction of Free Paper and Research Seminar Presentation (https://hkcem.org.hk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/EC_TE_GL001_Free-Paper-Presentation-V2.1.pdf) for detailed requirements.

For any inquiries, please contact Jacky at jacky@hkcem.org.hk.



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Upcoming Events

JCM AUG 2026

Date: 5 Aug 2026 (Wed)

Time: 5:30- 7:30pm

Venue: Seminar Room, G/F, Block A,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Program

5:30-6:15pm Case Presentation by AED, CMC

6:15-7:00pm "Prescription and polypharmacy in Geriatric patients"

Dr CHAN Ngai Ho Tony

POH Deputy HCE / POH / TSWH Cos (M&G)

7:05-7:30pm Discussion on Quiz by AED NLTH



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**Apply for a Clinic Licence or
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e-Licensing system



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Simple guide to
Cap. 633

Enquiry

3107 8451 (medical)
2631 1782 (dental)



衛生署

Department of Health