



Community Engagement

## HKU Faculty of Dentistry promotes healthy smiles among local seniors

25 September 2012

Dr Edmond HN Pow (Clinical Associate Professor in Oral Rehabilitation) was invited by the Po Leung Kuk charity group to clarify misconceptions of oral health among Hong Kong's older population at an educational event on 25 September 2012.

Called "Beautiful smiles start with your teeth", the event was held at the charity's headquarters in Causeway Bay and was attended by 388 senior citizens. The main part of the programme was an especially written stage drama that aimed to debunk common myths about oral health and hygiene. Dr Pow, who advised on the script, took part in the play and gave the audience an explanation of its key messages. Afterwards, he also answered audience questions and concerns.

"The Po Leung Kuk was grateful for the Faculty's participation in this health promotion event," says Dr Pow. "Together, we are now producing an accompanying educational booklet for seniors and hope to plan further collaborative health projects."

The educational booklet on oral health and hygiene for elders will be available in early 2013 and distributed by the Po Leung Kuk. Its contents include advice on denture care, toothbrushing and flossing, snacking and eating habits, and a Question and Answer page edited by Dr Pow.

An online version of the educational booklet will be permanently archived soon on the Faculty's website, on its Community Page at: <http://facdent.hku.hk/engagement/community/index.html>.

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*Knowledge exchange (KE) at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry (<http://facdent.hku.hk>) aims to maintain a two-way dialogue between the Faculty and all sectors of the community. The Faculty's KE strategy, public education, and community activities form part of the Faculty's fourth mission of "engagement". We will be pleased to consider any suggestions or comments, or community/school invitations; please e-mail [dentke@hku.hk](mailto:dentke@hku.hk)*

