



FOREWORD

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation. We are pleased to announce that the data of over 30,000 breast cancer patients in Hong Kong have been collected and maintained under the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Registry (HKBCR). Through the collection of extensive data with long-term follow-up, the HKBCR has now grown to become the most comprehensive and representative breast cancer-specific database in Hong Kong and serve as a platform for breast cancer research. These invaluable data facilitate the conduct of various local studies and collaboration on research projects, providing insights into the better management of breast cancer in Hong Kong and benefiting the community.

As shown in the HKBCR data, the majority of breast cancer patients were worried about recurrence, while longer follow-up on survival revealed late recurrences. Continuing our research on metastatic breast cancer, this year we focused on those occurring after definitive treatment for an initial diagnosis of stages I-III disease, i.e. recurrent metastatic breast cancer (rMBC) or distant recurrence, and aimed to expand our knowledge on the risk factors for rMBC and its prognosis. Details of the study findings are set out in the accompanying Bulletin Issue 16.

Our achievement would not be possible without the dedication and foresight of the HKBCR Steering Committee, the efforts of our research team, the generosity of our sponsors and supporters and, most importantly, the trust of Hong Kong breast cancer patients and survivors. Future patients will benefit from the participation of Hong Kong breast cancer patients and survivors who entrusted us with their medical information for aggregate analysis. We extend our heartfelt thanks to each of them.

The publication of the HKBCR report and bulletin provides insights and evidence for stakeholders, including doctors, patients, policymakers and the wider public, to advocate and design plans for more effective cancer control. We will continue to study information from the HKBCR and conduct research for better breast health and cancer care to benefit the community of Hong Kong.

Thank you for your commitment and contribution.



Dr. Polly Cheung
Co-chairman, Hong Kong Breast Cancer Registry
Steering Committee
Founder, Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation



Dr. Chun-chung Yau
Co-chairman, Hong Kong Breast Cancer Registry
Steering Committee
Vice Chairman, Management Committee,
Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation