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## Dr. Polly Cheung awarded Hong Kong Humanity Award 2024

**Dr. Polly Cheung, Founder of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation (HKBCF)**, was awarded the Hong Kong Humanity Award 2024 for her dedication and outstanding contribution to humanitarian work.

**Dr. Cheung** said, “Through years of treating breast cancer, I have gained a deep understanding of the worry and pain that patients went through during treatment. A doctor’s role extends beyond treating diseases; caring for patients is essential.” She emphasised the importance of breast cancer screening, as more than 90% of breast cancer is curable if discovered in early stage. “For yourself and your family, it is important to do screening regularly.”

In 2005, **Dr. Cheung** founded the HKBCF together with like-minded individuals to provide holistic cancer care while raising public awareness about breast cancer. The HKBCF Breast Health Centre has offered one-stop services, including risk assessments, mammography and ultrasound examinations, and diagnostic biopsies, benefitting 176,191 visits and enabling nearly 3,000 patients to detect cancer in earlier stages.

The HKBCF Breast Cancer Support Centre offers Hong Kong’s first lymphoedema care services. It also provides support groups, counselling, Traditional Chinese Medicine services, and drug financial assistance programmes, benefitting over 14,000 patients and serving a total of more than 310,000 visits.

Additionally, the HKBCF established the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Registry to collect data and evidence to advocate for healthcare policies. **Dr. Eliza Fok, Chairman of HKBCF**, remarked, “The HKBCF welcomes the Government’s expansion of the Breast Cancer Screening Pilot Programme and advocates for a three-phase plan for universal breast cancer screening, starting with high-risk women, followed by women in low-income areas, and ultimately implementing universal screening for all.

Breast cancer has become the most common cancer affecting women in Hong Kong since 1994. In 2022, for the first time, breast cancer (with 5,308 newly diagnosed cases) surpassed colorectal cancer to become the second most common cancer in Hong Kong.

### About Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation

The Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation was set up on 8 March 2005, as a non-profit charitable organisation dedicated to mitigating the threat of breast cancer to the local community through education, patient support and research & advocacy. Its mission is to promote breast health awareness, support breast cancer patients on their road to recovery, and advocate breast health education and cancer care in Hong Kong.

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