

Immediate Release

HKSH and PolyU Sign Collaborative Agreement on Master of Science in Dietetics Programme Providing Clinical Placements to Bridge Academic and Practical Training

(2 February, 2026 – Hong Kong) HKSH Medical Group (HKSH) and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) today signed a collaborative agreement to provide diverse placement opportunities for PolyU's pioneering Master of Science (MSc) in Dietetics programme – the first of its kind in Hong Kong, making HKSH the first private medical institution to offer clinical placement and guidance in dietetic studies. This collaboration marks a significant step for both parties in nurturing a new generation of dietetic professionals equipped with both technical expertise and practical experience for the healthcare, research, education, and public health sectors in Hong Kong and the region.

The agreement was signed by **Dr. Walton LI**, Chief Executive Officer of HKSH Medical Group and Medical Superintendent of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital and **Prof. CHEN Sheng**, Head of Department of Food Science and Nutrition of PolyU, under the witness of **Dr. Joseph CHAN**, Chief Medical Officer of HKSH Medical Group, Deputy Medical Superintendent of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital, Director of HKSH Institute for Innovation and Professional Development and **Dr. CHOW Shew-ping**, Deputy Medical Superintendent of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital, **Prof. Daniel SHEK**, Associate Vice President (Undergraduate Programme) of PolyU and **Prof. WONG Man-kin**, Associate Dean of Faculty of Science of PolyU. Both parties will join hands to nurture dietetic talents and broaden the practical experience of students to further promote the development of nutrition management in Hong Kong.

In his address, **Dr. Walton LI** stated, "HKSH and PolyU have jointly offered Hong Kong's first Master of Nursing programme since 2008, providing theoretical teaching and clinical placement opportunities. Today, the collaboration between HKSH and PolyU will extend to the allied health field of dietetics, offering clinical placements for the first local MSc in Dietetics programme. This marks a more comprehensive step forward in our joint efforts to promote the development of healthcare professionals and cultivate a new generation of outstanding dietetic talents for the continuous enhancement of healthcare services."

Prof. Daniel SHEK remarked, "PolyU is committed to nurturing professional talents, and continues to enhance its curriculum to best meet the needs of society and the industry. As the first local university to offer a MSc in Dietetics, PolyU pledges to provide students with diverse placement experiences. This close collaboration brings together PolyU's academic excellence and HKSH's clinical expertise to further optimise the programme design, setting a new benchmark for nutrition education in Hong Kong."

HKSH Dietetics: Integrating Medical Specialties to Foster Clinical and Research Excellence

HKSH firmly believes that dietetics is a key component of high-quality healthcare services, dietetic services have been offered in HKSH since the 1970s. The HKSH Department of Dietetics currently has a team of eight registered dietitians who received professional training in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. The team is dedicated to integrating nutritional health with various specialties, such as oncology, allergy, as well as endocrine and diabetes. This holistic approach enhances clinical nutrition management,

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which not only helps in disease prevention and reduces the risk of chronic illnesses but also improves treatment and rehabilitation outcomes through dietary guidance.

Taking cancer services as an example, the HKSH Department of Dietetics and Comprehensive Oncology Centre jointly launched a malnutrition screening programme in recent years. Registered dietitians would analyse the nutritional status and malnutrition risk of cancer patient. During the two years since its launch, the programme has screened over 850 cancer patients, revealing that over a quarter were malnourished. Early intervention helps to identify patients with nutritional issues, providing targeted, individualised nutritional advice tailored to various cancers and treatments, so as to ensure they receive adequate nutrition to cope with different cancer treatments.

The HKSH Department of Dietetics is evidence-based and has been actively investing resources in various research projects, including desensitisation therapy for different food allergies and allergens. It also participates in evidence-based practices of renowned institutions to promote research, enhance knowledge, and facilitate international exchange. It strives to improve patient outcomes by providing advanced, personalised, and evidence-based nutrition therapy solutions.

Dr. Joseph CHAN stated, “HKSH endeavours to apply numerous advanced technologies in clinical practice, which requires substantial research work and talent training as support. With HKSH Institute for Innovation and Professional Development being one of the training hubs for local medical talents, we believe that this collaboration with PolyU can provide dietetics students with a unique platform for practice and research, helping them master cutting-edge knowledge and skills, and making substantial contributions to the long-term development of the nutrition profession in Hong Kong.”

Under the agreement, HKSH will offer students from PolyU’s MSc in Dietetics programme exceptional hands-on professional training opportunities beginning in the 2026/27 academic year. Through structured clinical placements at HKSH, students will be able to apply their academic knowledge in real life cases in a leading private clinical setting. Direct mentorship from experienced dietitians at HKSH will provide invaluable exposure to advanced dietetic practice. These include participating in nutritional screenings and consultations for inpatients and outpatients, allergy testing, health assessment programmes, and providing personalised nutritional advice before and after treatment for patients undergoing various cancer therapies (e.g. proton therapy and bone marrow transplant). Registered dietitians from HKSH will also serve as mentors for students’ capstone projects, providing guidance in research and clinical audit, public seminars, staff or student training, and education. Both parties look forward to this collaboration in contributing to the development of nutrition science and dietetic talents in Hong Kong.

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About HKSH Medical Group

Officially launched in September 2017, HKSH Medical Group promotes public health and advanced medicine through a multi-faceted, coordinated approach across clinical services, medical education, scientific research and public health education. Members of the Group, including Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital, HKSH Healthcare, HKSH Eastern Medical Centre and HKSH Cancer Centre, are dedicated to offering top-quality holistic care to patients.

Established in 1922, Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital is one of the key members of HKSH Medical Group and a leading private hospital in Hong Kong. Living up to its motto of 'Quality in Service, Excellence in Care', the Hospital is committed to serving the public as well as promoting medical education and research.

For more information about HKSH Medical Group, please visit <http://www.hksh.com>.

About The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) aspires to be an innovative world-class university that pursues excellence in education, research and knowledge transfer for the benefit of Hong Kong, the Nation, and the world. Driven by its motto, "To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind", the University nurtures socially responsible professionals and leaders with a strong sense of national pride and a global perspective, and pursues world-leading research and innovation for societal benefits. The University's unwavering commitment to excellence has garnered international acclaim, with PolyU ranking 54th in the QS World University Rankings 2026. Seven subjects were placed within the top 30 in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025. Among these, "Hospitality and Leisure Management", "Art and Design" and "Environmental Sciences" achieved the top rank in Hong Kong. PolyU also strives to foster a University community in which all members are united with a strong sense of belonging and pride, empowering the University to scale new heights.

For more information about PolyU, please visit <https://www.polyu.edu.hk/tc/>.

About HKSH Institute for Innovation & Professional Development

The HKSH Institute for Innovation & Professional Development (IIPD) was established in 2024 to further enhance HKSH Medical Group's efforts in continuing education for nurses and allied health professionals with an aim to advancing healthcare standards and fostering innovation within the medical community. IIPD serves as a dedicated platform for lifelong learning, knowledge exchange, and skill enhancement among healthcare professionals in Hong Kong and the nearby region through professional courses and partnerships with renowned institutions worldwide. IIPD aligns with the vision and objectives of The Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation, which was established in 1963 by Dr. Li Shu Fan, to advance medical education and research, promote industry development, benefitting the society as a whole.

For more information about IIPD, please visit www.hksh.com/iipd.

About the Department of Food Science and Nutrition and the Master of Science in Dietetics Programme

The Department of Food Science and Nutrition (FSN) at PolyU focuses on food safety, technology, human nutrition, and Chinese medicine. FSN prepares students for meaningful careers by offering up-to-date programmes, practical training, and a global outlook to address important issues like food sustainability and public health.

The Master of Science in Dietetics programme at PolyU offers advanced, practical training to prepare students for professional nutrition care in various settings. The programme is now open for applications for the September 2026 intake. Individuals with a Bachelor's Degree with Honours in Food Science, Food Technology, Nutrition, Biology or Health-related, or other relevant/related science disciplines, along with credits in the subjects of Human Physiology, Biochemistry and Principles of Nutrition are eligible to apply.

For more information about MSc in Dietetics Programme, please visit <https://polyu.hk/RVyMC/>.



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POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
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Department of
Food Science and Nutrition
食品科學及營養學系

Photo Captions :



1. The agreement was signed by **Dr. Walton LI**, Chief Executive Officer of HKSH Medical Group and Medical Superintendent of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (3rd from left) and **Prof. CHEN Sheng**, Head of the Department of Food Science and Nutrition of PolyU (3rd from right), under the witness of **Dr. Joseph CHAN**, Chief Medical Officer of HKSH Medical Group, Deputy Medical Superintendent of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital, Director of HKSH Institute for Innovation and Professional Development (2nd from left) and **Dr. Chow Shew-ping**, Deputy Medical Superintendent of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (1st from left), **Prof. Daniel SHEK**, Associate Vice President (Undergraduate Programme) of Poly U (2nd from left) and **Prof. WONG Man-kin**, Associate Dean of Faculty of Science of PolyU (1st from right).

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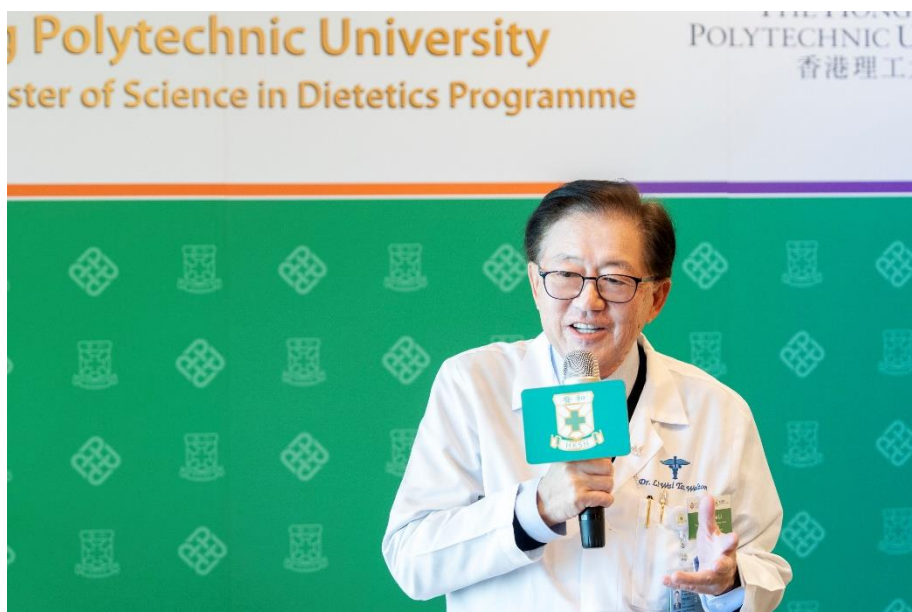
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2. Dr Walton LI stated that HKSH and PolyU would take a more comprehensive step forward in their joint efforts to promote the development of healthcare professionals and cultivate a new generation of outstanding dietetic talents for the continuous enhancement of healthcare services.



3. Prof. Daniel SHEK remarked that this close collaboration brought together PolyU's academic excellence and HKSH's clinical expertise to further optimise the programme design and set a new benchmark for nutrition education in Hong Kong.

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4. Dr. Joseph CHAN said that, as one of the training hubs for local medical talents, HKSH Institute for Innovation and Professional Development would collaborate with PolyU to provide dietetics students with a unique platform for practice and research.



5. Distinguished guests at the Agreement Signing Ceremony between HKSH Medical Group and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

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