

Dear colleagues:

Greeting from Taiwan! It is a good time for us to reflect, share and learn in the chilly winter.

In recent years, the development of newborn medicine appears to be facing a challenge of breakthrough innovations. There has been no major progress in neonatology since the advances in the application of surfactant, high-frequency ventilators, inhale nitric oxide, hypothermia therapy and intestinal flora. Preterm infants have become the most important aspect of the neonatal medicine today, since we have continued to observe the same birth rate of preterm infants over the past decade. Therefore, how to further increase the preterm survival rate and improve the quality of life among survivors are the challenges that neonatologists face today.

It is known that Japan has the highest survival rates and the lowest complication rates in the care of very preterm infants in the world. This year, we are honored to have two renowned professors from Japan to share their experiences of how they turned a high premature mortality rate to a much lower mortality rate with low complications in their hospitals.

In this meeting, we have also invited many prominent speakers, among them are: Yun Sil Chang of South Korea will explain the role of stem cells after IVH; Andrew McPhee from Australia will share the role of LCPUFA in premature babies; Professor Anne Greenough of England, one of the Europe's most famous respiratory therapy experts, will share her experiences; Professor Yeh Tsu-Fuh will talk on the role of PDA in BPD; Professor Tetsuya Isayama of Japan and Canada will tell us which respiratory therapies are the most effective in preventing BPD; Edward G. Shepherd from USA will review the management of BPD complicated with pulmonary hypertension.

We sincerely hope that the experiences and research findings made by these distinguished speakers will enhance the quality of care in very preterm infants and pave the way for more prospective studies in the future to improve the care for very premature births in Taiwan, Asia and around the world.

We are very grateful for the encouragement and support of many colleagues and friends which make the symposium possible. We sincerely invite you to reserve the date of February 25, 2018 to attend this precious meeting in Taichung. Your attendance will give us the greatest encouragement!

Wishing you a New Year filled with peace, joy, happiness and prosperity.

Superintendent, China Medical University Children's Hospital
Director, Neonatology Division, China Medical University
Head, Pediatric Department, Asian University Hospital