Issue 2025.07

Global Alliance of Medical Excellence

>> Message from the University of Nottingham<<

Dear GAME members,

We are so grateful to all our GAME colleagues for taking the time to visit the University of Nottingham in June. We had two days of fruitful and focused discussion on our agreed agenda which spanned all areas of health education and research. The inclusion of a large number of early career colleagues both in person and online was welcomed by all and we hope it can be continued in future meetings.

We agreed three pillars for particular development in the coming year where GAME partners would identify a local champion to join working groups on (i) AI in Education, (ii) PhD4GAME and (iii) Simulation in Education. As we look towards 2026, my colleagues and I in Nottingham look forward very much to next annual meeting in Lund and future TEI events. The importance of GAME and the benefits it offers our trainees, our educators and researchers was clear.

With warm regards,

Professor Nigel Mongan PhD DSc FHEA FRCPath
Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement

Professor of Oncology
Director of Global Engagement
Faculty of Medicine and Health Science
University of Nottingham

>> Message from Monash University <<

Dear GAME members,

On behalf of Monash University, I extend my deepest gratitude to all the academics and students who made the GAME-TEI Summit for Future Leaders 2025, held from 22 to 24 June at our Prato Centre in Italy, an extraordinary success. Your enthusiasm and expertise were invaluable in creating a dynamic platform for collaboration.

The Summit, themed "Enabling Technologies in Medical Practice," provided an immersive, interdisciplinary, and cross-cultural experience for students from diverse backgrounds. The interactive hands-on workshops on Medical Robotics, Simulation, Ethics, and Artificial Intelligence sparked rich discussions on the opportunities and challenges of these advancements. Throughout the event, a common concern emerged: the importance of maintaining sensory, embodied, and empathic connections with patients in an increasingly digital and automated environment.

Thank you for your dedication and contributions to this vibrant Summit. We look forward to building on these connections and expanding the GAME network as we welcome more of the next generation of healthcare leaders.

Warmest regards,

Professor Michelle Leech MBBS Hons FRACP PhD
Deputy Dean FMNHS
Head of Medical Course
Monash University

GAME Spotlight

>>The 9th GAME Annual Meeting <<

The 9th Annual Meeting of the Global Alliance of Medical Excellence (GAME) was successfully held at the University of Nottingham, UK. This event brought together leading experts in healthcare education and research from eight prestigious GAME institutions to ignite innovative ideas and foster collaboration.

The meeting began with warm remarks from Professor Sube Banerjee, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Nottingham. This year's theme, "Enabling Technologies in Health Education and Research," highlighted the transformative role of technologies in reshaping the global health community. On the first day, the meeting included thought-provoking education sessions that featured the need for adaptive teaching methods in today's rapidly evolving learning environments.

▼ Welcome remarks from Professor Sube Banerjee

Key presentations covered various topics such as virtual physiotherapy placements, international collaborations in simulation-based education, and the integration of AI in health education. Speakers explored a range of topics, including AI tools in cardiology and the future of AI in medical training and assessment.

▼ Sharing from Professor Hideki Kasuya

The focus of the afternoon session shifted to the role of AI in health research. Groundbreaking studies—such as AI in digital pathology, the chronological trajectory of health-related quality of life, and patient stratification in premalignant gastric cancer—demonstrated how AI is enhancing clinical outcomes and opening new avenues for collaboration. The VR education and PhD4GAME parallel sessions addressed the use of VR in teaching and explored strategies for international research funding and matchmaking. The day concluded with a delightful dinner at the Trent Building at the University of Nottingham.

On the second day, a platform was created for early career researchers to share their work, facilitating valuable discussions about current challenges, innovations and solutions. The afternoon session focused on global healthcare education opportunities, highlighting the importance of strengthening partnerships between universities and health services to ensure that medical training remains relevant in an ever-changing world.

▲ Group photo of early career researchers

The 2025 GAME Annual Meeting not only reinforced existing relationships but also sparked new collaborations, setting a course for continued leadership in global healthcare education and research.

>>GAME-TEI Summit for Future Leaders 2025<<

The "GAME-TEI Summit for Future Leaders 2025," an engaging three-day international event, was hosted by the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University at its picturesque Prato Centre in Italy from 22 to 24 June 2025. This Summit served as a vibrant platform for international healthcare students and distinguished professors to come together, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and practices in health education. Participants hailed from eight prestigious institutions within the Global Alliance of Medical Excellence, including the University of Bologna, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Korea University, LMU Munich, Lund University, Monash University, and Nagoya University.

The theme of this year's Summit was "Enabling Technologies in Medical Practice," which reflects the growing importance of integrating technology into healthcare. Attendees engaged in hands-on workshops that explored critical topics such as Medical Robotics, Simulation, Ethics, and the application of Artificial Intelligence in medicine. During these collaborative sessions, diverse student groups from various countries and disciplines examined both the opportunities and challenges that arise from advancements in AI, Robotics, Simulation, and Geopolitics.

Highlights from The Chinese University of Hong Kong

>> Award & Honours <<

Congratulations to Professor Juliana CHAN on being the first Hong Kong scholar to receive the highly prestigious "2025 Kelly West Epidemiology Award" by the American Diabetes Association (ADA).

Prof Chan is a world-renowned medical researcher and one of the world's leading authorities in diabetes. This global award aims to recognise Prof. Chan's significant contributions to diabetes epidemiology, including the establishment of the Hong Kong Diabetes Register and the development of data-driven care models that benefit hundreds of thousands of people with diabetes.

During her Kelly West Award Lecture at the 85th American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions on 22 June in Chicago, USA, Prof Chan advocated "the use of diabetes centres, diabetes teams, and diabetes registers to bring out the value of our knowledge and technology and make data-driven diabetes care the standard practice to benefit people with diabetes and those at risk of diabetes with precision and affordability."

Prof Chan's lecture, themed "Hong Kong Diabetes Register—Redefining Diabetes and Creating Solutions," recounted her decades-long journey in diabetes research and care. Returning to Hong Kong in the 1980s amid significant societal changes, she observed how modernisation influenced diabetes risk through shifts in lifestyle, diet, and identity. This inspired her to study the complex interplay of genetic, environmental, and psychosocial factors in diabetes.

By the early 1990s, Prof Chan was pioneering research into Asian-specific diabetes characteristics, such as appropriate body mass index (BMI) thresholds and family patterns of young-onset diabetes. She also systematically demonstrated that team-based structured care protocols improved patient survival. These efforts culminated in the creation of the Hong Kong Diabetes Register (HKDR) in the mid-1990s, a comprehensive data-driven tool accompanied by a biobank to identify care gaps, discover biomarkers for diabetes and inform prevention and treatment strategies.

The HKDR became the foundation for a web-based disease management platform and a regional network of diabetes centres, benefiting over 800,000 people by reducing complications and premature mortality.

▲(from right) Dr Rita Rastogi Kalyani, President (Medicine and Science) of the American Diabetes Association; Prof Juliana Chan; and Mr Charles Henderson, CEO of the American Diabetes Association.

Prof Chan's ongoing work includes exploring the link between diabetes and depression in young adults and developing long-term risk prediction models, reflecting her commitment to advancing personalised, data-driven diabetes care with urgency and compassion.

Prof Chan remarked, "The economic burden and human suffering associated with undiagnosed, untreated, and suboptimally managed diabetes is colossal. Recognising the heterogeneity of patients' causes, trajectories and treatment responses, the potential of many technologies and therapeutics and the many challenges in delivering quality care with precision, our team and I have been combining research and practice to apply and discover knowledge through collaborations to diagnose and treat early in order to 'prevent the preventable'."

Reference:
- https://www.adameetingnews.org/kelly-west-award.../
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gs8CEVqIFY

>> Key Publications <<

CUHK-led multinational study shows new China-developed cancer drug D3S-001 is effective in treating solid tumours, including lung, colorectal and pancreatic cancer

A multinational study led by CU Medicine proved that D3S-001, a next-generation KRAS-G12C inhibitor developed in mainland China, showed promising results in treating various types of solid tumours in terms of anti-tumour activity, safety and tolerability giving hope to cancer patients with KRAS-G12C gene mutations.

KRAS gene mutations are common oncogenic drivers in solid tumours, including non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC), colorectal cancer and pancreatic cancer. Historically, there were limited viable therapeutic options targeting KRAS-G12C mutations; especially in colorectal cancer, where it is necessary to combine a KRAS inhibitor with anti-EGFR antibodies for a satisfactory treatment outcome. Addressing this unmet need, a biotechnology company in the mainland has developed a new generation of KRAS-G12C inhibitor, D3S-001, to enhance efficacy and overcome cancer-drug-tolerant persistence.

Professor Tony MOK, Li Shu Fan Professor of Clinical Oncology, Associate Dean (Translation and Entrepreneurship) and Chairman of the Department of Clinical Oncology at CU Medicine, led an international research team from South Korea, Australia, the United States, mainland China and Hong Kong in a Phase 1 clinical trial of D3S-001 to treat NSCLC, colorectal and pancreatic cancers.

Results showed that the overall safety of D3S-001 is good. The common side effects reported include nausea and diarrhoea, with severity ranging from mild to moderate. Data showed that a daily dose of less than 600 mg is sufficient to completely suppress the KRAS-G12C mutant gene protein in plasma.

The research team said this is a good example of the unique position of Hong Kong working with novel biotechnology companies from China in leading global development. The findings have been published in the renowned medical journal *Nature Medicine*.

Details: https://bit.ly/434aIMH
Full article: https://bit.ly/3YPiszH

A global study led by CUHK and the University of Calgary charts a four-stage evolution of Inflammatory Bowel Disease

The Global IBD Visualisation of Epidemiology Studies in the 21st Century (GIVES 21) consortium, led by Professor Siew NG of CU Medicine and Professor Gilaad KAPLAN of the University of Calgary, conducted a global epidemiological study on Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) synthesising data from 522 population-based studies across 82 geographical regions over the past century. They observed differences in IBD incidence and prevalence across various geographical areas over the past century, suggesting that epidemiological patterns shift through time.

IBD, comprising Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC), refers to a group of chronic conditions that cause ulceration and inflammation in the gut. The disease was first recognised in regions of the West, including North America, Europe and Oceania, that were early to industrialise in the 19th century, and gradually emerged in newly industrialised and developing regions in Asia, Latin America and Africa at the turn of the 21st century. IBD has emerged as a threat to global public health, with increasing incidence in developing countries and rising prevalence in developed countries.

It found that this chronic gut condition follows a four-stage epidemiological evolution across different regions of the world. The team generated a machine-learning model for the classification of stages, which enables healthcare systems to prepare for the growing burden on healthcare arising from the prevalence of IBD.

Stages		Characteristics of IBD prevalence and incidence	Regions or countries currently at this stage
Stage 1	Emergence	Low-income countries; both incidence and prevalence remain low.	Low-income regions in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
Stage 2	Acceleration in Incidence	Rapid rise in new diagnoses as regions industrialise and lifestyles shift, though total cases remain limited.	East Asia, the Middle Eas and high-income regions Latin America.
Stage 3	Compounding Prevalence	With incidence stabilising, prevalence soars—driven by low mortality and accumulating cases in younger populations.	Europe, North America a Oceania
Stage 4	Prevalence Equilibrium	Projected in several high-income regions by 2045, where new diagnoses balance disease related deaths, plateauing overall prevalence.	

Results of the study have been published in the leading scientific journal *Nature*.

Details: https://bit.ly/3YYi2a6
Full article: https://bit.ly/4jAxWAo

>> News <<

The 9th GAME strategic meeting

The next strategic meeting will be held in 23rd September 2025 to update the progress of the research projects and new initiatives. If you would like to propose any discussion items, please contact Ms. Luka Luk (luka.luk@cuhk.edu.hk) or Ms. Dorothy Lee (dorothylee@cuhk.edu.hk).

The 10th GAME Annual Meeting

Lund University will host the next GAME meeting in August 2026.
Further details will be announced later.

GAME-TEI Summit 2026

The next TEI Summit will be hosted by the University of Bologna on 13-15 July 2026.
More information will be provided in due course.