

Foreword by Professor S. P. Chow



Medical practice is both an art and a science — this is almost becoming a cliché. With the 3+3+4 curriculum reform, however, the humanities and arts will be strengthened for our students. This is not only welcome but is also an opportunity to develop the talents of our students. And teachers too! This publication “85 Years of Caduceus” will be a good illustration of this aspect of our medical school.

Recent development in medical technology have brought exciting possibilities but also worrying problems. I was flying from Hong Kong to London in November 2009. As I pondered on this topic, I dropped down a few lines and I would like to share these with you.

Last night, I was flying from Hong Kong to London,

In mid-air, I had a strange dream.

In which I saw divided spinal cord rejoined,

No need for wheelchairs or other means.

And congenital defects corrected before childbirth,

With the skillful manipulation of defective genes.

Broken bones joining instantaneously,

No plasters, crutches, and heavy splints.

Lost hands and legs regenerating with a Midas touch,

Away with cumbersome artificial limbs.

But amidst the ecstasy of my twilight state,

A voice came down from above, it seemed.

“Let all these be guided by love and care,
And not to conquer nature – for no one shall win!”

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