Brief Introduction of Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH)

Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH) is located in Beijing, the capital city of People’s Republic of China. The hospital is a tertiary comprehensive hospital covering medical treatment, scientific research and medical education. It is designated by Ministry of Health of China as one of the national support centers for diagnosis and treatment of severe and complicated diseases. Through 2011 to 2015, the hospital ranked the top in the “Best Hospitals Rankings in China”.

Currently, there are two campuses in PUMCH, with a total construction area of 530,000 square meters. PUMCH has over 4,000 employees, 6 academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and/or Chinese Academy of Engineering, 53 clinical and medical departments, 21 National Key Clinical Specialties, 20 National Key Disciplines, 16 doctoral training programs, 26 master training programs, and 6 national medical further education centers, 15 second-degree resident training bases and 15 third-degree subject specialist training bases. PUMCH offers 2,000 beds. It has up to 13,000 daily outpatient visits, annually 72,000 discharged inpatients. Meanwhile, PUMCH shoulders medical security responsibilities for providing medical support for the underdeveloped and remote regions, emergencies and major national events.

Brief Introduction of Division of Clinical Microbiology, PUMCH

The Division of Clinical Microbiology was established in 1921. Now it consists of 22 sub-working groups/working benches, performing routine laboratory diagnosis of bacterial, TB, fungal and viral infections, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, as well as regular surveillance of nosocomial infections and scientific research. The daily experimental workload is huge, totally over 700 samples tests (including microscopy, culture, serology, molecular, etc.) everyday. Currently, we have 27 regular employees and 12 contract employees to keep the lab running. Most staffs have a bachelor’s degree or vocational certification. Staff with higher education background will take more administrative work after several years’ rotation. Around one fifth of our staffs experienced over 3 months’ studying at top-rank clinical microbiology labs in e.g. Europe, US and Australia.

Every year we accepted more than 50 undergraduate students, interns and researchers from all over the country for advanced study. Every week we have at least four afternoons for different groups of teaching. To broaden our research thinking, we meet every month to report and discuss research literature. Because of our good training mechanism and because we have 2 doctoral tutors and many prominent teachers, our division is designated as one of the residency training bases in China.

Our research interests include but are not limited to nationwide surveillance of antimicrobial (e.g. antibacterial and antifungal) resistance, molecular epidemiology of major “super-bugs”, resistance mechanisms, developing/evaluation of novel rapid diagnostic assays. In the recent years, our division obtained research funds from Ministry of Science and Technology of China (3 projects), Ministry of Health of China (7 projects), Natural Science Foundation of China (2 projects), Beijing Municipal Bureau of Health (2 projects), etc. In addition, we collaborate with clinical diagnosis and pharmaceutical enterprise for developing/assessment of new diagnosis assays, performing clinical trails, and evaluating novel antimicrobial agents. Our research achievements received two National Science and Technology Progress Awards. Over 100 scientific papers have been published during the past five years.

The Division of Clinical Microbiology of PUMCH is the first ESCMID cooperating center in Asia. Up to now there were already three experts from Europe made observership in our lab and established friendship with our staff. We also established cooperation with institutions in Europe, US and Australia for more than 10 years. We are looking forward to developing further international collaborations with ESCMID, the ESCMID members, and their institutions.

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