

ChinaCLEN promotes rational drug use

ChinaCLEN LAMP workshop In line with its priority program to promote rational drug use in China, ChinaCLEN hosted a workshop on problem-based learning on pharmacotherapy on August 10-12, 2001 in Chengdu. Supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and INCLEN, the workshop aimed to enhance capacity building on problem-based method of teaching pharmacotherapy and to promote quality training and research activities on rational drug use. Seventy clinicians and pharmacists from 9 medical universities of China covering 11 provinces participated in the workshop.

Dr. Hans Hogerzeil, coordinator of Policy, Access and Rational Drug Use (PAR) at the WHO, opened the workshop with a talk on rational pharmacotherapy. He also talked on the WHO Guide to Good Prescribing while Prof. Ranjit Roy Chaudhury, President of the Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Drug Use, presented the Rational Drug Use Programme in India. Dr. Budiono Santoso, regional adviser on pharmaceuticals, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, joined Drs. Hogerzeil and Chaudhury during the demonstration on how to conduct problem-based teaching. Drs. Santoso and Hogerzeil also presented examples of p-drug selection and Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). Dr. Zhao Minggang, officer from the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), of China talked on the "Current Policy on Essential and Generic Drugs Act in China".

In addition to the presentations, workshop participants developed plans towards further promotion of rational drug use. The group agreed to conduct capacity building activities on Guidelines for Good Prescribing (GGP) and to establish a task force for Good Clinical Practice (GCP) training program in China. There were also plans to conduct a multi-center study on rational drug use within CEUs of ChinaCLEN.

This workshop would not have been possible without the kind assistance of Dr. Rodolfo Dennis, Senior Program Consultant of INCLEN and Dr. Liu Yanfei, Vice Director of the Department of Research and Education, Ministry of Public Health of China.

Subsequently, 3 clinicians and 1 pharmacist from selected medical universities represented China in the first Asian GGP training program held at the University of the Philippines Manila on October 2001.

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