

PVRI China Task Force Report 2021

The PVRI China Task Force continues its active participation in organising national and international conferences and educational courses on pulmonary vascular diseases (PVDs) aiming to extend the understanding of venous thromboembolic diseases (VTE), which includes pulmonary embolism (PE), deep venous thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary hypertension (PH).

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It also supports the exchange of clinical experiences and encourages international collaboration, generating several joint publications and promoting clinical and translational PVD research in China.

Main activities include:

Implementing national strategies on the PE-DVT and CTEPH programme

1 National Programme for the Prevention and Management of Pulmonary Embolism and Deep Venous Thrombosis in China (China VTE Prevention Programme)

The National Health Commission of China has included PE-DVT prevention and treatment policies into hospital assessment indicators. This programme aims to help hospitals nationwide to establish a system for VTE prevention and management by formulating strategies on thromboprophylaxis, and standardising the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of VTE.

We hosted a series of activities and scientific conferences, to coordinate the combat against VTE at the national level, such as:

- 1) Formation of a national multidisciplinary steering committee;
- 2) Standardisation of the VTE prevention and management system;
- 3) Promotion of guidelines and manual for VTE prevention and treatment;
- 4) Recommendation of procedures for risk assessment, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of VTE;
- 5) Application of information technology and quality control system;
- 6) Education on VTE prevention and management.

246 experts from different fields conducted on-site evaluations of 102 hospitals to establish local systems for VTE prevention and



management. The criteria included organising and management, medical care and technique, education and scientific research. The hospitals that met all the criteria, were certified as VTE centres. A new series of documents were released in October 2021 which included the evaluation standards of secondary and tertiary hospitals, management methods and work manuals. During this year, more than 1,060 hospitals enrolled in the VTE prevention programme, and 224 hospitals passed the national evaluation and were certified.

1,800 professionals from 470 hospitals visited the VTE centres to improve understanding and the implementation of in-hospital VTE prevention. We organised more than 1,050 academic activities; attended by more than 300,000 participants, including more than 10 academic conferences with 56,000 participants; 780 offline training sessions with 65,000 participants; 295 online training sessions with 38,000 participants; 48 online public courses on thrombosis prevention and treatment with 139,000 participants.

As part of the National VTE Prevention Programme, the regional alliance constructs and develops the regional VTE prevention systems. The regional alliance has been established in 19 provinces including Beijing, Sichuan, Shanghai, Chongqing, Shaanxi, Fujian, Henan, Guizhou, Hebei, Yunnan, Gansu, Tianjin, Guangdong, Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Hunan, Hubei, Guangxi and Jilin province.

The 2021 conference on VTE Prevention in China was held on 13-15 October 2021. The conference was divided into 17 topics and sections with 57 academic reports, covering respiratory, vascular



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surgery, cardiovascular, blood, tumour, orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, medical administration management, nursing and other disciplines. Representatives hailed from 30 provinces, regions and cities in China, working in different fields, including government, hospitals, enterprises, the public and others. The cumulative number of offline participants exceeded 1,530 and the total number of online viewers approached 300,000.

To increase awareness of thrombosis, activities were conducted on 13-15 October 2021, which coincided with World Thrombosis Day (13 October). These included education for patients and the public, MDT consultation for PE-DVT patients, social media activities promoting World Thrombosis Day, and an educational programme for physicians.

2 National CTEPH and PAH programme 20-23 October 2021, CTEPH Master Class 2021.

A hybrid multi-centre educational platform for the diagnosis and management of PVDs took place. More than 200 experts and scholars in related fields attended the conference based at the China-Japan Friendship Hospital and 42,000 participants joined online.

Educational courses on pulmonary vascular diseases (PVDs)

3 PH Guidelines education and distribution programme:

Chinese guidelines were published for the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension in January 2021. Since December 2020, we commenced a monthly lecture tour in different areas of China including Beijing, Guangdong, Shanghai, Hunan, Shanxi, Chongqing, Liaoning, Henan, Shandong, Hebei and Anhui. More than 100 experts and 100,000 participants attended the Guideline Lecture Tour online.

4 World Pulmonary Hypertension Day activities:

On 5 May 2021, World PH Day and on a national scale, physicians from different cities conducted an online meeting to raise awareness of PH by staging various events involving both the scientific community and the general public. A series of educational and social activities on pulmonary hypertension were held in different cities all over China. More than 300 multi-disciplinary physicians and 15,000 medical staff participated in the activities online. The issues of health education, social support, medical insurance and standardised treatment for Chinese PH patients were discussed. Pulmonary Hypertension Academy, a multi-centre and multi-disciplinary educational platform for the diagnosis and management of PVDs was arranged into a one-week programme

in Beijing, with participating hospitals including Peking Union Medical College, China-Japan Friendship Hospital, Peking Union Hospital, Beijing Fuwai Hospital, Beijing Anzhen Hospital, Beijing Chaoyang Hospital and Beijing Hospital. This academy provided excellent opportunities for learning and communication between young physicians who have a great interest in PH.

5 Multi-disciplinary consultation platform:

To provide good support for individualised diagnosis and treatment of PE and PH, a multi-disciplinary consultation platform for the diagnosis and management of PVDs was established by the Assembly of PE-PVD Group and the Chinese Thoracic Society. By the end of November 2021, more than 100 experts from 30 centres participated in the programme.

National and international conferences of pulmonary vascular diseases

6 National Congress on Pulmonary Embolism and Pulmonary Vascular Diseases and the 10th International Conference:

From 15-17 October 2021, the 13th National Congress on Pulmonary Embolism and Pulmonary Vascular Diseases and the 10th International Conferences of Pulmonary Circulation Disorders were held. Both events took place in a hybrid format with the face-to-face element taking place in Chengdu, Sichuan, achieved by collaboration between the PVRI and the CTS. The most updated guidelines of PH, CTEPH, VTE and particularly the updated guidelines on anti-thrombosis and prevention of thrombosis were covered. The talks and discussions shared the latest knowledge on the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of PE and PH which helped to enhance PVRI's educational programme. Approximately 22,101 participants joined the 113 academic reports online.

The Annual Congress of the Chinese Association of Chest Physicians, (CMDA) was held on 17-20 July 2020 in Wuhan. This conference provided a stage for communication to ensure a high standard and further progress in the diagnosis and treatment of

PVDs including PE and PH for physicians, scientists and other healthcare providers in China.

7 Regional conference of Pulmonary Hypertension

15-16 May 2021 the Guangzhou Forum of PH was held in Guangzhou. A total of 150 scientists and doctors participated and discussed the important topics of PH, including the pathogenesis of PH, the recent progress on the standardised diagnosis and treatment.

13-14 November 2021 The Guangzhou International Pulmonary Vascular Intervention Summit Forum was held in Guangzhou. Experts on PVD research from the United States, Japan, as well as over 80 Chinese experts gave lectures and discussed the broad spectrum of academic topics in the diagnosis and interventional treatment of PVDs.

The Annual International Summit Forum on Pulmonary Vascular Intervention held by the Guangdong Clinical Medical Association and the Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Health provided a platform for sharing experiences and discussing the latest studies. Over 8,400 medical staff nationwide joined the forum online. ■

