Date: 13 Aug 2018

Condemn violence in Emergency Department

In response to a news report today (13 Aug 2018) (1), the Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine (“HKCEM”) and the Hong Kong Society for Emergency Medicine & Surgery (“HKSEMS”) are jointly making a statement to condemn any form of violence at the Emergency Department.

Background: While a doctor was caring and performing physical examination for a patient suspected of substance abuse in the Emergency Department, he was physically assaulted by that patient. Fortunately, no serious harm was done and the violent act was brought to a stop at once.

Our statement:
The HKCEM and HKSEMS condemn any form of workplace violence in the Emergency Department. Emergency Department is a high-risk area in the hospital where patients with various undifferentiated symptoms are managed together. We would urge our colleagues to take extra precautions in caring for patients who might have the tendency to violence, and the Hospital Authority to look into the matter and review the security measures in order to provide a safe working environment for our colleagues.

HONG KONG COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE
HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR EMERGENCY MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Reference:
(1) 明愛醫院醫生遭男子揮拳襲擊