

# **2014 New York Oncology Forum**

by

## **Chinese American Hematologist Oncologist Network (CAHON)**

In preparation of celebrating the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, CAHON held its first New York Oncology Forum on September 7, 2014 in Flushing, New York City (agenda attached). There were approximately 100 attendees, mostly from the tri-state area surrounding New York City. A few came from Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Washington. Six of the CAHON board members were present as speakers or moderators, and assisted on meeting logistics. Newly appointed CAHON vice president, Michael Liao, MD, PhD, hematologist and oncologist, flew in from Seattle to attend the meeting and assisted on meeting logistics. Most attendees are physicians, including a few residents and fellows. Bo Wang, a senior medical student and oncologist-to-be, also came and provided assistance at the meeting. It is estimated that majority of Chinese American hematologists and oncologists practicing in the tri-state area were at the meeting. Furthermore, six radiation oncologists and six pathologists also attended the meeting. There were 24 companies from pharmaceutical industry, finance, and clinical laboratories on site for exhibition of their products and services.

In addition to the presentation on latest development in hematology and oncology, including updates from ASCO, an advisory board and panel discussion were also held and touched upon several major issues related to hematology and oncology practice, training and career paths. With the rapidly growing population of patients from China seeking medical care and consultation in US, the panel and the attendees focused on one representative case and discussed in depth on issues and challenges related to data collection, presentation, diagnosis, and ultimately tough decisions on therapeutic advises. Questions on malpractice insurance coverage, and differences in drug availability and delivery system for patients in China were also briefly discussed.

A couple of associate directors for hem/onc fellowship programs were present. Advises were provided on how to best prepare for fellowship application during residency training, including selection of elective rotations, research projects, as well as publications.

We have received many positive feedbacks after the meeting. Nine CAHONs joined CAHON as lifetime members at the meeting. This meeting received full support from Association of Chinese American Physicians (ACAPonline.org). Further collaboration between CAHON and ACAP has been discussed.

This meeting represents another milestone in further building “the bridge” among CAHON members and fulfilling CAHON’s missions to serve its members and promote academic exchange in hem/oncology community.