

Professor Wu Ting-yuk Anthony

Honorary Fellow Citation



The Yellow Emperor's Inner Canon, or Huangdi Neijing, stated: "The sages usually do not treat illnesses that have already developed, but rather those that have not yet arisen; they do not rectify disorder that has already occurred, but rather prevents it before it happens." This embodies the wisdom of the true sages who understand the crux of medicine and pay dual attention to both disease prevention and the development of forward-looking healthcare strategies. By pushing forward such proactive policies, public health is secured, medical governance streamlined, and future crises averted, thus laying the foundation for a flourishing and harmonious society.

Born in Hong Kong in 1954, Professor Anthony Wu Ting-yuk is a paragon of versatile expertise. In 1979, he qualified as a Chartered Accountant in the UK, earning top honors in the professional examinations. By 1985, at the age of 31, he had risen to prominence in the accounting profession, and was already the youngest partner at Ernst & Young (EY), then one of the world's Big Eight accounting firms. In 1996, Professor Wu was invited to join EY's Global Executive Board, making history by becoming the first Chinese to serve on the international board of a major accounting firm. The native son of Hong Kong has maintained unwavering loyalty to his motherland. As early as 1985, he was among the first batch of Hong Kong accountants who crossed the border, assisting in training mainland intern accountants. He also helped align mainland accounting practices with international standards, making significant contributions to the field. Today, Professor Wu is a Fellow of both the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public

Accountants and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, as well as the Honorary Chairman of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants (Australia) Hong Kong Branch.

Having excelled in the accounting field, Professor Wu extended his contributions to the broader business community. Notably, he assisted numerous mainland enterprises in listing on Hong Kong and overseas stock markets, while also helping attract multinational corporations and foreign investment to Hong Kong. As a trailblazer in the listing of H-shares and red-chip companies, he demonstrated exceptional strategic vision and business acumen, earning enduring respect from his peers. From 2010 to 2012, he served as Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, where his exemplary leadership garnered widespread acclaim from the business community.

Having served the broader business community, Professor Wu went on to make a lasting impact through public service. In 2003, Hong Kong was struck by the SARS outbreak, which placed tremendous strain on its healthcare system. The following year,

Professor Wu was invited by then-Chief Executive Mr Tung Chee-hwa to serve as Chairman of the Hospital Authority (HA)—a position he held until 2013. Assuming leadership during the critical post-SARS recovery period, Professor Wu carried out his responsibilities with unwavering dedication and visionary leadership. Over his decade-long tenure, he revitalised the HA's financial and administrative systems while proactively strengthening public engagement. He also championed greater collaboration among healthcare professionals across sectors, significantly improving the efficiency of medical services in Hong Kong. Under his stewardship, the HA implemented timely and effective reforms that systematically enhanced public healthcare delivery. These improvements not only bolstered public trust but also earned widespread societal recognition. His outstanding contributions were commended by all three Chief Executives under whom he served.

Among his many notable accomplishments was his effective management of multiple crises during his tenure at the HA, including resolving labour union disputes and alleviating public anxiety during outbreaks

of avian flu, swine flu, and the melamine-contaminated milk scandal. His strategic foresight and exceptional leadership earned the HA widespread community recognition. A proactive advocate for healthcare innovation, he championed the integration of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) into Hong Kong's healthcare system, successfully establishing TCM clinics across all 18 districts. Known for his hands-on approach, he regularly engaged in extensive consultations with medical unions and stakeholders to improve HA services. Notably, he became the first to propose to the government the establishment of a Chinese medicine hospital — a visionary initiative that garnered profound respect. Under his leadership, the HA forged significant partnerships, signing collaboration agreements with China's Ministry of Health (now the National Health Commission) and several leading mainland hospitals. These efforts strengthened cross-border cooperation between mainland and Hong Kong healthcare sectors.

Since 2009, Professor Wu has served as a senior adviser to China's Ministry of Health and the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine. In 2010, he was appointed

to the National Healthcare Reform Committee under the State Council, chaired by Vice-Premier Liu Yandong, where he contributed expert recommendations on healthcare policy to the central government. Drawing on his extensive experience in healthcare administration, Professor Wu was the sole representative from Hong Kong invited to join this high-level advisory body.

Driven by patriotism and deep compassion for others, Professor Wu has consistently stood in solidarity with the nation during times of crisis, offering unwavering support. In the aftermath of the devastating 2008 Sichuan earthquake, he led a team of over 60 Hong Kong medical volunteers to Chengdu within a week of the disaster, dedicating themselves to emergency rescue and recovery efforts. His team performed more than 50 major amputation surgeries and initiated training programmes for mainland clinical psychologists and rehabilitation personnel to support long-term aftercare services. Beyond immediate relief, Professor Wu was the founding patron of the StandTALL Project, which raised funds to support advanced prosthetic surgeries, trauma rehabilitation, and psychological counselling, helping survivors rebuild their lives and restore

hope. Long after the disaster, the Project remained a steadfast source of support for those in need. For his distinguished contributions to earthquake relief and the Foundation's lasting impact, Professor Wu received high commendations from the central and local governments.

The sight of innocent children with faces brimming with purity but battling devastating illnesses is profoundly heartrending. Deeply moved by their plight, Professor Wu became patron of the Little Life Warrior Society in 2011, an organisation dedicated to supporting children with cancer and their families. Far more than a generous benefactor, he actively participated in the Society's activities, even putting on a Santa Claus costume to sing carols with young patients during Christmas celebrations. His genuine compassion earned him the affectionate nickname "Uncle Wu", bringing moments of joy and comfort to children during their most challenging times. Professor Wu's humanitarian commitment extended further through his founding of the Hainan Sunshine Baby Foundation, which provides critical support to families of thalassemia patients while facilitating access to advanced medical treatments. His tireless

advocacy for vulnerable children attracted support from the Run Run Shaw Foundation, enabling the expansion of this vital programme to reach even more young patients in need.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Professor Wu quickly recognised both the potentially devastating impact of the virus on the community and the urgent need for large-scale testing. At the time, Hong Kong faced a severe shortage of testing facilities, and the then-high cost of testing, ranging from \$2,500 to \$3,500 per test, made it inaccessible to many. Taking decisive action, Professor Wu collaborated with China's National Health Commission and BGI Group to expand PCR (polymerase chain reaction) testing capacity while drastically reducing costs. Through his relentless efforts, testing capacity increased from just 2,000 tests per day in early 2020 to a scale capable of supporting the government's mass community testing programme, through which 1.7 million tests were completed within two weeks. By late 2022, the cost per test had plummeted to just \$150, making testing both affordable and widely available. Professor Wu's timely contribution proved pivotal during the critical moments of the pandemic, exemplifying the power and wisdom of early

intervention in averting crisis and restoring order before chaos escalates.

Professor Wu provided steadfast assistance on multiple fronts when the government was struggling to tackle the challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. He established efficient testing stations at border crossings, airports, quarantine hotels and residential communities, delivering fast and accurate services that strengthened the government's containment efforts. Leveraging his advisory role with the National Health Commission, Professor Wu facilitated crucial collaborations between the central government and the Hong Kong government in their joint efforts to cope with the pandemic. When there was severe shortage of masks, he coordinated donations of masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) for use by public hospitals and doctors in private practice. These timely and low-key provisions brought essential relief when it was most needed, protecting not only front-line medical personnel but ultimately the entire community.

Professor Anthony Wu Ting-yuk has made outstanding contributions to Hong Kong's healthcare sector. On account of his expert

knowledge in the field, he was appointed Honorary Professor of the Faculty of Medicine at this University in 2014, having previously been conferred the title of Honorary Fellow of the School of Public Health and Primary Care within the same Faculty in 2009. In 2024, he was named Honorary Professor of the School of Chinese Medicine at Hong Kong Baptist University. His national impact on medicine has been equally significant, earning him the title of Honorary Professor from Peking Union Medical College Hospital and appointment as Distinguished Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University. For his exceptional community service, Professor Wu was awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR Government in 2008 and has served on the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) since 2013.

Mr Chairman, Professor Wu possesses strong expertise and has made wide-ranging contributions. He has excelled and made outstanding contributions across multiple professional domains, including accountancy, business, and healthcare. His remarkable achievements have earned him widespread recognition and acclaim in Hong Kong and across the nation. On

account of his unparalleled service to Hong Kong and steadfast commitment to societal advancement, it is my great privilege to present Professor Anthony Wu Ting-yuk for an Honorary Fellowship of the University.