THE FIRST AFFILIATED HOSPITAL OF SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY

Building on a prestigious heritage

With an illustrious history, the First Affiliated Hospital of Sun Yat-sen University is seeking to extend its influence by opening up new opportunities.

Founded by Sun Yat-sen, the great forerunner of China’s democratic revolution, Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) is a key university in China with a long history and prestigious tradition. Its medical school, Zhongshan School of Medicine, can be traced back to Boji Medical School — China’s oldest Western medicine school. The university was the site of many firsts in China’s history of Western medicine: the first therapeutic laparotomy, the first surgical anaesthesia, the first cystolithotomy, the first ophthalmologic operation and the first use of X-ray imaging.

Leveraging its nearly 150-year heritage, Zhongshan School of Medicine is now one of China’s largest healthcare systems, with eight affiliated hospitals, five indirectly affiliated hospitals, seven community service centres and 29 teaching hospitals. It is ranked among the top in China for clinical practice and medical education and research. It plays a central role in China’s medical field and also enjoys a good reputation abroad.

The First Affiliated Hospital of SYSU adheres to the tenet of “Treat the disease, the body, and the mind; save the people, the country, and the world.” Founded in 1910, it is the largest of all the SYSU-affiliated hospitals. With five national key disciplines, one national–local collaborative engineering laboratory, six provincial key laboratories, one provincial engineering laboratory, five provincial engineering technology research centres and three provincial bases for international cooperation, it is one of the largest and strongest hospitals in China. The hospital has 28 national key clinical specialties — the fourth highest among Chinese hospitals. With 3,141 beds, 4.7 million outpatient visits, 110,000 inpatients and 81,000 surgical operations annually, it is a first-class base for medical service, training and research.

The hospital has pioneered multiple innovative medical technologies with national and global influence. Examples include the first successful kidney transplantation in China, limb replantation, separation of twins conjoined at the head, third-generation test-tube baby technology, China’s first intracavitary therapies for thoracic–abdominal aortic aneurysm and aortic dissection aneurysm (therapies available in only a few places in the world), and Asia’s first simultaneous kidney and liver transplant and organ cluster transplant.

For 2011–2015, the hospital was awarded 390 million RMB funding for 1,429 various research projects, enabling it achieve a series of influential research outcomes. The hospital is also active in international exchange, having established academic collaboration with medical education and research institutions in many countries and regions, including the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, University of Birmingham, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Association for Medical Education in Europe.

In 2016–2020, the First Affiliated Hospital of SYSU will target the frontier of clinical medicine and develop high-level clinical and basic research platforms, including a state key laboratory, an international clinical research centre, a biobank and big databases. Focusing on critical and common diseases that are major health threats, the hospital will conduct translational, clinical and precision medicine research aimed at individualized patient care.

The First Affiliated Hospital of SYSU is building on its 100-year heritage by opening new development opportunities. Outstanding biomedical and clinical researchers from around the world are invited to join the hospital and help build a world-class medical centre that excels in clinical services, research and education.

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