#### Paediatric Palliative Care From Metabolic physician perspective

Hong Kong Society of Children's Palliative Care Annual Symposium 2019



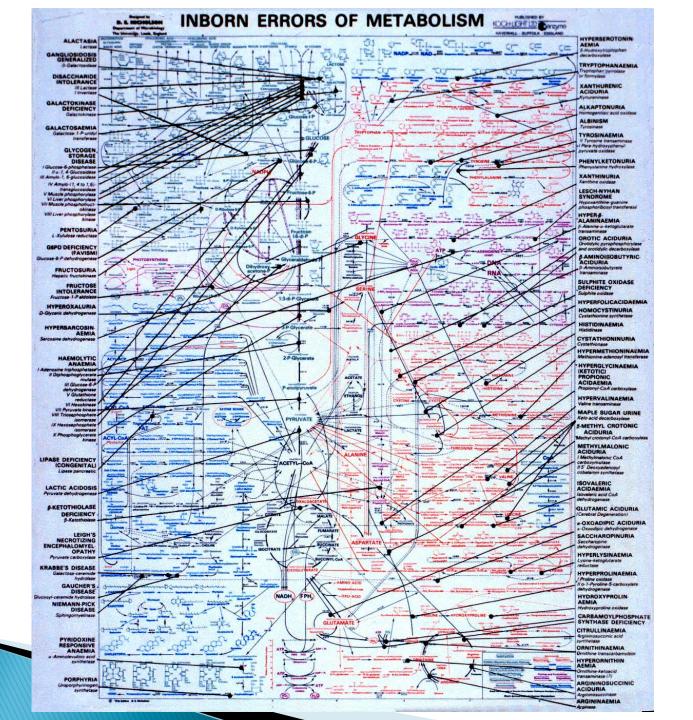
#### **Terminology**

- Metabolic diseases
- Inborn errors of metabolism (IEM)
- Inherited metabolic diseases (IMD)
- Rare diseases
- Orphan diseases

#### Inborn errors of metabolism (IEM)

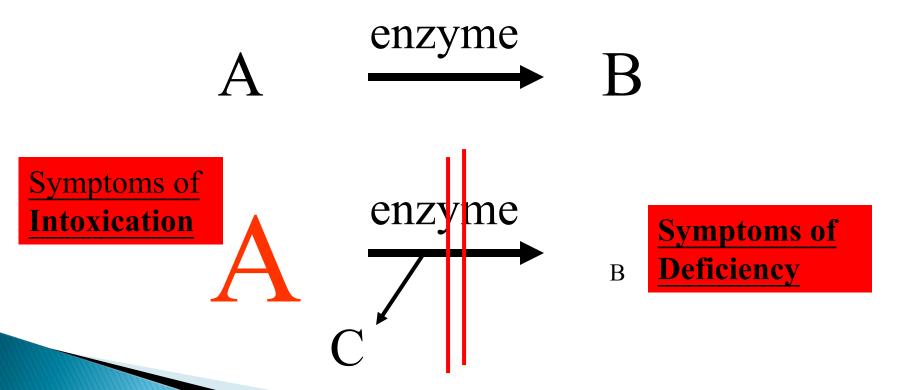
- Individually very rare
- Collectively common group of disorders affecting ~ 1 in 4000 births
- >more than 1000 identified IEMs
- List continuously increasing

- Variable presentations
- Chronic progressive vs acute rapid deteriorating clinical course
- Mild to severe
- Subtle to overt
- Newborn screening has been life saving for some



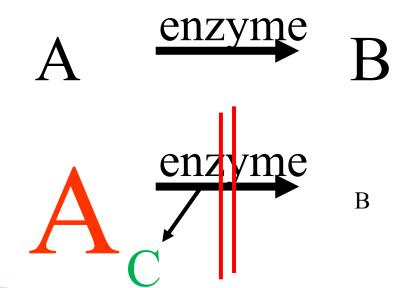
#### Inborn errors of metabolism (IEM)

Defect in a metabolic pathway



#### Therapeutic Approaches for IEM

- Substrate Deprivation
- Externally supplement the deficient product
- Stimulating an alternative pathway
- Providing a vitamin co-factor
- Replacing an enzyme
- Organ Transplant
- Gene Therapy



# Some IEMs are easily treated with simple measures like drugs, dietary manipulation

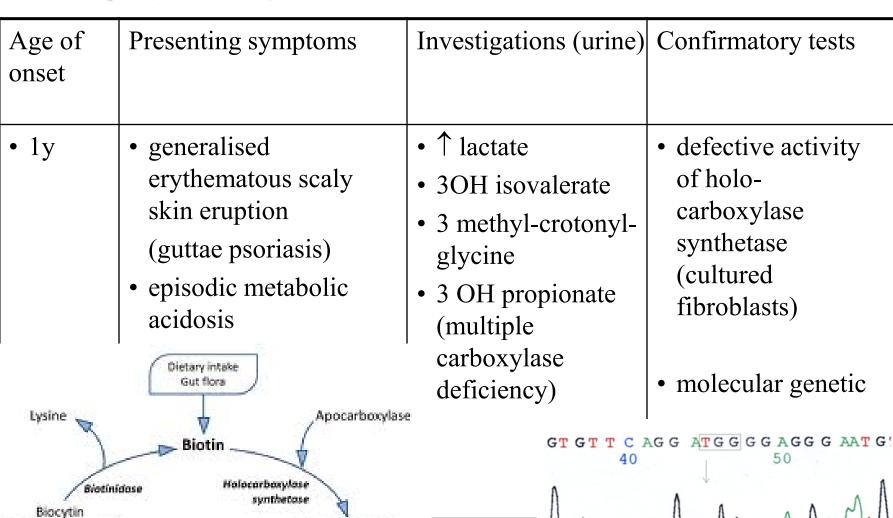
#### Scaly skin rash 鱗屑疹

#### Holocarboxylase Synthetase deficiency

#### 合成酶缺乏症

(biotinylated lysine)

Biotinylated peptides -



Holocarboxylase

#### Holo-carboxylase Synthetase deficiency

#### 合成酶缺乏症

Diagnosis

Multiple carboxylase deficiency

(Holocarboxylase synthetase deficiency)

Treatment

biotin

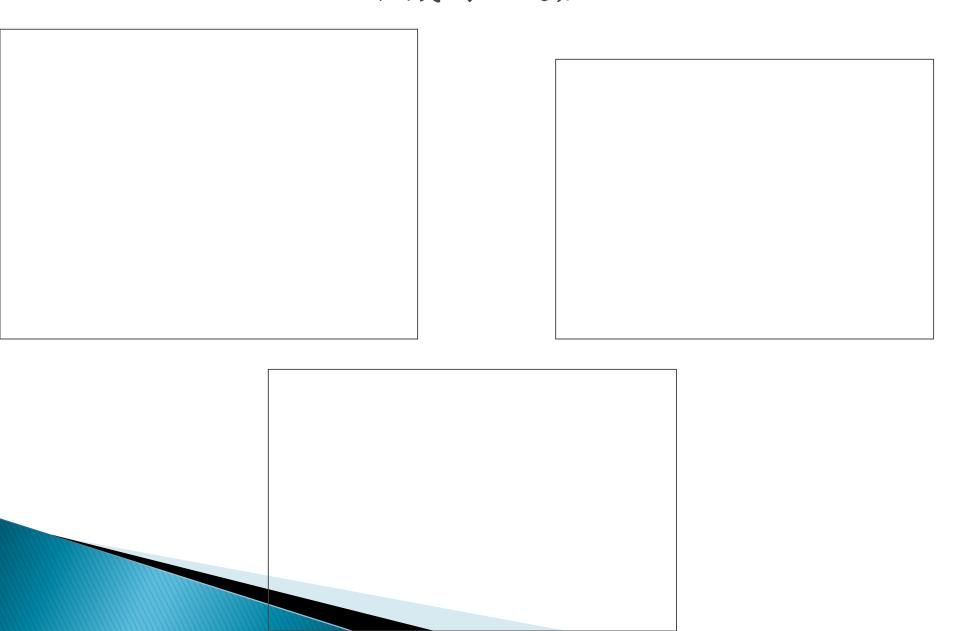


**Current Status** 

normal growth & development

no further skin eruptions

#### Holocarboxylase Synthetase deficiency 合成酶缺乏症

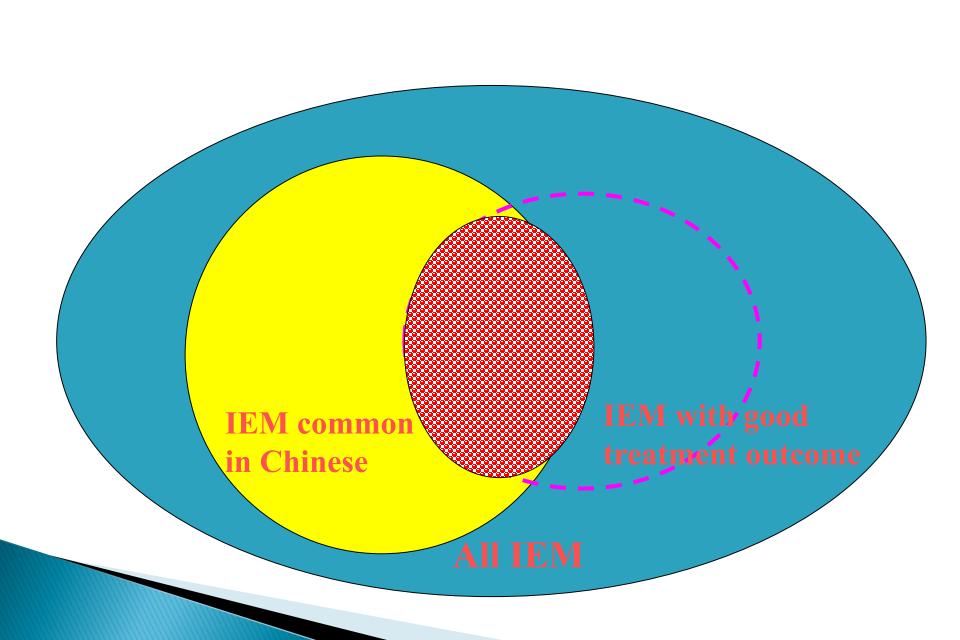


#### Parents as well as Doctors' wish

• if IEM can be diagnosed and treated early especially before they become ill, outcome can be much better and in some instances even life saving

## Newborn screening – one effective way for early diagnosis of IEM

- Newborn screening is the early identification of infants affected by certain diseases which may not be apparent at birth
- Screen every newborn baby at birth
- \* preventive health measure
- detects disorders that, if left untreated, can cause death, disability, intellectual disabilities & other serious consequences
- \* If diagnosed early, these conditions can be successfully treated.



#### 1990's

#### Expansion of Newborn screening -

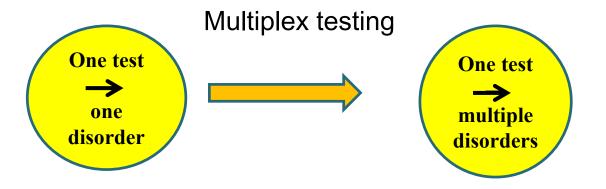
screen for over 30 different IEMs in the newborn period



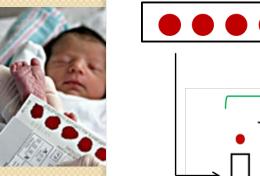
Tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS)

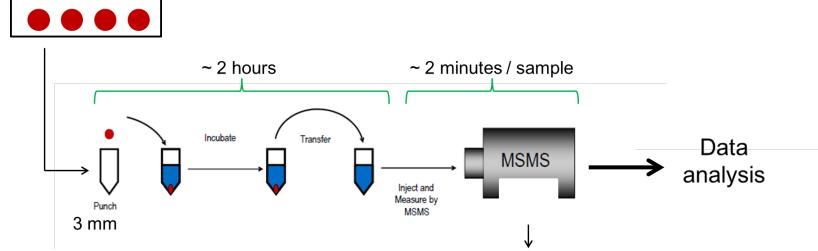
revolutionized newborn screening

#### Tandem Mass Spectrometry (MS/MS)



- simultaneous, rapid analysis & detection of many disorders
- a high degree of precision & accuracy







### Hong Kong government set to test babies for inborn metabolic diseases at cost of HK\$10 million a year

Government plans to benefit 50,000 newborn babies a year at a cost of HK\$10 million in initiative unveiled in chief executive's policy address

Emily Tsang emily.tsang@scmp.com PUBLISHED: Sunday, 08 March, 2015, 11:58pm UPDATED: Monday, 09 March, 2015, 6:02pm

# Chief Executive Policy Address 2015 行政長官施政報告



Chinese University has offered a screening programme for inborn metabolism problems since 2013 at a charge of HK\$800 per test for 30 congenital errors, including fatty acid oxidation and organic acid disorders. Photo: Sam Tsang

A new screening programme for newborn babies announced in the policy address is likely to involve a blood test for 12 types of inborn metabolic diseases that affect one in every 3,000 local infants, the *South China Morning Post* has learned.

The neonatal screening test would cost the government at least HK\$10 million a year at around HK\$200 per test for the detection of congenital metabolic errors, according to a medical source. The tests would be carried out within 48 hours of birth.

The inborn disorders to be tested would include phenylketonuria (PKU), caused by an enzyme deficiency which could turn some protein-rich food or sweeteners into poisons for young sufferers, the source said.

It is expected to benefit around 50,000 newborn babies every year.

#### rome

#### '201501/14/P201501140477.htm

adding hospital beds and other treatment and diagnostic facilities.

189. The Government will pursue the construction of an acute general hospital in the Kai Tak Development Area. Upon completion of Phase 1, there will be an oncology centre, as well as in-patient and ambulatory services. In addition, the HA plans to provide approximately 250 additional hospital beds, and increase operating theatre sessions and quota for endoscopy examination to cope with escalating demand.

190. The HA also plans to increase the general out-patient clinic episodic quota in the Kowloon Central, Kowloon East, Kowloon West, New Territories East and New Territories West Clusters in 2015-16. It will also enhance the effectiveness of medical treatment by expanding the coverage of the Drug Formulary.

191. The DH and the HA have set up a working group to study the feasibility of trying out in the public healthcare system a screening programme for newborn babies for inhorn errors of metabolism. The working group will study the types of disease to be screened, scientific evidence on the effectiveness of screening, actual arrangements and related recommendations.

#### Elderly Healthcare Services

192. The HA will enhance healthcare services for elderly patients, including:

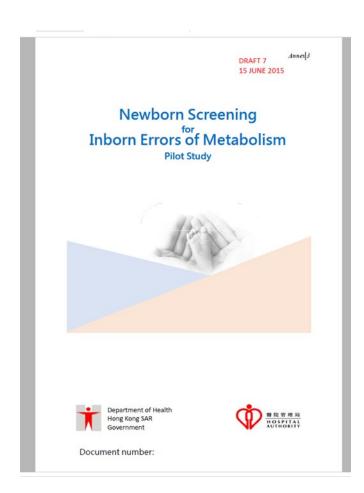
(i) finishing improvement works to barrier-free facilities in the remaining hospitals by the end of 2016, following completion of similar works in general out-patient clinics and acute hospitals at the end of 2014; Office Executive (a)

- 2015 Policy Address by Chief Executive (11)
- 2015 Policy Address by Chief Executive (12)

#### HKSAR Government Newborn screening programme for IEM



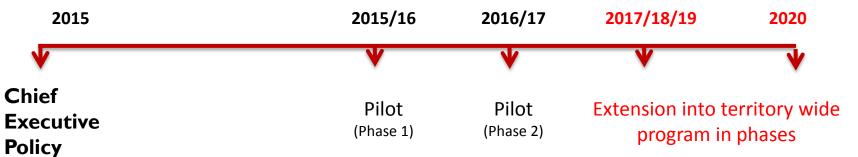
- Announced in Chief Executive's 2015 Policy address
- Task force set up in 2015
- Members from both Department of Health & Hospital Authority
- Obstetricians, Paediatricians, Chemical Pathologists, Clinical Geneticists, Maternity Child Health clinics
- Pilot study phase I
- Rolled out 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2015 at 2 birthing units (QMH & QEH)
- Planning for extension into territory wide universal screening programme for all newborn babies in HK 2017-2018



|    | Screened Conditions with Metabolic newborn screening programme                      | Drug treatment                        | Special milk<br>formulae |
|----|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1  | Multiple carboxylase deficiency   | yes (biotin)                          | N                        |
| 2  | Glutaric acidaemia type I (GAI)   | Yes (carnitine, riboflavin)           | Υ                        |
| 3  | Methylmalonic acidaemia (MMA)   | Yes ( carnitine, hydroxycobalamin)    | Υ                        |
| 4  | Propionic acidaemia (PA)  | Yes (carnitine, biotin)               | Υ                        |
| 5  | Isovleric acidemia (IVA)  | Yes (carnitine, glycine)              | Υ                        |
| 6  | 3-hydroxy-3methylglutaryl-CoA (HMG-CoA) lyase deficiency                            |                                       | N                        |
| 7  | Beta-ketothiolase deficiency/2-methylacetoacetyl-CoA thiolase (MAT) deficiency      |                                       | N                        |
| 8  | Classic phenylketonuria (PKU)   | Yes (BH4)                             | Υ                        |
| 9  | 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahydropterin synthase deficiency                                     | Yes (BH4, sinemet, oxytriptan)        | Υ                        |
| 10 | Argininosuccinic acidaemia  | Yes (benzoate, arginine)              | N                        |
| 11 | Maple syrup urine disease (MSUD)  | Yes (thiamine)                        | Υ                        |
| 12 | Citrullinaemia tupe I   | Yes (benzoate, arginine)              | N                        |
| 13 | Citrullinaemia type II (Citrin deficiency)  |                                       | Υ                        |
| 14 | Tyrosinaemia type I **  | Yes (nitisinone)                      | Υ                        |
| 15 | Homocvstinuria **   | Yes(pyridoxine, folinic acid)         | Υ                        |
| 16 | Carnitine uptake deficiency   | Yes (carnitine)                       | N                        |
| 17 | Carnitine-acylcarnitine translocase deficiency (CACT)                               | Yes (carnitine)                       | Υ                        |
| 18 | Carnitine palmitoyltransferase II deficiency (CPTII)                                |                                       | Υ                        |
| 19 | Medium-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency (MCAD)                               |                                       | N                        |
| 20 | Very long-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency (VLCAD)                           |                                       | Υ                        |
| 21 | Glutaric acidaemia type II (GAII)/Multiple acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency (MADD) | Yes (riboflavin, carnitine)           | Υ                        |
| 22 | Congenital adrenal hyperplasia  | Yes (hydrocortisone, fludrocortisone) | N                        |
| 23 | Biotinidase deficiency  | Yes (biotin)                          | N                        |
| 24 | Classic Galactosaemia   |                                       | N                        |
|    | Subtotal  | 17/24                                 | 14/24                    |



#### HKSAR Newborn Screening Programme for Inborn Errors of Metabolism



(study the feasibility of trying out in public healthcare system a screening program for newborn babies for IEM)

address:

| HA Hospitals                  | QMH QEH | QMH QEH                                     | PWH TMH<br>KWH | PMH PYNEH<br>UCH |  |
|-------------------------------|---------|---|----------------|------------------|--|
| Newborns                      | Term    | All (including preterm & sick term infants) |                |                  |  |
| No. of IEM                    | 21      | 24  |                | 26               |  |
| % of live births covered (HA) | < 25%   | 25%   | 70%            | 100%             |  |



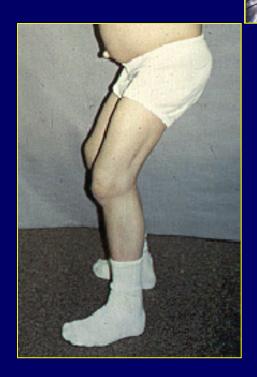
# Some IEMs can be treated by more complicated measures like Transplant or Enzyme replacement therapy

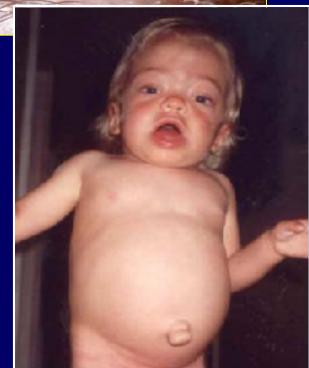


#### Mucopolyssacharidosis







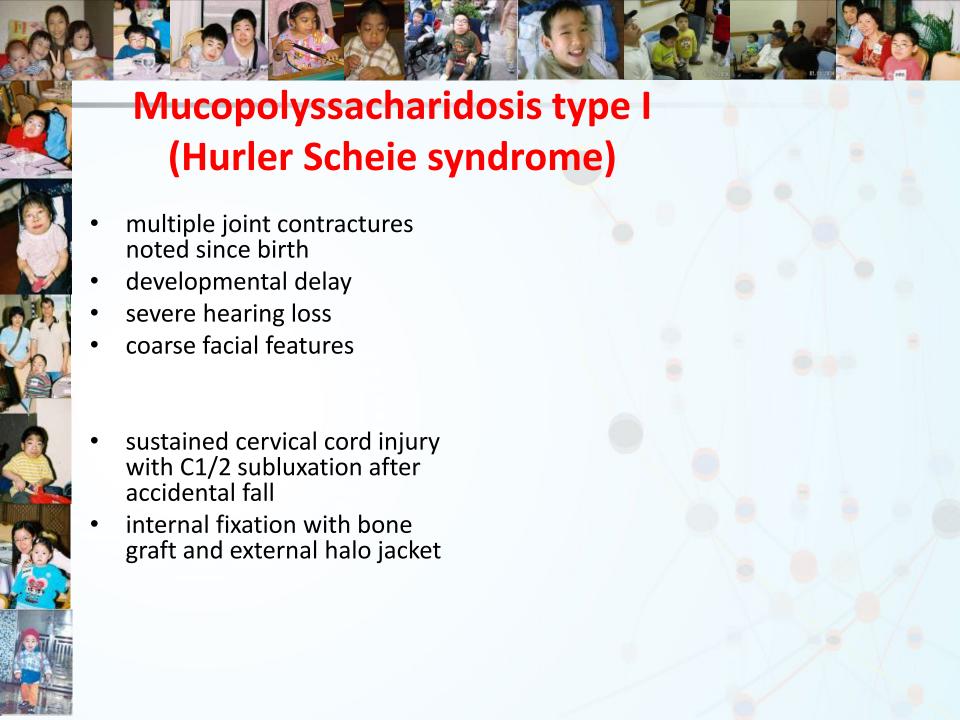




# Mucopolyssacharidosis type I (Hurler syndrome)

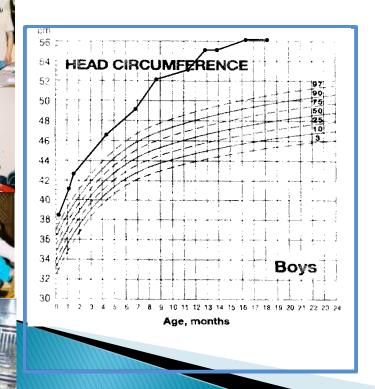
- presented with hump over back (lumbar gibbus)
- extensive mongolian spots
- bilateral inguinal hernia





#### Mucopolyssacharidosis type II (Hunter syndrome)

- presented with big head and developmental delay
- inguinal hernia





# Mucopolyssacharidosis type III (Sanfilippo disease)

- normal up until 6 y
- first presented with behavioural problems, aggressive behaviour & violance at school
- subsequently noted to have cognitive regression
- hypersomnolence during day time & refusal to sleep at night

#### **MPS III - Neuropsychiatric presentation**

- predominate CNS symptoms
- relative lack of somatic features as in other types of MPS
- no skeletal abnormalities

## Mucopolysaccharidosis type VI (Maroteaux-Lamy syndrome)



#### The Multidisciplinary Treatment Team

Pediatrician **Ophthalmologist** Surgeon **Pulmonologist Otorhinolaryngologist** Interventional **Geneticist** Cardiologist **Orthopedist** Neurologist Anesthesiologist **Dentist** Gastroenterologist Genetic Counselor

#### **Supportive Treatment**

Medical care to treat systemic conditions & improving the person's quality of life

- Physical therapy and daily exercise may delay joint problems and improve the ability to move
- Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy may improve breathing among affected individuals with obstructive airway disorders and sleep apnea
- Sleep studies can assess airway status and the possible need for Bipap +/nocturnal oxygen supplementation
- Some patients may require surgical insertion of a tracheostomy tube to aid breathing
- Surgery for hernias repair, shunt operation for obstructive hydrocephalus, and release of carpal tunnel syndrome
- Corneal transplants may improve vision among patients with significant corneal clouding

#### **Treatment for MPS**

- Supportive treatment
- Disease specific treatment options

#### Hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) (干细胞移植)

Healthy stem cells (from bone marrow or cord blood) are transplanted i.v. to provide normal enzyme producing cells to the patient

#### **Enzyme replacement therapy (ERT)**

A recombinant form of the deficient enzyme is infused i.v. at definite intervals

#### Hematopoietic stem cell transplant

- First attempted in the 1980s and mostly used for MPS I
- Provides metabolically competent cells which may correct the enzyme deficiencies
- Positive results when performed early in a disease's course, despite its challenges and risks
  - transplant failure or rejection
  - toxicity of the conditioning regimen
  - difficulty finding a good donor match

#### Post transplant MPS patients

- MPS VI
- HSCT at 6y

- MPS I
- ▶ HSCT at 2y9m
- MPS VI
- HSCT at 14m

MPS VI HSCT at 5y

#### **Post transplant MPS patients**

#### **ENZYME REPLACEMENT THERAPY (ERT)**

#### 酵素替代疗法

- a medical treatment by giving the patient an intravenous (IV) infusion at regular intervals that contains the deficient or absent enzyme
- R&D began in the mid-1960s
- Clinical trials by the 1980s
- Advances in recombinant DNA manufacturing in the early 1990s enabled enzyme production in quantities large enough for commercial development
- the first ERT went on the market in 1991 for Gaucher type I
- currently available for: <u>Gaucher disease</u>, <u>Fabry disease</u>, <u>MPS I</u>, <u>MPS II</u>,
   MPS VI, <u>Glycogen storage disease type II</u>, MPS IV

## Issues of concern with ERT

- ERT does not "cure" the underlying disease, only the symptoms
- data on survival benefit, drug efficacy continue to be accumulated from ongoing studies & patients registry
- cost-effectiveness : drug cost for ERT range between \$ 0.5M - 4.4M / patient / year



#### 香港黏多醣症暨罕有遺傳病互助小組

Hong Kong Mucopolysaccharidoses & Rare Genetic Diseases Mutual Aid Group



- established 2005
- mutual support children & their families with rare diseases
- a strong advocate for enzyme replacement therapy for lysosomal storage diseases





Set up by Hospital Authority 2007 Panel members: HA administrators, Clinicians, Pharmacists Regular meetings 3-4 times per year

- To oversee commissioning of the ultraexpensive ERT in HK
- To set up treatment guidelines on ERT for specific disease groups
- To review every new as well as renewal applications

LSD patients currently on ERT funded by HA (24 patients/2018)

#### MPS

- 2 MPS I
- 2 MPS VI

#### Other LSDs

- 10 Pompe (3 infantile, 7 late onset)
- 2 Gaucher
- 8 Fabry

# Inborn errors of metabolism (IEM) Summary

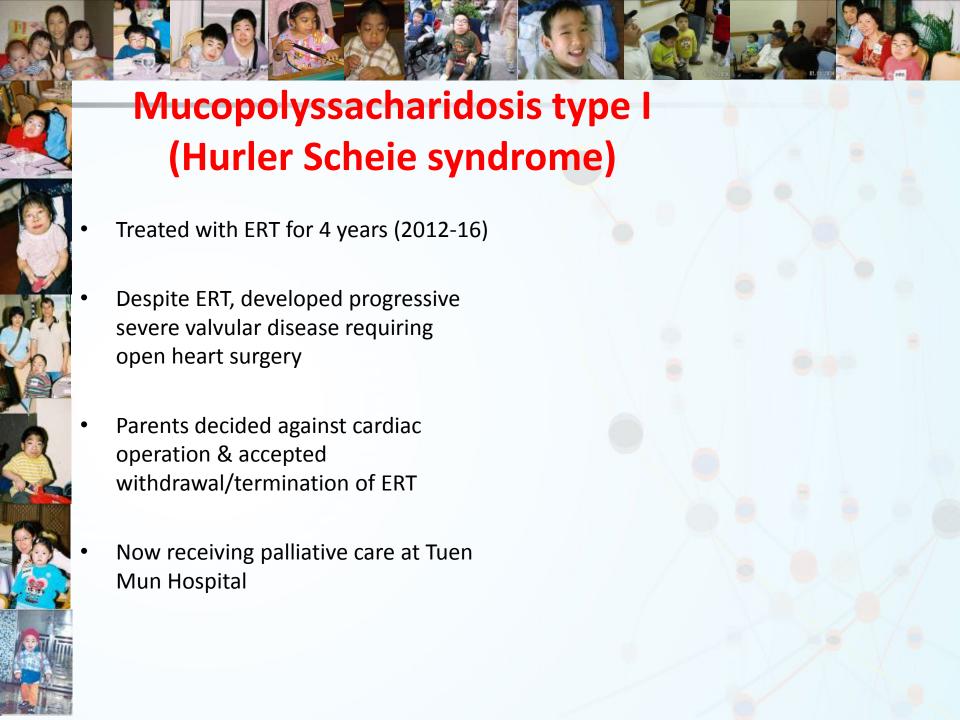
- Individually very rare
- Collectively common group of disorders affecting ~ 1 in 4000 births
- > more than 1000 identified IEMs
- List continuously increasing

- Variable presentations
- Acute rapid deteriorating vs chronic progressive clinical course
- Mild to severe
- Subtle to overt

- In the exciting new era of treatment for various IEM
- Simple measures: drugs, diet
- Complicated measures :
   Hematopoietic stem cell transplant,
   Enzyme replacement therapy
- Early diagnosis & treatment are keys to treatment success
- Newborn screening has been life saving for some

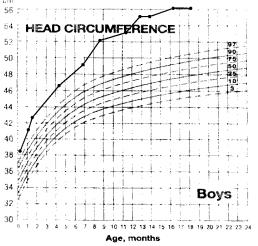
 On going research offer hope for newer/better treatment options

# Some IEMs do not have effective treatment, run a progressive downhill course leading to premature demise



## Mucopolyssacharidosis type II (Hunter syndrome) HEAD CIRCUMFERENCE

- received ERT for 2y (2011–13)
- progressive cognitive decline severe phenotype
- ERT discontinued
- Palliative care since 2018
- Pending gastrostomy with increasing choking episodes



# Mucopolyssacharidosis type III (Sanfilippo disease)

- normal up until 6 y
- first presented with behavioural problems, aggressive behaviour & violance at school
- subsequently noted to have cognitive regression
- hypersomnolence during day time & refusal to sleep at night

#### **MPS III - Neuropsychiatric presentation**

- predominate CNS symptoms
- relative lack of somatic features as in other types of MPS
- no skeletal abnormalities

# Mucopolyssacharidosis type III (Sanfilippo disease)

- Progressive deterioration in cognitive function
- Regress to mental age of 1-2 y by end of first decade
- Total dependent activities of daily living
- With relative lack of other extra CNS manifestations, patients can survive into adulthood 30-40y age
- caring for MPS III patients like caring adult size patients with a mental age of 1-2y
- +/- hyperactivity & aggression

## IEM patients life journey – Role of Heath care workers

- Provision of care at different disease stages according to the needs of the patients & their families
- A continuum of care
- Team work (work hand in hand)
- Diagnosis -> 'aggressive' treatment -> failure
   of available treatment ->Palliative care

## The Multidisciplinary Treatment Team

Pediatrician **Ophthalmologist** Surgeon **Pulmonologist Otorhinolaryngologist** Interventional **Geneticist** Cardiologist **Orthopedist** Neurologist Anesthesiologist **Dentist** Gastroenterologist Genetic Counselor

Palliative care

## IEM patients & HKCH 🧍



#### IEM patients' needs

 the rarity and complex nature of IEM requires an integrated specialised clinical & laboratory service to provide satisfactory diagnosis & management



#### HK Children's Hospital

- a specialised tertiary care centre
- HKCH (Hub) taking care of IEM patients & their families with hand in hand supporting stepdown care by regional hospitals (Spokes)



#### **Our common Goal:**

a brighter & more promising future for all IEM patients & their families, providing necessary treatment as well as supportive care that these patients & their families need

