Cancer Pain Master Class for China, 2012 was held in Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai

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Fig. 1 Professor Bart Jan Morlion made the speech

From May 16th–18th, Cancer Pain Master Class for China, 2012, hosted by Mundipharma (China) Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., was held in Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai. More than 1200 oncological medical staff took part in the activities.

The activities invited Professor Bart Jan Morlion, the chief of the Leuven Centre for Pain Management and president of the Belgian Pain Society, IASP. He presented an excellent speech titled as “considerations in opioid titration in cancer pain”. In the speech he focused on epidemiology and aetiology of cancer pain, transition

Fig. 2 The conference in Guangzhou

from acute to chronic pain, pharmacotherapy of cancer pain, principles of opioid titration and choice of opioid. He emphasized the balance between pain alleviation and the side effects when patients took opioid drugs, and the recommendation for breakthrough pain, nausea, vomiting and dizziness. In his hospital both of titration methods were carried on: short-acting opioid drugs only and a combination of long-acting opioid drugs and short-acting opioid drugs. The latter method should be recommended, since it simplified the treatment, reduced the risk of low compliance and thereby enhanced efficacy.

The “Cancer Pain Master Class for China, 2012” activities aimed to elevate the acknowledge of cancer pain among medical staff, and they matched up with “Good Pain Management Ward” national selection hosted by Ministry of Public Health in this year. It was reported that the selection would be launched in June.