

HKAPI Position Statement
on
HA's charge on Pharmaceutical Products at
HK\$10 per item

1. HKAPI supports the shared responsibility of our own health with partial support on the financing of pharmaceutical products.
2. We understand that this charge only applies to products that HA is purchasing; we are more concerned with innovative products that are available in the market but not purchased by HA.
3. We encourage this form of co-payment to include new drugs so that doctors can practice and maintain their professionalism to choose the better and innovative medicine for patient.
4. We are also concerned that income arising from such charges is not re-invested for the improvement of medicine supply. Patients will expect to receive better medicine when they are paying more.
5. The cost saving program (e.g. PCI and restricted use of new drug) of the various hospital clusters and the new charges of medicine proceeding in parallel are sending a confusing message to the Hong Kong people. A transparent drug policy in consultation with the industry should be established before any policy is implemented.
6. The Government should initiate an amendment to the current ordinance on UMA allowing the patients to receive more updated knowledge on the newer medicines.