



政府醫生協會

The Government Doctors' Association

c/o Oral Maxillofacial Surgery & Dental Unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital,
30 Gascoigne Road, Kowloon

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2005-2006

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3 February 2006

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Chairman

Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) Amendment Bill 2005
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong (By fax only Fax No: 2509 9055)

Dear Sir,

**Submission from the Government Doctors' Association
on the Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005
Meeting on 7 February 2006**

The Government Doctors' Association represents Government Doctors and Dentists working in the Department of Health of the HKSAR Government or the Hospital Authority.

Our views on the **Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005** have been submitted and are re-iterated as follows:

1. The health hazards caused by exposures to secondhand smoke are well established.
2. The Government Doctors' Association (GDA) supports the principle of the Bill to provide for protection against secondhand smoking in indoor workplace and public places.
3. The GDA agrees that smoking should be prohibited in all residential care homes for the elderly, residential treatment centres, out-patient clinics and hospitals for the health benefits of patients, residents, elders and staff members therein.
4. The GDA supports the empowering of Tobacco Control Officer (TCO) inspectors to deal with offences in the Ordinance.
5. The GDA agrees that the visual impact from health warnings required on the packets of tobacco products should be further enhanced.



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We further understand that there have been numerous discussions between the Government and many industry representatives. The result is that the Government is now proposing introducing adaptation periods to strike a balance between various considerations.

From a health point of view, the proposed adaptation periods only introduce unnecessary delays in the treatment of a community disease. Such proposals might even be seen as the Government's waning determination in safe-guarding the health of the community.

As such the GDA urges the Government to reconsider striking the right balance between community health issues and political expediency.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sai-kwing Chan', written in a cursive style.

Dr Sai-kwing Chan
Chairman