

Our ref: HWF/H(P)/34/56 Pt.5 98

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30 March 2007

Ms Mary So
Clerk to Panel
Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms So,

Redevelopment of Caritas Medical Centre, Phase 2

When discussing the redevelopment of Caritas Medical Centre, Phase 2 at the meeting of the Health Services Panel held on 8 January 2007, Members asked for the following information :

- (a) whether, and if so, how the proposed project could cope with the increase in service demand from the growing population in the Sham Shui Po district;
- (b) the delineation of role and service provision of hospitals among the Kowloon West cluster (KWC) to which CMC belong upon the completion of the proposed project; and
- (c) the additional manpower required for the redeveloped CMC.

Response to (a) and (c)

The Sham Shui Po district is characterized by a comparatively high percentage (16%) of elderly population aged 65 or above who have more demand for geriatric as well as convalescent/rehabilitation services. Upon completion of the redevelopment project, the number of geriatric day hospital places and convalescent/rehabilitation beds in CMC will be increased from 40 places to 60 places and 242 to 260 beds respectively.

In addition, the number of beds for day surgery will also be increased from 18 to 50. In sum, upon completion of the phase 2 redevelopment project, CMC will have a total of 1,276 in-patient beds and will be able to handle 596,000 outpatient attendances annually. The upgraded services and increased clinical space of the redeveloped CMC will be able to meet the increasing demand of service from the growing and ageing population of the Sham Shui Po districts.

The KWC will provide the upgraded services at the redeveloped CMC through internal redeployment of staff.

Response to (b)

The KWC currently provides a full spectrum of healthcare services, ranging from primary, secondary, tertiary, to extended care and mental health care for the population in Mong Kok, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan and North Lantau districts through the following seven hospitals which have different and focused roles in service provision :

- (a) Princess Margaret Hospital and Kwong Wah Hospital – these two are major hospitals providing comprehensive acute services;
- (b) CMC – it is a general hospital providing a full range of acute, extended and community care services. Its role will remain unchanged upon completion of the redevelopment project;
- (c) Yan Chai Hospital and Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital – they are community hospitals providing more general services on community basis, such as out-patient services, in-patient and ambulatory care, as well as allied health services;

- (d) Wong Tai Sin Hospital – it is an extended care hospital providing rehabilitation and tuberculosis and chest services; and
- (e) Kwai Chung Hospital – it is a psychiatric hospital.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Ernestina WONG)
for Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

cc Dr Helen TINSLEY, Hospital Authority
Dr Raymond CHEN, Hospital Authority
Mr Donald LI, Hospital Authority