

Extract
立法會
Legislative Council

Ref : CB2/PL/HS

LC Paper No. CB(2)504/07-08
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Health Services

**Extract from the minutes of meeting
held on Monday, 12 November 2007, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon LI Kwok-ying, MH, JP (Chairman)
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP
Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
Dr Hon YEUNG Sum, JP
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
- Public Officers attending** : Item VI
Dr Gloria TAM, JP
Deputy Director of Health

Dr Amy CHIU
Assistant Director of Health (Traditional Chinese Medicine)

Mr Patrick SIU
Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Health)
- Clerk in attendance** : Miss Mary SO
Chief Council Secretary (2) 5

Staff in attendance : Ms Amy YU
Senior Council Secretary (2) 3

Ms Sandy HAU
Legislative Assistant (2) 5

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VI. Progress report on registration of Chinese medicine practitioners
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)264/07-08(05) and (06))

51. DSFH(Health) updated members on the latest developments concerning registration of CMPs, details of which were set out in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2) 264/07-08(05)).

52. Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether disciplinary actions taken against CMPs were published in the Gazette and posted on the website of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong.

53. DDH responded that according to CMO, not all disciplinary actions taken against CMPs by the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (Practitioners Board) were required to be published in the Gazette. However, most of these actions taken were published in the Gazette in practice. In order to seek appeal from the court against the decisions of the Practitioners Board, the CMPs concerned must do so within one month from the date of service of the decision made of them. DDH further said that not all complaints which were being considered by the Practitioners Board for professional misconduct of CMPs would be publicised on the website of the Chinese Medicine Council, unless it was deemed in the public interest to do so.

54. Dr KWOK Ka-ki said that to better protect the public, disciplinary mechanism for CMPs should be made more open and transparent, in particular all disciplinary actions taken against CMPs should be made known to the public through gazettal and other means. DDH agreed to relay Dr KWOK's views to the Practitioners Board for consideration.

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55. Dr KWOK Ka-ki noted that 1 850 out of the 2 856 listed CMPs had never applied for taking the CMP Licensing Examination. Dr KWOK urged the Administration to be more proactive in assisting these listed CMPs to obtain registration status.

Action

56. DSFH(Health) responded that various measures had been implemented over the past several years to encourage listed CMPs to take part in the CMP Licensing Examination, details of which were set out in paragraphs 5 to 8 of the Administration's paper. The Administration would continue to maintain contact with the Chinese medicine profession, and encourage all listed CMPs to seek to attain the standards expected of registered CMPs so as to ensure the standard of the profession as a whole and to protect the health and well-being of the public.

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57. Miss CHAN Yuen-han urged the Administration not to set a cut-off date for listed CMPs to become registered CMPs, having regard to the historical development of Chinese medicine profession in Hong Kong. Noting that the proposal of including training courses on the CMP Licensing Examination in the list of reimbursable courses for the Continuing Education Fund had been referred to the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) for consideration, Miss CHAN asked when a decision on this would be made by LWB. DSFH(Health) undertook to revert to members once the outcome of the consideration by the Continuing Education Fund on the proposal was available.

58. Miss CHAN Yuen-han said that exemption should be given to graduates of the two part-time degree courses in Chinese medicine offered by the Xiamen University in collaboration with the Open University of Hong Kong and by the Hong Kong College of Technology in collaboration with the Jinan University to sit the CMP Licensing Examination, having regard to the fact that when these courses were offered it was unclear then that only full-time degree courses would be recognised by the Practitioners Board. Miss CHAN pointed out that to do so was not unprecedented. An one-off arrangement had been made by the Practitioners Board to allow graduates of part-time degree courses in Chinese medicines offered by the University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Baptist University in or before 2002 to sit the CMP Licensing Examination. Miss CHAN further said that to allow graduates of part-time degree courses in Chinese medicine to sit the CMP Licensing Examination would not undermine the standards of Chinese medicine profession in Hong Kong, as they needed to pass the examination in order to practise Chinese medicine. Dr YEUNG Sum, Mrs Selina CHOW and Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed similar views.

59. DSFH(Health) responded that as to members' suggestion that the Chinese Medicine Council should meet the institutions offering the above two courses, the Chairman of the Practitioners Board already attended a Legislative Council case conference on 5 July 2007 and explained to attending Members the decision made by the Practitioners Board on the issue of recognising these two courses and the underlying rationale as set out in paragraphs 10-11 of the Administration's paper. DSFH(Health) further said that the Practitioners Board had already explained adequately to the institutions and students concerned on the requirements of

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recognised courses and the reasons for not recognising the above two courses. The Practitioners Board had also been in liaison with the universities/institutions and students all along regarding the issue. Notwithstanding, DSFH(Health) agreed to convey members' views expressed in paragraph 58 above to the Practitioners Board for consideration.

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Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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