

LC Paper No. CB(2)1934/08-09(05)**香港醫療資訊學會有限公司****Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics Ltd**

c/o Dr C P Wong, Ruttonjee Hospital, 266 Queen's Road East, HONG KONG

Tel +852 2291 1345 Fax +852 2291 1346 Email cpwong@hms.org.hk

Dr the Hon Joseph LEE Kok Long
Chairman of the LegCo's Panel on Health Services
Fax: 2509-0775

18-June-2009

Dear Dr LEE,

LegCo Panel on Health Services**Special Meeting on Friday 19 Jun 2009****Development of a territory-wide electronic healthcare record sharing system**

Further to my submission to you on the same issue in March earlier, I am supplementing our views, on behalf of the Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics to urge the Panel on Health Services to support the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide electronic health record (eHR) sharing system.

Hong Kong has been very privileged to have approximately 55% of all health transaction data in digital formats already. This could be one of the world's top IT penetrated healthcare delivery systems, thanks to the great effort by the Hospital Authority in their development of the very successful Clinical Management System CMS since 1993.

Leveraging on this success, we can see that even greater benefit could be achieved if the whole healthcare stakeholders in Hong Kong, public and private sectors alike, could be linked together via the territory-wide electronic healthcare record sharing system. The timeliness of data, the completeness of data and the accuracy of data could all be provided to both public and private sectors, in particular the patients attending both sectors of services.

Moreover, practically all doctors have worked in the Hospital Authority before, and they are very familiar with the CMS for at least a few years. The system has been evolved with the active participation and engagement of more than 180 frontline doctors since 1993, and is under the governance of a Steering Group involving 44 working groups, 160 doctors and 100 other healthcare professionals. The system has been coined the best in class in the world by Gartner Corporation in terms of project implementation and scope management. Practically 100% of

doctors are utilizing the system every day with 3.5 million transactions a day. Because of the intensive clinicians engagement, the system is welcome by all doctors working in the service and has been regarded as an indispensable tool in clinical service. With the good acceptance, we could envisage that with the technical backup of the territory wide electronic healthcare records sharing system by the Hospital Authority, it could be a most advantageous position to roll out with greater success as compared to other countries.

We wish to be able to contribute to our society through this innovative initiative and look forward to seeing the approval of this pivotal infrastructure by the Panel on Health Services and the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

Yours sincerely,



Dr CP Wong
Chairman