

**Panel on Health Services****List of follow-up actions**

(Position as at 14 October 2008)

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Follow-up action required</b>	<b>Administration's response</b>
1. Further discussion on the obstetric service charge for non-eligible persons whose spouses are Hong Kong residents	30 April 2007	<p>The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the motion passed by the Panel at the meeting on 16 April 2007 by early June 2007 at the latest. The wording of the motion reads as follows -</p> <p>"本委員會對於衛生福利及食物局及醫院管理局於今年 2 月初推行公立醫院內地孕婦的新收費政策(39,000 元／48,000 元)未有考慮對港人家庭(即父親為香港居民而母親為準來港婦女之家庭)的影響表示遺憾，並要求當局豁免港人家庭按新收費政策繳費。"</p>	<p>The effectiveness of the new obstetric service arrangements (including the obstetric service package charge) and complementary immigration measures are being closely monitored.</p> <p>A refund mechanism on the new obstetric package charge was introduced on 29 October 2007 by the Hospital Authority (HA). The Administration's response on the refund mechanism was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2) 533/07-08(01) on 6 December 2007.</p>

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		<p>(Translation)</p> <p>"That this Panel expresses regret that the new obstetric package charge (\$39,000/\$48,000) implemented by the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau and the Hospital Authority in early February this year for Mainland women giving birth in public hospitals has failed to take into account its impact on Hong Kong families (i.e. those with the father being a Hong Kong resident and the mother a Two-way Permit holder), and urges the Government to exempt these families from the new fee charging policy."</p> <p>The Administration was also requested to include in its written response to the Panel the suggestion of refunding fees paid at the time of booking for public obstetric services if the delivery did not take place eventually due to valid reasons such as a miscarriage.</p>	

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2. Shortage of medical staff in the Hospital Authority	9 July 2007	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) its projected manpower demand for different healthcare professionals in Hong Kong in the coming years and the number of places in medical and nursing programmes funded by the Government that would be provided to meet such manpower demand;</li><li>(b) the methodology used by HA in deploying nurses;</li><li>(c) the methodology for estimating long-term manpower demand of HA;</li><li>(d) ways to improve the management culture of HA to avoid situations, such as only informing contract doctors close to the expiry of their contract whether their contract would be renewed and unequal pay for the same work; and</li><li>(e) future supply of medical and nursing graduates to avoid any shortfall or oversupply of doctors and nurses.</li></ul> <p>HA was requested to provide a report on the progress made in addressing pay disparity amongst its healthcare staff.</p>	<p>The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2000/07-08(01) on 20 May 2008.</p>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Follow-up action required</b>	<b>Administration's response</b>
3. Review of the Obstetric Package Charge for Non-eligible Persons	18 February 2008	<p>The Administration was requested to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="896 279 1509 550">(a) provide information in writing on the numbers of births delivered in public hospitals by Mainland women whose spouses were Hong Kong residents before and after the implementation of the new obstetric service arrangements;</li><li data-bbox="896 598 1509 750">(b) consider members' view that refund should be made in the case of premature birth in the Mainland due to medical reasons; and</li><li data-bbox="896 798 1509 1109">(c) to take into account the views of members and deputations expressed at the meeting in the coming review on the whole package of obstetric service arrangements and revert to members on the outcome of the review before the expiry of the current legislative session.</li></ul>	<p>The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2315/07-08(01) on 17 June 2008.</p>

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4. Surveillance of communicable diseases in Hong Kong - key trends and follow up	10 March 2008	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on :</p> <p>(a) the estimated total reduction in hospital admission of elders aged 65 and above should all of them be provided with influenza vaccinations; and</p> <p>(b) the number of additional beds/wards opened to cope with the recent surge in demand for public hospital services due to seasonal influenza, with breakdowns by clinical specialties and hospitals in each cluster.</p>	The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2028/07-08(01) on 22 May 2008.
5. Further discussion on the Healthcare Reform Consultation Document	19 March 2008	The Administration was requested to provide information on how much of the projected \$89 billion increase in Hong Kong's future public healthcare expenditure from 2004 to 2025 was attributed to ageing population.	The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2137/07-08(01) on 11 June 2008.
6. Standard of care of convalescence /rehabilitation centres under HA	14 April 2008	The Administration was requested to submit to the Panel a report on the recent incident of elders being abused by staff of a convalescence /rehabilitation centre under HA.	The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2317/07-08(01) on 23 June 2008.

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7. Pilot project to purchase primary care services from the private sector in Tin Shui Wai	14 April 2008	The Administration was requested to provide responses in writing on the progress made on the development of the territory-wide electronic health record system, and the reasons why HA's Electronic Patient Record System could not be extended to the electronic health care voucher system at this stage.	The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2695/07-08(01) on 29 July 2008.
8. Expansion of Tseung Kwan O Hospital (TKOH)	19 May 2008	The Administration was requested to provide information on the amount of funding resources required for introducing geriatric day services in TKOH and converting the vacant obstetric and paediatrics wards in the hospital for other in-patient services.	The Administration will provide a written response.
9. Iron chelating therapy for Thalassaemia patients in public hospitals	24 June 2008	The Administration undertook to disseminate information and guidelines on the mechanism for dealing with those exceptional cases where Desferrioxamine and Deferiprone had failed to meet the needs of Thalassaemia patients concerned, to doctors in all the seven hospital clusters as soon as practicable; and to provide information in writing on the operation of the mechanism to the Panel.	The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)23/08-09(01) on 13 October 2008.
10. Consultation on Healthcare Reform	24. June 2008	The Administration undertook to provide a summary of the views received during the first stage of the consultation on healthcare reform to the Panel in around end of 2008 or early 2009 upon completion of the analysis on views received during the consultation period.	The Administration will provide a written response.