

Submission from Hong Kong Academy of Nursing Preparatory Committee

The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing Preparatory Committee (HKANPC) comprises, a group of nurses representing at least 8500 individuals who are associated to all specialty areas (19 Colleges/ Specialty Associations, 2 major employers, 2 council representatives) practicing in Hong Kong, in the public and private sectors, and the academics (4 Universities) have formed since 2006 to undertake a similar endeavour as the Academy of Medicine that governs the specialty practices of medical doctors. The ultimate aim in establishing the Hong Kong Academy of Nursing (HKAN) is to protect and promote the health of the public by setting and regulating the standards of specialist nursing practice. The world trend in health care is the gradual development of advanced practices in specialties.

We appreciate the government efforts in developing a comprehensive health protection scheme (HPS), and most importantly urged the government to take into full consideration the community and stakeholders' views and concern. We welcomed and support in the way forward the proposed three-pronged action plan especially item (a) review healthcare manpower strategy. The HKANPC is very concern with the followings issues to be addressed in the HPS.

1. Meeting the needs of our aging population.
2. Developing long term chronic diseases management strategy.
3. Solving the shortage of healthcare manpower problem.
4. Alleviating the increasing workload and demand.
5. Retaining valuable professionals striking a balance between public and private sectors.

The challenge for the high-level committee would be to address a broad range of health workforce policy, regulatory and program issues. We have the following 6 expectations:

1. A comprehensive approach to health workforce planning, training and reform, built on a basis of solid evidence;
2. Solutions applied across the health, higher education and training sectors;
3. Revaluing and recognizing the critically important role of clinical teaching and training both in basic and advanced practice;
4. Redesign of the health workforce to better respond to changing service demands and system reforms;
5. Reform the training sector to boost capacity, quality, consistency and efficiency;
6. And finally, we aspire as an expert profession group to be inclusive in the high-level committee to offer our support and contributions in building this important strategy to better serve our community.

This ends my presentation on behalf of the HKANPC.

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