

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

(Position as at 11 May 2012)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Regulation and control of pharmaceutical products in Hong Kong	31 March 2009	The Administration was requested to provide the revised checklist used by the inspectors of the Department of Health ("DH") when conducting inspections on pharmaceutical manufacturers once they were finalised.	The Review Committee on Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong recommended DH in Jan 2010 to upgrade Hong Kong's current Good Manufacturing Practices ("GMP") licensing standards by a phased approach to the international standards promulgated by the World Health Organization and Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme ("PIC/S"). On DH's invitation, PIC/S conducted a gap assessment between the standards of GMP and PIC/S in end-2010. DH is now in the process of procuring a consultancy service for advice and the inspection checklist would be revised in accordance with the advice of the consultant and submit to the Panel once available.
2. Creation of new directorate posts in DH	11 April 2011	The Administration was requested to report on a quarterly or bi-annual basis the progress in taking forward the	Upon the creation of the Assistant Director (Drug) and one Chief Pharmacist posts on 1 and 14

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		<p>recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong after the establishment of the Office on Drugs.</p>	<p>September 2011 respectively, the Drug Office was formally set up on 1 September 2011 to take forward the recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong.</p> <p>The Administration will report the progress on the recommendations in due course.</p>
<p>3. Improvement on joint replacement surgeries in the Hospital Authority</p>	<p>13 June 2011</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information -</p> <p>(a) manpower deployment of the two joint replacement centres in the Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital and the Yan Chai Hospital respectively;</p> <p>(b) the respective service demand and capacity of the Kowloon Central Cluster and the Kowloon East Cluster for joint replacement surgeries; and</p> <p>(c) the utilization of the additional funding for the setting up of the two joint replacement centres in the Hong</p>	<p>The Administration's response to (a) and (b) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)235/11-12(01) on 4 November 2011.</p> <p>The Administration's response to (c) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1765/11-12(01) on 19 April 2012.</p>

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		Kong Buddhist Hospital and the Yan Chai Hospital in terms of the various cost components such as manpower, equipment, services and facilities.	
4. Healthcare manpower of HA	11 July 2011	<p>HA was requested to provide the following information -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the healthcare staff establishment of HA, with a breakdown by wards and specialties of the manpower required to take care of a patient and their average work hours, as well as the formulas used by HA for making the healthcare manpower projections;(b) the turnover rate of nurses in HA for the period of April to July 2011;(c) the latest turnover rate of nurses in HA by October 2011; and(d) the passing rate of the Licensing Examination of the Medical Council of Hong Kong in the past few years.	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1825/11-12(01) on 25 April 2012

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5. Financial assistance to needy patients to meet expenses on privately purchased drugs	14 November 2011	HA was requested to provide information of the drug assistance schemes currently run by community pharmacies operated by non-governmental organizations or charitable funds in the community to provide financial assistance to needy patients to purchase self-financed drugs in HA's Drug Formulary.	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1680/11-12(01) on 12 April 2012.
6. Pilot project on enhancing radiological investigation services through collaboration with the private sector	12 December 2011	The Administration was requested to provide data on the average waiting time of cancer patients for radiological investigation services before and six months after implementation of the pilot project.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
7. Handling of medical incidents in public hospitals	9 January 2012	HA was requested to provide information on the trend of each category of sentinel and serious untoward events since the implementation of the Advanced Incidents Reporting System in 2004.	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1764/11-12(01) on 19 April 2012.
8. Relaxation of the assessment criteria for Samaritan Fund	16 April 2012	The Administration was requested to provide, before the meeting of the Finance Committee scheduled to consider the Government's proposal to provide a	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		<p>\$10 billion grant to the Samaritan Fund ("the Fund"), information on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="898 328 1525 536">(a) the estimated average investment return rate and the estimated investment income to be generated from the \$10 billion injection into the Fund;<li data-bbox="898 587 1525 879">(b) case examples to illustrate how patients, in particular those four-member households having a monthly household income of \$40,000 or less, would be benefited from the proposed relaxation of the financial test under the Fund;<li data-bbox="898 930 1525 1482">(c) measures to be put in place to enhance the transparency of the Fund, including the establishment of a consultation mechanism with the patient groups to gauge their views on changes to the Fund and making public the evaluation and decisions of the Samaritan Fund Management Committee and the Medical Services Development Committee of the Hospital Authority Board on the inclusion of self-financed drugs into the scope of the Fund;	

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		<p>(d) the timetable to reposition the 17 self-financed drugs subsidized by the Fund as special drugs in the Drug Formulary;</p> <p>(e) the mechanism to ensure that drugs of proven safety and efficacy would be provided at standard fees and charges in public hospitals and clinics, rather than being classified as self-financed drugs covered by the Fund; and</p> <p>(f) whether the Administration would conduct a comprehensive review of the Fund.</p>	
9. Development of a Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes	16 April 2012	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on -</p> <p>(a) how it could ensure the compliance with the Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes which would be implemented in the form of voluntary guidelines;</p>	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		<p>(b) whether the United Kingdom had enacted legislation to implement all or certain provisions of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes; and</p> <p>(c) the current regulatory regime governing advertisements of infant formula containing untruthful or misleading claims and the enforcement actions taken in this regard.</p>	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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