

Hospital Authority's Progress Report on Improving Barrier Free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disability

The Hospital Authority (HA) embraces the philosophy of barrier free access and endeavours to comply with the latest barrier free access requirements proactively. The requirements as set out in the "Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008" (the Manual) have been incorporated in all newly constructed facilities and those with major renovation designed and completed after December 2008. For other existing facilities, HA is progressively incorporating the requirements while ensuring that disruption to patient services is minimised.

2. As the total floor area of existing HA facilities is in excess of 2,500,000 m² there is a need to prioritise the barrier free access implementation works. HA's general out-patient clinics have been given priority in this regard because of their high patient volume, around 5 million attendance per annum, in relatively confined floor areas.

3. The initiative of barrier free access enhancements has been rolled out to all seven clusters of HA. 18 clinics already have their barrier free access improvement works completed so far, and similar improvement works will be carried out in 2012/13 for another 14 clinics. HA aims to complete works to all remaining general out-patient clinics by end 2014.

4. HA has also completed compliance checking in 16 acute hospitals providing accident and emergency services as planned. The feasibility for improvement works required is currently being assessed and will be followed by detailed design and implementation. It is anticipated that the implementation works will be completed by the fourth quarter of 2014.

5. Professional consultancy services in respect of compliance checking for the remaining HA hospitals and facilities will be tendered in the second quarter of 2012 for completion in early 2013. The

implementation of the enhancement works will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2016.

Hospital Authority
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