



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

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7 May 2013

Ms Annette LAM  
Clerk to Panel  
Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Lam,

**Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry**  
**Difficulties facing the proprietary Chinese medicine (pCm) industry**  
**in moving towards Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)**

The Administration's follow-up actions in response to the comments made at the Panel meeting held on 19 March 2013 are elaborated as follows.

The newly established Chinese Medicine Development Committee (CMDC) will examine the problems currently encountered by the trade in the implementation of GMP, and consider the complementary measures (such as provision of a one-stop technical support) that can be put in place by the Administration to provide the necessary support. The comments expressed at the said Panel meeting will be referred to the CMDC for consideration.

To assist pCm manufacturers in the implementation of GMP, the Chinese Medicines Board under the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong and the Department of Health (DH) will continue to organise briefings and sharing sessions with the Chinese medicines trade and attend meetings of traders associations to introduce the GMP requirements and gather their views. DH will also meet with those manufacturers, who already have preliminary designs of their factory premises, to explain to them the current GMP guidelines.

The proposal of GMP implementation has also been introduced to all licensed Chinese medicines traders through the Chinese Medicines Traders Newsletter. DH will continue to publish such information in the Newsletter twice a year. All relevant information is also available online for reference and comment by the trade.

Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) is currently in discussion with GMP consultants to organise appropriate trainings, which would suit the needs of different levels of persons in the industry. In addition, ITC is also exploring the possibilities of expanding GMP consultancy services and introducing contract manufacturing arrangements of existing not-for-profit GMP service providers in hopes of providing the industry with hardware support for GMP compliance, especially to the small and medium enterprises that lack the financial strength and expertise to support the building of GMP facilities and their subsequent operation.

We thank the Panel for expressing their concern about this matter.

Yours sincerely,



( Ms Estrella Cheung )  
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Director of Health  
(Attn : Assistant Director (Traditional Chinese Medicine))

Commissioner for Innovation and Technology  
(Attn : Biotechnology Director)