

Panel on Health Services

List of follow-up actions

(Position as at 15 January 2013)

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 January 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 procured a consultancy service in July 2012 for advice on upgrading the current GMP licensing standards to PIC/S compliant licensing standards. It is expected that the consultancy will be completed in 2014. The inspection checklist would be revised in accordance with the advice of the consultant and submitted to the Panel once available.

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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 recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong after the establishment of the Office on Drugs.	<p>The Assistant Director (Drug) and one Chief Pharmacist posts were created on 1 and 14 September 2011 respectively for the set up of the Drug Office 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>
3. 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.
4. Latest arrangement for Mainland women giving birth in Hong Kong	7 May 2012	<p>The Administration was requested to provide -</p> <p>(a) information to elaborate its explanation that from the economic and market perspective, following the decision of the private hospitals to stop accepting</p>	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)479/12-13 on 14 January 2013.

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		<p>bookings for obstetric services in 2013 from non-local pregnant women whose husbands were non-Hong Kong residents, the private hospitals could either increase their obstetric service charges to cover its operation cost or lower their obstetric service charges to attract the Mainland spouses of local residents who hoped to give birth in Hong Kong as well as local pregnant women who originally opted to use the public obstetric services;</p> <p>(b) the number of obstetric beds to be provided by those private hospitals which were expected to lower its price in the face of keen competition; and</p> <p>(c) statistical data demonstrating the effectiveness of the enhanced measures to control the use of obstetric services by non-local women referred to in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1863/11-12(01)).</p>	

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5. Construction of Tin Shui Wai Hospital	19 November 2012	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="898 363 1496 659">(a) the provision of additional outpatient clinic places to meet the demand for primary care services in Tin Shui Wai before the commissioning of the Tin Shui Wai Hospital ("the TSW Hospital");<li data-bbox="898 715 1496 1010">(b) the existing overall doctor to population ratio of all hospital clusters, and the doctor to population ratio of the New Territories West cluster after the commissioning of the TSW Hospital; and<li data-bbox="898 1066 1496 1393">(c) whether the standard of providing 5.5 beds per 1 000 population as set out in the 2011 edition of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines could be achieved in the New Territories West cluster after the commissioning of the TSW Hospital.	<p>The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)442/12-13 on 7 January 2013.</p>

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6. Regulation of medical beauty treatments/ procedures	27 November 2012	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Specifications of Competency Standards for the beauty industry under the Qualifications Framework ("QF"); and (b) the number of workers in the beauty industry whose qualifications were recognized under QF, with a breakdown by the QF levels. 	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
7. Review of fees and charges for private patients and non-eligible persons in the Hospital Authority	17 December 2012	<p>The Administration/Hospital Authority ("HA") was requested to provide information on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of default cases of non-eligible persons ("NEPs") and private patients in the past few years and the corresponding amounts written off; (b) the number of NEPs who had been granted a waiver under HA's medical fee waiver mechanism and the amount of fees waived in the past five years; and 	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		<p>(c) persons that would fall into the category of "Other persons approved by the Chief Executive of HA" and be eligible for the rates of charges applicable to eligible persons ("EPs") under the refined formulation of the definition of EPs.</p>	
<p>8. Strategy and measures in prevention and control of seasonal influenza</p>	<p>17 December 2012</p>	<p>The Administration/HA was requested to provide information on -</p> <p>(a) the financial implications of including children between the age of six to 12 years into the target groups for seasonal influenza vaccination; and</p> <p>(b) the projections of HA on the additional working hours of various healthcare professionals and the financial resources required for the opening of around 500 excess temporary medical, paediatric and convalescent beds and the augmentation of manpower to tackle increased service demand of the 2012/2013 influenza season.</p>	<p>The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)458/12-13 on 9 January 2013.</p>

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
9. Issues relating to the development and operation of private hospitals	18 December 2012	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="898 363 1496 576">(a) the estimated healthcare manpower requirement for a private hospital with a capacity of 300 inpatient beds by referencing the relevant requirement in public hospitals;<li data-bbox="898 624 1496 963">(b) whether the land grant condition that there should be no distribution of profits/surplus, and profits/surplus derived from the hospital should be ploughed back for improving and expanding the hospital facilities had been properly complied with by the private hospitals concerned;<li data-bbox="898 1011 1496 1477">(c) whether charities that had been granted tax exemption status under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) and non-profit making organizations had to make public their annual financial statements, and if so, a list of those private hospitals which fell into these two categories, with a breakdown on whether they had met the disclosure	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		requirement; and (d) an assessment of the effectiveness of the measures implemented by HA to improve staff retention and the turnover rates of doctors and nurses in HA in the past five years.	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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