



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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5 June 2013

Ms Elyssa WONG
Chief Council Secretary
Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms WONG,

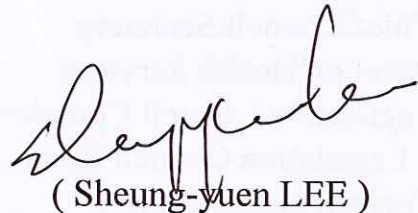
Panel on Health Services
Motion passed on 20 May 2013
The Administration's Response

As regards the motion passed at the Panel on Health Services meeting on 20 May 2013, i.e. *“That this Panel urges the Government to immediately study regulating healthcare intermediaries by legislation, so as to protect the healthcare rights of patients.”*, the Administration's response is appended in the ensuing paragraphs –

The Administration strives to safeguard public health and patient rights. Under the Medical Registration Ordinance (Cap. 161), the Medical Council of Hong Kong is responsible for the regulation of professional conducts of medical practitioners, including the appropriate conduct for medical practitioners participating in contract medicine and managed care. The Council has issued binding guidelines for registered medical practitioners. Healthcare facilities such as private hospitals, nursing homes, maternity homes and non-profit making clinics are subject to

regulation by the Director of Health under the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance (Cap. 165) and the Medical Clinics Ordinance (Cap. 343).

Noting the concerns of the Members, the Steering Committee on Review of the Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities would examine the modus operandi of medical services offered under different organization forms, including professional partnership, group practice under different ownership and management structure (healthcare intermediary schemes being one of them). The Committee would review the desirability and feasibility of regulating healthcare intermediaries and make recommendation as necessary having regard to their role and involvement in the provision of medical services and the need to safeguard and promote patient care.



(Sheung-yuen LEE)
for Secretary for Food and Health