



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

Our Ref.: (14) in FH CR 6/3921/07 Pt. 15

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10 October 2014

Ms Maisie LAM
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Fax: 2185 7845)

Dear Ms LAM,

**Legislative Council Panel on Health Services
Mental Health Policy and Services**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Health Services held on 16 June 2014, members discussed the Government's mental health policy and services, and requested the Administration/Hospital Authority (HA) to –

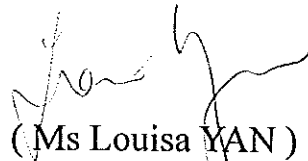
- (a) explain the discrepancy between HA's figure of patients with severe mental illness (SMI) currently taken care of by HA (i.e. around 40 000) and the number of persons with SMI in Hong Kong as estimated in HA's Mental Health Service Plan for Adults 2010-2015 (i.e. 70 000 to 200 000); and
- (b) advise whether it had set any target for enhancing financial resources for mental healthcare services.

HA used population-based studies in the overseas to estimate the prevalence of SMI of our population. The figure mentioned in the HA Mental Health Service Plan for Adults 2010-2015 (i.e. 70 000 to 200 000) refers to the estimated prevalence in Hong Kong based on overseas data. The number of patients with SMI treated by HA in 2013/14 was 46 500.

This refers to the actual number of patients being followed up by the psychiatric department of the HA.

As for item (b), the Government is committed to enhancing the mental health of the public. The Government's investment on mental health has increased over the years, from \$3.75 billion in 2009-10 to over \$5 billion in 2013-14. In 2014-15, HA has earmarked a total of around \$95.2 million to further enhance its psychiatric services. HA will continue to review and monitor its service provision to ensure that its services can meet the needs of the patients.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Louisa YAN)
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Hospital Authority (Attn: Chief Manager (Integrated Care Programs))