

Dr Hon Leung Ka-lau
Chairman
Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council

18th December, 2013

Dear Chairman,

On behalf of the Hong Kong Surgical Laser Association, I am writing to express our opinions and concern in regulating the use of laser system in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Surgical Laser Association (HKSLA) was established in 1990. The main objectives for which the Association is established are:


1. To promote for the benefit of the public the application of laser technology in medicine.
2. To promote the safe operation of lasers in medical management.
3. To promote research and development in laser technology.
4. To establish guidelines and codes of practice in the medical use of lasers.
5. To promote collaboration and understanding between clinical and scientific disciplines in the field of laser application.
6. To provide a venue for discussion of problems related to medical use of lasers.
7. To collect and disseminate information on all matters relating to lasers in the medical field and exchange such information with other bodies having similar objectives.
8. To arrange and provide for the holding of inter alia, meetings, lectures, classes, seminars, training courses and exhibitions in relation to laser technology in medicine.

Laser has become an integral part of modern medicine and revolutionized patient care in many specialties such as ophthalmology, dermatology, cosmetic surgery, oncology and dentistry. Although the use of laser has become more effective, it is not without hazards. We firmly state that the use of Class 3B or above lasers on human should be restricted to be performed by trained medical and dental practitioners.

In the past, HKSLA has organized many laser symposiums, seminars and certificate courses for doctors, nurses and allied health professionals for updating their knowledge in the use of laser systems in various medical specialties. In 2007, 2nd edition of 'Code of Practice-Health Care Laser System: Hong Kong' was jointly published by the Hong Kong Medical Association and HKSLA. The purpose of having the code of practice is to provide a guideline to safeguard professional standards, propagate the use of laser in medicine and health-related professions and services, and most importantly, to protect public interest.

Our Association is committed to providing training on the use of lasers to medical, dental and nursing professionals and will explore the possibilities of providing training to non-medical users on the application of IPL machines in the beauty industry if regulation for its use is implemented. We are contemplating a proposal for the training and certification.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.



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