

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衞生局

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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29 April 2020

Ms Wendy Jan Clerk to Panel Panel on Welfare Services Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central

Dear Ms Jan,

Panel on Welfare Services Follow-up to the meeting on 9 December 2019

During the discussion on providing crisis support for sexual violence victims at the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services held on 9 December 2019, Members requested that supplementary information be provided. Having consulted the Hospital Authority ("HA"), we provide information relating to public hospitals as follows.

- 2. The HA has arranged one designated room and one back-up room in each of the 18 public hospitals providing Accident and Emergency ("A&E") services throughout the territory to facilitate sexual violence victims attending the A&E departments to receive "one-stop" services in hospital areas according to their needs. All the designated and back-up rooms have doors and are sound-proof so as to protect patients' privacy. Among them, 14 public hospitals could provide rooms with beds for gynaecological examination, and most of the designated rooms are not equipped with shower facilities. Healthcare staff will arrange patients to receive examination in the gynaecology department if necessary. Bathrooms are also available in public hospitals for patients in need.
- 3. The HA, Social Welfare Department and other relevant government departments will arrange regular visits to the designated rooms in the 18 public

hospitals to ensure that the provision of such facilities is in line with the principle of providing a convenient, safe and private environment to the victims. In view of the increasing demand for healthcare services, the HA needs to ensure optimal use of existing space to meet public demands for various healthcare services. In the longer term, the HA would actively study the provision and enhancement of the relevant rooms or facilities in newly built or renovated hospitals for patients in need, including sexual violence victims.

4. The HA noted the views on setting up crisis support centres in public hospitals, and will dovetail with the policy direction on crisis support for sexual violence victims as appropriate to explore service enhancement for providing them with more optimal support.

Yours sincerely,

(Clarissa WAN)

for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Attn: Mr Huggin Tang)
Chief Executive, Hospital Authority (Attn.: Ms Dorothy Lam)