

Panel on Health Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 13 May 2021)

	Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
1.	Women's health	June 2021
<p>At the special Panel meeting on 21 October 2019, Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Panel should discuss the subject, particularly the provision of breast cancer screening. The key findings of the commissioned study conducted by The University of Hong Kong and the revised recommendations on breast cancer screening made by the Cancer Expert Working Group on Cancer Prevention and Screening of the Cancer Coordinating Committee were briefed at the Panel meeting on 10 July 2020. Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021 legislative session the subject, including measures for the prevention of breast cancer and cervical cancer, and population-based breast cancer screening. At the meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2020-2021 session on 9 November 2020 ("2020-2021 Work Plan meeting"), the subject "Prevention of osteoporosis" was agreed to be covered in the discussion. Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan requested the Administration to provide a paper on progress of breast cancer screening vide her letter dated 12 March 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(4)640/20-21(01)). The Administration's response was issued to Members on 12 April 2021 vide LC Paper No. CB(4)754/20-21(01)).</p>		

	Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
2.	Voluntary scheme on advanced and specialised nursing practice	3 rd quarter of 2021
	<p>Item proposed by the Administration in the 2019-2020 session.</p>	
	<p>At the policy briefing on 21 October 2019, members were advised that the Nursing Council of Hong Kong planned to launch a voluntary registration scheme for the development of nursing specialties in early 2020, in order to pave way for the eventual setting up of a statutory registration regime.</p>	
	<p>At the 2020-2021 Work Plan meeting, the Administration advised that it planned to brief members on the subject in the third quarter of 2021.</p>	
3.	Update on the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme	3 rd quarter of 2021
	<p>The item of "Review of Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme and study on High Risk Pool proposal" was referred to the Panel for follow-up by the Bills Committee on Inland Revenue (Amendment) (No. 4) Bill 2018.</p>	
	<p>In the course of scrutinizing the Bill, the Administration has undertaken to revert, as and when appropriate, to the Panel on its review of the effectiveness of Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme ("VHIS") after its implementation and the progress in re-examining the High Risk Pool proposal.</p>	
	<p>At the 2020-2021 Work Plan meeting, the Administration advised that it planned to provide an update on VHIS in mid-2021.</p>	

	Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
4.	Implementation of the Hong Kong Genome Project Item proposed by the Administration. At the Panel meeting on 12 June 2020, in the context of discussing "Genomic medicine", members were advised that the Hong Kong Genome Institute had been established in May 2020 to take forward the Hong Kong Genome Project in partnership with the Hospital Authority ("HA") and universities. The Hong Kong Genome Project will commence in the second half of 2021. The Administration plans to brief members on the details of the project in the third quarter of 2021.	3 rd quarter of 2021
5.	Report on the new mental health initiatives and work of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health At the Panel meeting on 10 January 2020, in the context of discussing the enhancement of mental health services, members were briefed on, among others, the work progress of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health since its establishment in December 2017, the commencement of three mental health prevalence surveys by two local universities as commissioned by the Administration in 2019, and the Dementia Community Support Scheme. Dr KWOK Ka-ki* proposed vide his letter dated 21 October 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(01)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021 legislative session the review of mental health services, including policy relating to persons with dementia. Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG proposed vide his letter dated 22 October 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(02)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021 legislative session the mental health status of the Hong Kong population under the epidemic, and the enhancement and support measures in this regard.	2 nd half of 2021

Subject

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

At the 2020-2021 Work Plan meeting, the Administration advised that it planned to provide members with an update on the subject in the second half of 2021.

6. Update on tobacco control measures

2nd half of 2021

Item proposed by the Administration. The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the progress of tobacco control measures with a view to achieving a smoking prevalence of 7.8% by 2025 as promulgated under "Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong".

7. Development of primary healthcare services and setting up of DHC Express

2nd half of 2021

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss the subject in the 2020-2021 legislative session. She further suggested vide her letter dated 12 March 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(4)640/20-21(01)) that the Panel Chairman should arrange for discussion of the subject as soon as possible. The Administration's response was issued to members on 12 April 2021 vide LC Paper No. CB(4)754/20-21(01)).

8. Review of dental care services and relevant manpower plan

To be confirmed

The subject covers: (i) review of dental care services, (ii) provision of dental services for adult patients with intellectual disability and with financial needs and (iii) review of oral health goals. Discussion of the subject was originally scheduled for the regular meeting of the Panel on 11 December 2020. Subsequently, it was

Subject

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for discussion**

announced in the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address that all the staff establishment proposals awaiting scrutiny would be withdrawn and subject to individual review. The Administration advised on 1 December 2020 that discussion of the subject would be deferred to a future meeting.

- 9. Accident and emergency service provided by HA and responses taken by HA in relation to mass gathering and confrontation incidents in the community** To be confirmed

This subject covers: (i) accident and emergency service provided by HA, (ii) handling of public requests for emergency medical needs within the vicinity of public hospitals, and (iii) responses taken by HA in relation to mass gathering and confrontation incidents in the community.

- 10. Procedure in organ transplant** To be confirmed

Hon CHAN Han-pan proposed vide his letter dated 28 August 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2062/14-15(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to an organ donation and transplantation incident in the Prince of Wales Hospital whereby it was found that the donor had renal cell carcinoma after the carrying out of the heart and lungs transplantations. The Chairman instructed that the subject of procedure in organ transplant be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

Dr Hon Pierre CHAN proposed vide his letter dated 2 May 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1323/16-17(01)) that the Panel should discuss at the earliest possible time issues relating to organ donation and transplant.

Subject

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

11. Regulation of pharmaceutical products

To be confirmed

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki proposed vide his letter dated 9 October 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2229/14-15(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to the monitoring of the unauthorized sale of pharmaceutical products and invited views from deputations on the subject. The Chairman instructed that the subject be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

Dr Hon Helena WONG proposed via her letter dated 29 November 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(2)373/18-19(01)) that the Panel should discuss the management and testing of pharmaceutical products. The Chairman instructed that the subject be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion. In response to the request made by Dr Hon Helena WONG in the letter, the Administration has provided for members' reference an information paper on the regulation and testing of pharmaceutical products (LC Paper No. CB(2)502/18-19(01)).

At the special meeting on 21 October 2019, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss the emergence of suspected counterfeit vaccines in the market.

12. Review of the Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance (Cap. 561)

To be confirmed

The item was referred to the Panel for follow-up by the Bills Committee on Human Reproductive Technology (Amendment) Bill 2015.

During the scrutiny of the Bill, the Administration has advised that it would work with the Council on Human Reproductive Technology ("CHRT") to look into the need to amend the Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance comprehensively having regard to the stakeholders' feedback and the operating experience of

Subject

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

CHRT. The Administration undertook to keep the Panel informed of the progress.

- 13. Provision of one-stop services for victims of sexual violence in and prevention of crime in psychiatric wards of public hospitals** To be confirmed

This subject was originally placed on the Panel's list of outstanding list for discussion as two separate items (viz. (i) Provision of one-stop services for victims of sexual violence in public hospitals and (ii) Prevention of crime in psychiatric wards of the HA hospitals). In November 2019, the two items were merged as suggested by the Administration.

- 14. Provision of atrial fibrillation screening** To be confirmed

Hon KWONG Chun-yu proposed via his letter dated 13 November 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(2)257/18-19(01)) that the Panel should hold a meeting to receive views from members of the public on measures for stroke prevention, including the provision of atrial fibrillation screening.

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss the subject in the 2020-2021 legislative session.

- 15. Specialist services, non-emergency services and examinations provided by HA** To be confirmed

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Hon CHAN Han-pan suggested that the Panel should discuss in the 2018-2019 session the specialist services provided by HA.

Dr KWOK Ka-ki* proposed vide his letter dated 21 October 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(01)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021 legislative

Subject

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

session measures to shorten the waiting time for specialist outpatient services, non-emergency services and examinations provided by HA.

- 16. Pilot Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions** To be confirmed

The Panel held a special meeting to receive views from members of the public on the subject on 10 December 2018. The Administration advised at the meeting that the Accreditation Agent announced the accreditation results for the speech therapist and audiologist professions in April and November 2018 respectively, and expected to announce the accreditation results for dietitian and educational psychologist professions in phases by the first quarter of 2019. Separately, the accreditation process for the clinical psychologist profession has commenced. Upon completion of the accreditation, the Accreditation Agent will review the effectiveness of the Pilot Scheme and report to the Administration with recommended measures for improvement. The Administration would study how to formulate a statutory registration regime for relevant accredited professions based on the Pilot Scheme.

- 17. Good Samaritan law for first aid given in bona fide medical emergency** To be confirmed

At the meeting on 19 November 2018, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki suggested that the Panel should discuss the subject at the earliest possible time in the 2018-2019 session.

- 18. Implementation of the regulatory regime under the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Cap. 633)** To be confirmed

The item was referred to the Panel for follow-up by Subcommittee on Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Specification of Date for Section 135(1)(a))

Subject

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for discussion**

Notice and Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Specification of Date for Section 136(1)(a)) Notice.

In the course of scrutinizing the two Notices, the Administration has, in response to members' request, undertaken to brief the Panel on a yearly basis on the progress made towards the full implementation of the new regulatory regime under the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance.

At the policy briefing on 21 October 2019, members were advised that the application period for licences for private hospitals started on 2 July 2019, and that for day procedure centres would commence on 2 January 2020. For clinics, applications for licences and requests for letters of exemption would commence in 2021 the earliest.

- 19. Corporate governance and manpower situation of HA and the use of the additional funding earmarked in the 2019-2020 Budget for HA's work concerning its manpower, drug treatments and medical equipment** To be confirmed

This subject was originally placed on the Panel's list of outstanding list for discussion as two separate items (viz. (i) Corporate governance and manpower situation of HA and (ii) Progress report on the use of the additional funding earmarked in the 2019-2020 Budget for HA's work concerning its manpower, drug treatments and medical equipment). In November 2019, the two items were merged as suggested by the Administration.

- 20. Maintenance of professionalism in service delivery by healthcare professionals in public hospitals** To be confirmed

At the special meeting on 21 October 2019, Hon Starry LEE, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG, Hon CHAN Han-pan and Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the

Subject

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for discussion**

Administration and HA should brief the Panel on measures in place to ensure the healthcare professionals' professionalism in the delivery of services in public hospitals in the light of their participation in mass gathering activities taken place in hospital premises.

At the meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2019-2020 session on 29 October 2019, the Administration was requested to provide a written response to members' concerns in this regard to facilitate the Panel's consideration of how the matter should be followed up. The Administration's response has been issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)148/19-20(01) on 7 November 2019.

- 21. End-of-life care: Legislative proposals on advance directives and dying in place** To be confirmed

At the meeting on 8 November 2019, the Panel was briefed on the public consultation on the subject being conducted for the period from 6 September to 16 December 2019. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the results of the public consultation when available.

At the meeting on 13 December 2019, the Panel received views from deputations on the subject.

The Administration provided an information paper on the outcome and way forward of the above public consultation exercise in July 2020. The paper has been issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1388/19-20(01) on 24 July 2020.

- 22. Effectiveness of the internal auditing mechanism of DH and HA** To be confirmed

Hon CHAN Han-pan proposed vide his letter dated 17 March 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)727/19-20(01))

Subject

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

that the Panel should discuss the effectiveness of the internal auditing mechanism of DH and HA.

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss the subject in the 2020-2021 legislative session.

- 23. Measures for the prevention and control of dengue fever** To be confirmed

At the meeting on 24 April 2020, Hon CHAN Hoi-yan proposed that the Panel should discuss the subject.

- 24. Implementation of Chinese Medicine Development Fund** To be confirmed

The item was referred to the Panel for follow-up by the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Development of Chinese Medicine.

At the meeting of the Subcommittee on 3 July 2020, the Administration was requested to update the Panel on the implementation of the Chinese Medicine Development Fund on a regular basis.

- 25. Provision of treatment and support for cancer patients and rare disease patients** To be confirmed

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss the subject in the 2020-2021 legislative session.

- 26. Public-private Partnership Programme** To be confirmed

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021

Subject

**Proposed timing
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legislative session the enhancement of the Public-private Partnership Programme.

27. Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme

To be confirmed

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021 legislative session the review of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme.

28. Management of polypharmacy and medication adherence for the elderly

To be confirmed

Item referred by the Public Complaints Office of the Legislative Council Secretariat for follow-up by the Panel vide a referral memorandum (LC Paper No. CB(2)381/20-21(01)) (Restricted to members only). The Chairman has instructed that the subject be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

29. HA's handling of patients' privacy

To be confirmed

Hon Alice MAK requested vide her letter dated 10 May 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(4)985/20-21(01)) the Panel to discuss HA's handling of patients' privacy.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 May 2021

* According to the announcement made by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government on 11 November 2020 pursuant to the Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on Issues Relating to the Qualification of the Members of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, KWOK Ka-ki was disqualified from being a member of Legislative Council on 30 July 2020.