

LegCo Panel on Health Services

List of issues to be considered

1. Review on health care financing

A Consultancy Study on Financing Hong Kong's Health Care System was completed in December 1998 and the Report was submitted to the Administration in January 1999. The Administration was urged to release the Report as soon as possible, to be followed by the consultation paper in due course.

2. Utilization of the Clinical Pathology Laboratory Centre (CPLC) of the Department of Health after the setting up of a Laboratory Automation System (LAS)

In approving the Director of Health's proposal of setting up a LAS to enhance the capacity and efficiency of the CPLC, the Finance Committee at its meeting on 9 October 1997 requested the Administration to explore the feasibility of allowing the private health care sector to make use of the spare capacity of the system to offset costs.

3. Visiting health teams for the elderly

At the meeting held on 14 July 1998, Mr LAW Chi-kwong proposed to discuss the visiting health teams for the elderly which the Administration had pledged to set up in 1998-99 in the 1997 Policy Address.

4. Investigation report on the kidney dialysis incident at the Hong Kong & Sanatorium Hospital

Dr LEONG Che-hung proposed to discuss the subject when the report was made available.

5. Control of proprietary Chinese medicine

Referring to the death of a woman who was suspected of taking a slimming proprietary Chinese medicine containing western drug, Dr LEONG Che-hung proposed at the meeting on 14 December 1998 to discuss the control of proprietary medicines at a future meeting.

6. Monitoring of Private Hospitals

The subject was last discussed at the meeting on 9 November 1998. Members remained concerned about the lack of a monitoring mechanism for private hospitals and agreed to have a follow-up discussion on the recommendations of the Medical Development Advisory Committee.

7. Registration of ancillary dental personnel

The subject was discussed at the meeting on 11 January 1999. The Administration will conduct consultation and report to the Panel in due course.

8. Dental policy and review of oral health goals

The subject was discussed at the meeting on 11 January 1999 and the Administration was asked to provide supplementary information on the dental policy in writing. The Panel noted that the Working Group on Revision of Oral Health Goals would present its report to the Dental Subcommittee in February 1999 and requested the Administration to keep members informed of the progress.

9. Implementation of the Enhanced Productivity Programme in the Hospital Authority

Hospital Authority to report in April 1999 on specific proposals to enhance productivity gain for 1999-2000 and plans for the subsequent 3 years.

10. Undesirable medical advertisements

Having regard to medical and dental services provided in the mainland were advertised in Hong Kong, members considered it necessary to discuss the issue with the Hong Kong Medical Council as its Code of Practice prohibited doctors from advertising their services.