

For information

**Legislative Council
Panel on Health Services
Meeting on 13 December 1999**

Progress on Registration of Chinese Medicine Practitioners

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress on preparation for the registration of Chinese medicine practitioners.

Background

2. The Chinese Medicine Ordinance was enacted in July 1999. The Ordinance provides a framework for the registration of Chinese medicine practitioners, licensing of trading in Chinese medicines and registration of proprietary Chinese medicines. There are also provisions in the Ordinance for the establishment of a statutory Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong to implement the above statutory control measures.

Progress

3. The Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong was established in September 1999. It is now in the process of making subsidiary legislation for the registration of Chinese medicine

practitioners. The Administration is assisting the Council in the preparation of the following regulations :-

- (a) Chinese Medicine Practitioners (Registration) Regulation, to be made by the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong with the approval of the Secretary for Health and Welfare;
- (b) Chinese Medicine Practitioners (Discipline) Regulation, to be made by the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong with the approval of the Secretary for Health and Welfare;
and
- (c) Chinese Medicine (Fees) Regulation, to be made by the Chief Executive in Council, setting out the level of fees payable for registration as Chinese medicine practitioners and other related purposes.

Drafting of the above Regulations is at an advanced stage.

4. Meanwhile, the Chinese Medicine Council is preparing a Code of Practice to lay down guidelines on professional conduct for registered Chinese medicine practitioners. The Practitioners Board of the Chinese Medicine Council has been tasked to prepare the draft Code of Practice. It has been discussing, in the past two months, details of the Code, including professional ethics, promotion of practice, prescription requirements and scope of practice. Discussions on the Code are continuing with a view to finalising the Code to tie in with the commencement of the registration of Chinese medicine practitioners.

Way forward

5. We expect to submit the Regulations mentioned in paragraph 3 to the Legislative Council in February 2000.

Health and Welfare Bureau
December 1999