

**The Administration's Response to Information Requested by
Members at the Meetings of 11 November 2002 and 10 March 2003**

A. Information requested at the Meeting of 11 November 2002

- (a) *The percentage of unsuccessful applications for seeking reduction or waiver of public medical fee in the past three years.*

The Hospital Authority (HA) has confirmed that it did not have the required statistics.

B. Information requested at the meeting of 10 March 2003

- (a) *The definition of various triage categories.*

The required definitions are at Annex A.

- (b) *Find out where the people, who would ordinarily use HA's A&E service before the introduction of the new A&E charge, had gone to seek treatment after the introduction of the new A&E charge.*

HA has confirmed that it did not have the required statistics, as it was difficult to define "patients who would ordinarily use A&E service before the introduction of the new A&E charge", or to contact them to see where they had gone to seek medical treatment after the new A&E charge was introduced.

- (c) *Comparison of the A&E attendance by time intervals before and after the introduction of the new A&E charge*

The required comparison is attached at Annex B.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau
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A&E Triage Categorisation 公立醫院急症室分流類別**Category I - Critical**

- Suffers from a life-threatening condition(s) caused by a major event
- With unstable vital signs requiring immediate resuscitation
- (Example : Major trauma / trauma with involvement of multiple sites)

第一類：危殆

因嚴重事件或意外引致有生命危險，主要維生指標極不穩定，必須立即施行搶救。
【例：身體有多處嚴重創傷的人士。】

Category II - Emergency

- Suffers from a potentially life threatening condition
- Borderline vital signs but with potential risk of rapid deterioration
- Require emergency treatment and immediate continuous close-monitoring
- (Example : Major bone fracture that may have risk of rapid deterioration)

第二類：危急

主要維生指標處於邊緣情況，可能有生命危險，須立即治理及密切監察病情。
【例：受嚴重創傷，身體多於一處出現骨折。】

Category III - Urgent

- Suffers from a major condition with potential risk of deterioration
- Stable vital signs
- (Example : Isolated major fracture / dislocation)

第三類：緊急

主要維生指標較為穩定，但情況嚴重須儘早治理。
【例：身體主要部分出現骨折，前臂骨折。】

Category IV - Semi-urgent

- Suffers from acute but stable condition(s)
- Stable vital signs
- Can afford to wait some time without serious complications
- (Example : Bruising, sprain)

第四類：半緊急

情況較輕微但需要治理，可以等候一段時間而不致出現病情惡化。
【例：撞瘀及扭傷。】

Category V - Non-urgent

- Suffers from minor and stable condition(s) (including acute and non-acute conditions)
- Can afford to wait without deterioration
- Stable vital signs
- (Example : Minor abrasions, gastroenteritis)

第五類：非緊急

屬於非急症，可以適當地考慮使用其他醫療服務。
【例：輕微擦傷、一般腸胃炎。】

Annex B

Comparison of the A&E attendance by time intervals before and after the introduction of the new A&E charge

Period	Daily Average Attendance		% Change
	12/2001	29/11/2002 – 12/12/2002 (*)	
0100 – 0900 hrs	2,843	2,474	-13%
0900 – 1700 hrs	2,365	2,152	-9%
1700 – 0100 hrs	1,121	1,067	-4.8%
Total	6,329	5,693	-9%

(*) The first two weeks after the new A&E charge was introduced