

**Work Pressure of Frontline Health Care Workers in Public Hospitals**

Submission from Hong Kong Public Doctors' Association by

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**Work Pressure of Frontline Doctors:**

1. Long working hours: more than 80 hrs in some acute hospital departments including on-call (overnight on-duty) work in a week
2. and working continuously for more than 30 hours non-stop for on-call duties.
3. Multiple duties for a single doctor simultaneously
  - a. A doctor has to take care of up to 30 inpatients with unstable illness in acute hospital clinically, and at the same time
  - b. Needs to attend the outpatient specialist clinic for outpatient specialist consultation (usually 15-20 patients per session), and
  - c. Needs to provide patients' education, counseling and carer education, explanation of the concurrent illness, and
  - d. Needs to take care of patients in cluster hospitals, say, have senior round in convalescent hospitals for convalescent patients, and
  - e. Needs to perform specialist investigations and / or their reporting, such as upper gastrointestinal endoscopy, 24 hr ambulatory cardiac monitoring (Holter), and tilt table test...etc, and
  - f. Required to perform non-clinical duties such as medical report writing, fill in social allowance application, computer data entry and including typing of all case records and reports without any clerical support, and
  - g. Writes report to answer complaint directed from patient relation officers within the hospitals, and
  - h. Perform clinical research duties of the department, and
  - i. (training related activities to keep up-to-date skills and knowledge)
4. Answering of compliant case or explanation of resource limitation in the clinical management.
5. Non-clinical duties including all clerical work and administrative work.
6. Increase of patients' demand on clinical needs due to easily available information from internet and generalized higher educational level for patients and relatives.