

(Translation)

**Motion on
“A comprehensive review on mental health policy”
moved by Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 31 January 2007**

Motion as amended by Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long

“That, as the number of consultations by psychiatric patients in Hong Kong increases significantly every year and the annual number of consultations and first consultations at the psychiatric specialist out-patient service of public hospitals also rises drastically, but the Government fails to provide adequate support in this respect, resulting in a serious shortage of resources and health care personnel in psychiatric services at present and dire challenges for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, medication, hospitalization and rehabilitation services, as well as patients being denied more suitable medicines and better treatment, this Council urges the Government to:

- (a) expeditiously conduct a comprehensive review on Hong Kong’s mental health policy and regularly conduct studies and reviews, as well as make appropriate adjustments in the light of the relevant results, so as to support and upgrade mental health services;
- (b) allocate more resources to psychiatric services for recruiting more health care and other specialist personnel, strengthening relevant training for health care personnel across the board, enhancing the ability of family doctors to treat relevant illnesses and improving the existing psychiatric services in such areas as prevention, diagnosis, treatment, medication, hospitalization and rehabilitation;
- (c) strengthen community psychiatric services, enhance the functions of community psychiatric health care teams and provide primary mental health services in areas such as prevention, education and assessment;
- (d) integrate and coordinate the territory’s medical and community rehabilitation services in mental health, and explore a new funding mechanism, so that the public can enjoy more comprehensive mental health services;
- (e) invite people concerned across the community, including frontline health care personnel, patients and their family members, social workers, social welfare organizations, academics and other people who are concerned about mental health in Hong Kong, to jointly take part in the formulation and review of the overall mental health policy; and
- (f) enhance public education on mental health, so as to deepen the public’s understanding of mental health, cause them to pay proper attention to the importance of mental health and reduce discrimination of the community against mental patients and ex-mental patients.”