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Your ref:

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30 March 2007

Ms Mary So
Clerk to Panel
Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council
8 Jackson Road
Central

Dear Ms So,

Redevelopment of Yan Chai Hospital (YCH)

When discussing the redevelopment of YCH at the meeting of the Health Services Panel held on 11 December 2006, Members asked for the following information:

- (a) the total estimated cost and completion time for the proposed project;
- (b) the projected increase in the population of the Kwai Tsing and Tsuen Wan District upon the completion of the redevelopment project;
- (c) whether the proposed community health and wellness centre in YCH would have the capacity to cope with the service demand upon its completion, and if so, the capacity;

- (d) the total gross floor area of the new community health and wellness centre, as opposed to that of the existing four hospital blocks earmarked for development;
- (e) the feasibility of shortening the completion time for the redevelopment project; and
- (f) the utilisation rate of obstetrics and gynaecology service at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

Members also asked the Administration to convey members' suggestion about introducing obstetrics and gynaecology service at YCH to the Hospital Authority (HA) for consideration.

The redevelopment project (response to (a) to (e))

The total estimated cost for the proposed redevelopment project is about \$420 million. According to the current schedule, the new community health and wellness centre will be completed by 2012 to reprovision the existing clinical services while the whole redevelopment project will be completed by 2014. Upon appointing the professional consultants for the preparatory works, the HA will explore with the consultants on the feasibility of shortening the completion time for the redevelopment project.

The total floor area of the existing Blocks C, D, E and F of YCH is about 20,000 m². While the exact floor area of the new community health and wellness centre can only be determined after completion of the detailed design, the capacity of the General Practice Clinic and Specialist Outpatient Clinic at YCH is targeted to be enhanced to 74,000 and 210,000 attendance respectively per year after completion of the redevelopment project. The enhanced capacity at YCH will be able to meet the demand for the population of Kwai Tsing and Tsuen Wan District, which, according to Census and Statistics Department's projection, is expected to increase from about 811,900 in 2006 to 815,000 in 2014.

Obstetrics and gynaecology services (response to (f))

The clustering arrangement of the HA enables the provision of a full range of comprehensive health care services to meet the health care needs of the community. The hospitals within a cluster differ in term of role delineation and service provision which would enhance operational efficiency and service quality.

In the Kowloon West Cluster (KWC) to which the YCH belongs, obstetrics and gynaecology services are currently provided at the Princess Margaret Hospital and Kwong Wah Hospital. In 2006-07 (up to end January 2007), the occupancy rates of obstetrics and gynaecology beds in the KWC were 68% and 86% respectively. The capacity for such beds in the KWC is sufficient to meet the demands for the obstetrics and gynaecology services in the cluster, hence there is no plan to expand such services in other hospitals within the cluster.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Ernestina WONG)
for Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

c.c. Dr David CHENG, Hospital Authority
Dr Raymond CHEN, Hospital Authority
Mr Donald LI, Hospital Authority