



## **LegCo Panel on Health Services & Panel on Welfare Services**

### **Joint Meeting on 25 June 2007**

#### **Submission from Hong Kong Prosthetists and Orthotists Association**

##### **Rectify the Qualification Grouping for Prosthetist-Orthotist (From QG3 to QG9)**

As stated in the LegCo Brief on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 (Ref. no: CSBCR/PG/4-085-001/46-2), Civil service salaries at the entry level are set having regard primarily to educational qualifications and the different entry ranks in the civil service are grouped into various broad-band education qualification groups (QGs). According to the existing qualification grouping, the Prosthetist-Orthotists are grouped under the qualification grouping 3, which is a higher diploma grade. Since Bachelor of Science (Hon) in Prosthetics and Orthotics by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University was established in 1995, only those who have obtained the degree relevant to prosthetics and orthotics are eligible to be recruited as Prosthetist-Orthotist II (PO II) under Hospital Authority Policy. In this connection, the Prosthetist-Orthotist should be grouped under the QG 9 “Degree and Related Grades”.

Based on the equal recognition of awards received by the university graduates, we strongly request the starting salaries for the Prosthetist-Orthotist should be in line with degree graduates of other healthcare professionals, such as speech therapists and dietitians, under the qualification group 9.

##### **Strike for equivalent treatment on application of Starting Salaries Survey (SSS) Findings**

In connection with the downward revision of starting salaries for the civil servants in April 2000, the starting salaries of PO II was being deducted by 2 points. By the principle of fairness amount the serving PO II and the findings of the 2006 SSS, we strongly request the increment to be in line with that of the civil servants pay.