Panel on Health Services

**Summary of views/suggestions given by the organsiations on the
development of a territory-wide electronic health record sharing system**

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
Medical Information Exchange Interest Group [LC Paper No. CB(2)1006/08-09(04)] Human Health [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(08)] The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(19)] The Hong Kong Pharmaceutical Care Foundation [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(04)] HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(03)] The Pharmaceutical Society of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(05)]	• strongly supports the Government's plan and the roadmap to develop an electronic health record (eHR) sharing system because it will - (a) ensure access to comprehensive clinical information across different sectors; (b) facilitate learning from collective experience, and enable more sharing of new techniques, clinical protocols and best practices across different sectors; (c) bring about better and quicker access to information and leading to more accurate diagnosis and reducing medical errors; and (d) enable professionals to spent less time in documentation and making referrals to other specialities • the eHR system should be doctor-friendly with easy-to-use interfaces • more training should be provided to healthcare professionals, in particular the private doctors and community pharmacists who are not familiar with electronic devices and clinical information system • the information technology (IT) infrastructure for all healthcare providers should be upgraded
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals [LC Paper No. CB(2)1006/08-09(05)] Hong Kong Public Nurses	• supports the Government's proposal to establish a territory-wide eHR system because it will - (a) encourage patients to be more focused on their personal healthcare by providing them with the access to their critical health and medical information;

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(02)] Haven of Hope Christian Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(05)] College of Nursing, Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(09)] eHealth Consortium [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(10)] The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society Jockey Club Cancer Rehabilitation Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(12)] Senior Citizens Home Safety Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(13)] United Christian Nethersole Community Health Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(16)] Union of Nursing Staff of Tung Wah Group of Hospitals [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(01)] Information Systems Audit & Control Association (Hong Kong Chapter) [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(01)]	(b) support greater continuity of care across the healthcare sector which will in turn enable the provision of comprehensive healthcare to patients; and (c) be a critical component in the larger effort to create a comprehensive infrastructure for the electronic exchange of healthcare information and to advance public health on many fronts, such as enabling disease surveillance and providing health statistics for public health research • supports the establishment of a dedicated body to spearhead, oversee, and regulate the eHR development, operation, maintenance, finance, ownership of the records, standards for sharing, as well as the security and privacy protection of individual data and the entire system • the Government should provide the non-profit making organisations capital investment for the eHR sharing infrastructure and investment in technical expertise

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
Hong Kong Private Hospitals Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(01)]	• supports the establishment of a secured, territory-wide patient-oriented eHR system under the direction of a dedicated office at the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) • a new electronic Clinical Management System (CMS), which should be able to provide private hospitals the ability to facilitate the deployment of the private hospitals' own CMS, should be developed to support the eHR system • the Government should provide technical support, expertise and know-how for private hospitals to connect to the eHR system • the Government should promote more sharing of patient records between the public and private sectors, such as the Public-Private Interface - Electronic Patient Record Sharing Pilot Project (PPI-ePR) of the Hospital Authority (HA), prior to the full implementation of the eHR system
Internet Society Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(03)]	• supports the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing system • the Government should involve the Society, as well as the rest of the IT industry, in developing the eHR system in a standard-compliant and interoperable manner • considers that the Internet and Web 2.0 technologies will play an important role in the eHR system • the Government should set up an open, transparent and effective governance structure for the development of the eHR system, including the formulation of strategy, execution, development and operation • the Government should continue to consult and engage the public and the relevant stakeholders in the IT and healthcare industries
Hong Kong Information Technology Joint Council	• supports the Government's initiative to develop an eHR sharing system because it will -

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
[LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(04)] Hong Kong Information Technology Federation [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(07)] Internet Professional Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(11)] Hong Kong United Youth Science and Technology Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(17)] Hong Kong Internet Service Providers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(03)] GS1 Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(06)] E-Mice Solutions (HK) Limited [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(06)] The Chamber of Hong Kong Computer Industry [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(09)]	(a) further develop Hong Kong as a leading digital city; and (b) provide an opportunity for Hong Kong to become a service and training centre for e-Health in the Asia-Pacific region ● welcomes the Government's proposal to involve the IT industry in developing the eHR sharing system, in accordance with the eHR standards and as guided by the certification scheme for compliance and inter-operability. This will be a major boost to the local IT industry by creating demand for skills and expertise for the local IT and health informatics industry ● considers that the expertise of the IT sector could be deployed to support private healthcare providers in upgrading their information systems with sharing capabilities
Quality HealthCare Medical Services Limited [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(06)] St Paul's Hospital	● supports the development of a territory-wide patient-oriented eHR system under the co-ordination of a dedicated office under FHB ● the Government should take a more active role in transferring to the private healthcare service providers the know-how and expertise that would facilitate their deployment of

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
[LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(14)] St Teresa's Hospital [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(15)] Town Health International Holdings Co Ltd [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(18)] Shatin International Medical Centre Union Hospital [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(05)]	electronic medical records • the Government should provide technical support and necessary interface to the private healthcare service providers to facilitate the connection of their electronic patient record system with the eHR system • the Government should conduct more patient records sharing projects to test the technical feasibility of eHR sharing, in particular the protection of patient data privacy under an internet environment
The Professional Commons [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(20)]	• supports the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing system • the Government should ensure that there will be good governance and sufficient public scrutiny and participation in the development of such a complex system
The Hong Kong College of Family Physicians [LC Paper No. CB(2)1028/08-09(21)]	• supports the Government's plan to develop an eHR sharing system • the Government should provide necessary training to private practitioners, especially those in sole practice who are not familiar with electronic devices and the CMS of HA • the Government should provide full support in terms of resources in the task to connect CMS of HA and those systems used in the private sector
Health Information Technology Special Interest Division of Hong Kong Computer Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(02)]	• supports the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing system because it will - (a) improve the quality and delivery of care to patients, reduce medical errors and costs of healthcare expenditure;

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
	(b) create demand for skills and expertise for the local IT and health informatics industry; and (c) further position Hong Kong to become a service and training centre for e-Health in the Asia-Pacific region • the IT industry should be involved and consulted in formulating the strategy for the eHR system. The eHR standards, certification scheme for compliance and inter-operability, and business models are issues of concern to the industry • the Government should send clear message to all stakeholders, including the IT industry and the private healthcare service providers on the need to upgrade the health information systems
The Hong Kong College of Pathologists [LC Paper No. CB(2)1037/08-09(07)]	• strongly supports the Government's plan to develop an e-HR sharing system • a laboratory information sub-system (LIS) should be an essential component of the e-HR sharing system because an efficient and highly connected eHR-LIS will about the following benefits - (a) all relevant laboratory testing results can be combined to facilitate the management of patient records; (b) it will help integrating diversified testing facilities and turning them into a single virtual laboratory
EDS Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(02)]	• supports the development of a territory-wide eHR sharing system because it will provide patients with wider service options appropriate to their needs and bring about opportunities to the IT industry • welcomes the Government's expressed interests in public-private partnership in the development and implementation of the eHR sharing system

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions
	• given the importance of data privacy of medical and patient records, considers it essential to conduct Privacy Impact Assessment and Privacy Compliance Audit exercises at various stages of the development and implementation of the eHR sharing system
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(04)]	• support the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing system because it will further enhance the integration of care at hospitals with that in the community • considers that the major hurdle for wider participation in the eHR sharing system will be affordability as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are unlikely to be able to afford the setup and the maintenance costs for the infrastructure • the Steering Committee on eHR Sharing should consist of representatives from the NGO sector
The Society of Operations Engineers (Hong Kong Region) [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(07)]	• supports the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing system because it will - (a) enhance possible medical cooperation with neighbouring cities; (b) provide a better informative platform for medical analysis, cross verification, decrease control, etc; and (c) provide many job opportunities for different sectors, including the engineering profession of various disciplines
Hong Kong Linux Industry Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)1055/08-09(08)]	• supports the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide eHR sharing system because it will further develop Hong Kong as a leading digital city and provide an opportunity for Hong Kong to become a service and training centre for e-Health in the Asia-Pacific region

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views/suggestions

	• considers that the eHR sharing system should -
	
	  (a) adopt Open Standards such as ISO26300 for record keeping and data interchange;
	
	  (b) adopt Open Source Software for better value for money;
	
	  (c) apply Web 2.0 for interactive applications; and
	
	  (d) apply Cloud Computing for slim and lean software and hardware on users side

Hong Kong Doctors Union
[LC Paper No. CB(2)1082/08-09(02)]
	• the Union cannot see more than a handful of doctors actually using the eHR system under the PPI-ePR pilot project for the following reasons -
	
	  (a) cumbersome procedure;
	
	  (b) some doctors are not trained to use internet or are conversant with internet use; and
	
	  (c) the existing system is not effective, efficient or user friendly
	
	• supports the development of an eHR sharing system only if the system will have easy-to-use interfaces and there will be a less cumbersome procedure. The participating doctors should also be provided with the necessary hardware and training
	
	• participating doctors and patients should not be charged a fee