

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Improving the medical services of
the various clusters under the Hospital Authority”
moved by Hon Fred LI Wah-ming
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 13 July 2011**

Motion as amended by Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, Hon CHAN Hak-kan, Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou, Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan and Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah

That, although the proportion of the Government’s expenditure on medical and health services in its recurrent expenditure has increased from 15.9% in 2007-2008 to 16.5% in 2011-2012, population ageing and population growth have resulted in increased healthcare costs, and the Government’s development of the healthcare industry and private medical services in the absence of proper manpower planning has led to a serious wastage of healthcare manpower and manpower shortage in the public healthcare system, and the manpower retention measures adopted by the Hospital Authority (‘HA’) have resulted in further increases in the costs of public medical services; at the same time, owing to the uneven distribution of resources among the various clusters and the lack of transparency in the allocation of manpower and resources within individual clusters, many community hospitals are unable to improve services in response to the demands of residents within the communities; in this connection, this Council urges the executive authorities to face up to the problems of increasing healthcare costs and healthcare manpower shortage, review the policy direction and the pace of developing the healthcare industry and private medical services to reduce the impact on the public medical system, improve the management of HA, set a staffing establishment so as to ensure that public medical resources are put to proper uses and spent on the districts and fields with the greatest need, and apart from handling problems commonly found in various districts, such as the HA Drug Formulary rendering many patients unable to get the required drugs, long waiting time for services of accident and emergency departments as well as specialist out-patient services, long booking periods for surgical operations, difficulties in booking out-patient services and the non-provision of dental services in the public medical system, etc., focus particularly on clusters facing a particularly severe shortage of medical resources and manpower, such as New Territories West Cluster and Kowloon East Cluster, etc., and allocate more resources and manpower to respond to people’s aspirations and improve services within the districts; the relevant measures should include:

- (a) to expand United Christian Hospital and include the provision of oncology services;
- (b) to extend the services of Tseung Kwan O Hospital, provide a more comprehensive range of healthcare services, and draw up a timetable for equipping it with delivery rooms;
- (c) to introduce 24-hour out-patient services or services of the Accident and Emergency Department in Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital;
- (d) to expeditiously and fully launch the new facilities at Pok Oi Hospital, which was redeveloped in 2007, for service commencement;
- (e) to relocate Shek Kip Mei Health Centre and upgrade it to an integrated health services centre, so as to rectify its existing problems of remote location and inadequate facilities, etc.;
- (f) to extend the services of North District Hospital by providing in-patient services in its Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine Department, strengthen the support for its Accident and Emergency Department, and, in view of the various major medical incidents at North District Hospital, to raise the number and quality of its healthcare personnel; and
- (g) to improve transportation support for Lantau Island residents going to Princess Margaret Hospital, and expeditiously complete the construction of North Lantau Hospital, so as to provide medical services for Lantau Island residents;
- (h) to finalize the planning details of the district hospital under the Kai Tak Development, and require that the hospital must benefit the residents in Wong Tai Sin District;
- (i) to reinstate emergency obstetric services at North District Hospital;
- (j) for facilitating the integration and comprehensive development of public medical services on Lantau Island, to relocate the existing Tung Chung Health Centre to North Lantau Hospital under construction, and develop an integrated Chinese medicine services centre in the existing site vacated by the health centre;
- (k) focusing on the impact of mainland pregnant women giving birth in Hong Kong on the medical system in Hong Kong, including

the impact on obstetrics and gynaecology, neonatal intensive care as well as maternal and child health centre services, to conduct a comprehensive assessment and proceed with planning of manpower and resources, so as to avoid affecting the quality of overall medical services; and

- (l) to expeditiously establish the remaining three public Chinese medicine out-patient clinics for honouring the undertaking of establishing public Chinese medicine out-patient clinics in all 18 districts, and proactively introduce Chinese medicine in-patient services and conjoint Chinese medicine and Western medicine consultations in the various clusters;
- (m) to expeditiously introduce men's medical check-up and specialist services;
- (n) apart from the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics and the Centre of Excellence in Neuroscience, to expeditiously implement the establishment of an acute general hospital at the Kai Tak site, so as to share the burden of meeting Kowloon East residents' demand for public medical services;
- (o) to expedite the completion of Tin Shui Wai Hospital, and before the commencement of the Hospital's services, to expeditiously launch the integrated clinic building in Tin Shui Wai Area 109, so as to cope with the demand of Tin Shui Wai's residents for medical services;
- (p) to honour the undertaking of reinstating the provision of urology services at Yan Chai Hospital after its redevelopment;
- (q) to introduce obstetrics and gynaecology hospitalization and delivery care services at North District Hospital;
- (r) before the completion of North Lantau Hospital, to maintain and improve the holiday and evening clinic services in Tung Chung; and
- (s) to implement the provision of general out-patient and family medicine clinic services in Siu Sai Wan; and
- (t) to conduct studies on separately handling Hong Kong people's pregnant wives on the Mainland and other Mainland pregnant women under the quota system for admission of non-local pregnant women giving birth in public hospitals, and provide the

former with opportunities of waiting for quota places of giving birth in Hong Kong on a priority basis;

- (u) to increase the resources allocated for New Territories West Cluster and improve the services of Tuen Mun Hospital; and
- (v) to strengthen mental health services in the various clusters and shorten waiting time.