Panel on Health Services

List of follow-up actions
(Position as at 8 June 2012)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Regulation and control of pharmaceutical products in Hong Kong	31 March 2009	The Administration was requested to provide the revised checklist used by the inspectors of the Department of Health ("DH") when conducting inspections on pharmaceutical manufacturers once they were finalised.	The Review Committee on Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong recommended DH in Jan 2010 to upgrade Hong Kong's current Good Manufacturing Practices ("GMP") licensing standards by a phased approach to the international standards promulgated by the World Health Organization and Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme ("PIC/S"). On DH's invitation, PIC/S conducted a gap assessment between the standards of GMP and PIC/S in end-2010. DH is now in the process of procuring a consultancy service for advice and the inspection checklist would be revised in accordance with the advice of the consultant and submit to the Panel once available.
2. Creation of new directorate posts in DH	11 April 2011	The Administration was requested to report on a quarterly or bi-annual basis the progress in taking forward the	Upon the creation of the Assistant Director (Drug) and one Chief Pharmacist posts on 1 and 14

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		recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong after the establishment of the Office on Drugs.	September 2011 respectively, the Drug Office was formally set up on 1 September 2011 to take forward the recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong. The Administration will report the progress on the recommendations in due course.
3. Pilot project on enhancing radiological investigation services through collaboration with the private sector	12 December 2011	The Administration was requested to provide data on the average waiting time of cancer patients for radiological investigation services before and six months after implementation of the pilot project.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
4. Relaxation of the assessment criteria for Samaritan Fund	16 April 2012	The Administration was requested to provide, before the meeting of the Finance Committee scheduled to consider the Government's proposal to provide a $10 billion grant to the Samaritan Fund ("the Fund"), information on - (a) the estimated average investment return rate and the estimated investment income to be generated from the $10 billion injection into	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2087/11-12(01) on 21 May 2012.

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		the Fund; (b) case examples to illustrate how patients, in particular those four-member households having a monthly household income of $40,000 or less, would be benefited from the proposed relaxation of the financial test under the Fund; (c) measures to be put in place to enhance the transparency of the Fund, including the establishment of a consultation mechanism with the patient groups to gauge their views on changes to the Fund and making public the evaluation and decisions of the Samaritan Fund Management Committee and the Medical Services Development Committee of the Hospital Authority Board on the inclusion of self-financed drugs into the scope of the Fund; (d) the timetable to reposition the 17 self-financed drugs subsidized by the Fund as special drugs in the Drug Formulary;	

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		(e) the mechanism to ensure that drugs of proven safety and efficacy would be provided at standard fees and charges in public hospitals and clinics, rather than being classified as self-financed drugs covered by the Fund; and (f) whether the Administration would conduct a comprehensive review of the Fund.	
5. Development of a Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes	16 April 2012	The Administration was requested to provide information on - (a) how it could ensure the compliance with the Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes which would be implemented in the form of voluntary guidelines; (b) whether the United Kingdom had enacted legislation to implement all or certain provisions of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes; and (c) the current regulatory regime governing advertisements of infant formula containing untruthful or misleading	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2250/11-12(01) on 4 June 2012.

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
		claims and the enforcement actions taken in this regard.	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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