



19 June 2015

**President**

Dr. Loletta KY SO  
蘇潔瑩

**Vice-President**

Dr. TSE Hoi Nam  
謝海南

**Secretary**

Dr. Wilson KS YEE  
易國生

**Treasurer**

Dr. Angus HY LO  
盧浩然

**Council Members**

Dr. Fanny WS KO  
古惠珊

(Immediate Past President)

Dr. TAM Cheuk Yin  
譚卓賢

Dr. CHAN Wai Ming  
陳惠明

Dr. Kenneth WT TSANG  
曾華德

Prof. David SC HUI  
許樹昌

Dr. Joseph CK PANG  
彭志剛

Dr. James CM HO  
何重文

Dr. TSE Pak Yiu  
謝伯耀

Dr. MA Chan Chung  
馬燦忠

Dr. WONG Kam Cheung  
黃錦祥

Dr. KWOK Yuk Lung  
郭旭龍

Dr. YEUNG Yiu Cheong  
楊耀昌

Dr. Jenny CL NGAI  
倪珍莉

Dr. Jane CF CHEUNG  
章俊芳

Dr. Macy MS LUI  
雷美詩

**Chief Editor: Newsletter**

Dr. LAM Wai Kei  
林偉奇

**Hon. Legal Advisor**

Mr. Woody WY CHANG  
張華恩

**Hon. Auditor**

Yong Zheng CPA Limited  
永正會計事務所有限公司

Ms. Louisa YU  
Clerk to panel on Health Services  
Legislative Council Secretariat

Dear Ms. Yu,

**Re: Legislative proposals to strengthen tobacco control**

We show our support to the government's proposal in the following aspects: (a) consolidate smoking ban at bus interchanges at tunnel portal areas; (b) increase at least 85% the size of graphical health warnings of tobacco products; and (c) prohibit e-cigarettes.

Every year, approximately 600,000 people in the world succumbed to secondhand smoke exposure. The amount of carcinogenic chemicals present in secondhand smoke do not vary much from those of tobacco, in a ratio of 40 to 70 harmful substances respectively, which suggests how deadly secondhand smoke is. Every non-smoker should at least possess the right to say "no" to secondhand smoke. To safeguard their health and quality of life, the smoking ban should be extended to more public places like the bus interchange at tunnel portal areas.

Ever since the health warning was issued in graphical forms in Canada in 2001, effectiveness in smoking reduction was obviously proved in different countries. It is proved to be effective in raising the awareness on the health risks of smoking, thus a plummet in smoking has encouragingly been acknowledged. At present, graphical warning is widely adopted by more than 100 countries. More and more are introducing a larger size of graphical warnings which testified effective, e.g. Australia, Canada, Nepal, Thailand, Uruguay, etc. The warning should include as many diseases caused by smoking as practical to comprehensively inform the public about harms of smoking.

E-cigarette has gradually gained its popularity recently. Lamentably, most smokers were under an impression that E-cigarette helps with smoking cessation. The World Health Organization suggests people not to use it to quit smoking. Food and Drug Administration of the USA even confirmed that e-cigarette contains and releases a handful of toxic and carcinogenic chemicals, which can cause long-term damage to health. On the other hand, E-cigarette has become a trendy product, especially among youngsters. It is likely that E-cigarette would induce smoking habits due to the promotional effect brought about. It is definitely the golden time to impose strict regulation on E-cigarette before the trend spreads.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Loletta SO  
President  
Hong Kong Thoracic Society