

(Translation)



香港特別行政區政府
保安局

The Government of the
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Security Bureau

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本函檔號 Our Ref.: LM to SBCR 6/1/5691/89

來函檔號 Your Ref.: CB2/PL/SE

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25 March 2015

(By Fax)

Miss Betty MA
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ma,

**Legislative Council Panel on Security
Follow-up to meeting on 3 March 2015**

Thank you for your letter dated 4 March requesting the Government to respond to Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan's concern on the mechanism on "the granting of medical parole".

Persons in custody ("PICs") who are serving their sentences at correctional institutions enjoy the same basic medical benefits as provided to the general public. In all correctional institutions, there are hospitals or clinics which are manned by medical officers ("MOs") from the Department of Health and correctional services staff with nursing qualifications providing basic medical services. PICs who feel unwell will be arranged to receive treatment from MOs at the hospitals or clinics of the institutions and, if necessary, they will be referred to visiting specialists or transferred to the specialist out-patient departments of public hospitals for treatment or hospitalisation. MOs of the institutions will follow up the cases concerned and draw reference from diagnoses, prescribed treatment plans and prognoses of the specialists on the PICs.

For cases of serious illnesses, MOs of the institutions shall, taking into account advice of specialists of public hospitals, consider making recommendations in writing to the Commissioner of Correctional Services for submission to the Chief Executive ("CE") under Rule 148 of the Prison Rules whenever they are of the opinion that any PIC will not survive his sentence, or that his life will be endangered by his continuance in prison, or that he is totally or permanently unfit for prison sentence. CE may consider exercising his power under Article 48(12) of the Basic Law to pardon the PIC concerned or commute his penalty.

The Government has no plan to set up another mechanism for PICs to apply for early release solely on medical grounds given that PICs enjoy the same basic medical benefits which include specialist out-patient treatment or admission to public hospitals as other members of the public.

Yours sincerely,

signed

(Alex Chan)
for Secretary for Security

c.c. Commissioner of Correctional Services (Attn: Mr WOO Ying-ming)