

**Bills Committee on the Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill 2016**

**Medical Council of Hong Kong  
Ratio of Elected and Appointed Members  
and  
Proposed Composition of the Four Additional Lay Members**

**PURPOSE**

This paper sets out -

- (a) the Government's proposal that aims to address concerns over the ratio of elected and appointed members in the Medical Council of Hong Kong ("MCHK"); and
- (b) the proposed composition of the four additional lay members and the idea that they should be appointed based on nomination.

**Ratio of Elected and Appointed Members in MCHK**

2. In response to consultation with relevant stakeholders including doctors' associations, patient groups and Legislative Council Members to discuss possible options<sup>1</sup> in achieving an equal ratio of elected and appointed members in MCHK, the Government will look into the possibility of introducing committee stage amendment ("CSA") to increase the elected element in the composition of MCHK. We propose to convert the two existing **appointed** members nominated by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine ("HKAM") to two members to be **elected** by the Council of HKAM<sup>2</sup>, following similar arrangement for the seven elected members of the Hong Kong Medical Association as stipulated in

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<sup>1</sup> The Government does not accept the proposed corresponding increase of elected doctor members (i.e. "4+4" or "6+6" proposals) on the ground that there are already 24 doctor members in the current MCHK.

<sup>2</sup> The Council of HKAM consists of 26 members, consisting of six Officers (a President, two Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and Editor), 15 College Presidents, and five elected Council members.

section (3)(i) of the Medical Registration Ordinance (Cap. 161)<sup>3</sup>. The current and proposed composition of MCHK after taking into account our latest proposal is at **Annex**.

### **Proposed Composition of the Four Additional Lay Members**

3. The Government further proposes to introduce CSA to make it clear in the Amendment Bill that the four additional lay members to be appointed by the Chief Executive (“CE”) should come from among sectors representing patients’ interest and consumers’ interests. Arrangements could be introduced for the relevant sectors to nominate their representatives for appointment by CE in a manner similar to the present nomination-based appointment of the ten doctors, two each nominated by the Director of Health, Hospital Authority, Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

**Food and Health Bureau**  
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<sup>3</sup> Section (3)(i) of the Medical Registration Ordinance (Cap. 161) -  
“7 registered medical practitioners who are members of the Hong Kong Medical Association and nominated in accordance with the regulations or procedures of the Association relating to the filling of offices under this paragraph and elected by the Council members of the Association in accordance with those regulations or procedures”.

**Annex**

**Existing and Proposed Composition of the  
Medical Council of Hong Kong**

	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>No. of Registered Medical Practitioners (proportion to the total membership)</b>	<b>24 (86%)</b>	<b>24 (75%)</b>
<i>elected by all registered medical practitioners with full and limited registration</i>	7	7
<i>nominated by the Hong Kong Medical Association ("HKMA") and elected by the Council members of HKMA</i>	7	7
<i>nominated by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine ("HKAM") and elected by the Council members of HKAM</i>	-	2
<b>Total no. of elected members</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>
<i>nominated by the Director of Health and appointed by the Chief Executive ("CE")</i>	2	2
<i>nominated by the University of Hong Kong and appointed by CE</i>	2	2
<i>nominated by The Chinese University of Hong Kong and appointed by CE</i>	2	2
<i>nominated by the Hospital Authority and appointed by CE</i>	2	2
<i>nominated by HKAM and appointed by CE</i>	2	-
<b>No. of Lay Persons appointed by CE (proportion to the total membership)</b>	<b>4 (14%)</b>	<b>8 (25%)</b>
<b>Total no. of appointed members</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total no. of Council members</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Ratio of Elected and Appointed Members</b>	<b>1:1</b>	<b>1:1</b>