

Panel on Health Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 10 January 2017)

	Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
1.	Amendments to the Chinese Medicine Ordinance (Cap. 549)	February 2017

Item proposed by the Administration.

In the judgment of a judicial review handed down by the Court of First Instance on 21 May 2015, it has concluded that there was no lawful power for the Director of Health ("DoH") to instruct a proprietary Chinese medicine ("pCm") wholesaler to recall unregistered pCms in March 2014 and thus ultra vires. Use of unregistered pCms may pose threats to public health as their safety, quality and efficacy are not proven. The threats could be minimized by way of rapid and complete recall by the supplier from various levels.

In view of the foregoing lacuna in the law, it is necessary to amend the Chinese Medicine Ordinance to strengthen the legislative control by conferring statutory power on DoH to order any relevant person to recall from the market any product or substance presented as pCm or Chinese herbal medicine which may pose threats to public health.

According to its 2016-2017 Legislative Programme, the Administration intends to introduce the Chinese Medicine (Amendment) Bill to the Legislative Council in the second half of the 2016-2017 legislative session.

At the meeting on 21 November 2016, Dr Hon Helena WONG requested and the Administration agreed that information on the safety standard and surveillance of pesticide residues and heavy metal in Chinese herbal medicine (i.e. item 29 below) would be provided at the same meeting when the Administration briefed the Panel on the legislative proposal.

2. Legislative proposal for regulation of private healthcare facilities

February 2017

Item proposed by the Administration.

With a view to better regulating private healthcare services amid the evolving landscape of healthcare services, the Administration is embarking on a root-and-branch review of the regulatory regime for private healthcare facilities. A public consultation was conducted to gauge the views of the public, and broad support from the community was obtained. The Panel was briefed on the outcome of the public consultation at the meeting on 18 April 2016.

The Administration plans to introduce the relevant Bill to the Legislative Council in the first half of 2017. It will brief the Panel on details of the legislative proposal.

3. Policy on rare diseases and drug for rare diseases

February 2017
(See note)

At the meeting on 17 March 2014, in the context of discussing the Drug Formulary of the Hospital Authority ("HA") and the Samaritan Fund, members agreed that the subject on policy on rare diseases should be discussed at a future meeting. In October 2015, the Administration advised that it would brief the Panel on the subject in the fourth quarter of 2015.

The Administration has proposed to brief the Panel on the "Subsidy on drug for rare diseases and non-drug items under the Samaritan Fund" at the regular meeting in May 2016 but subsequently deferred the proposed timing for discussion of the item to a future meeting.

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Hon CHAN Han-pan proposed for the discussion of the subject in the 2016-2017 session. Hon Jeremy TAM suggested at the same meeting that the Panel should discuss the subsidy on drug for rare diseases in tandem with the HA Drug Formulary in the session.

Hon CHAN Han-pan and Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG respectively proposed in their letters dated 7 and 14 December 2016 (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)370/16-17(01) and CB(2)437/16-17(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to rare diseases.

At the meeting on 19 December 2016, in the context of discussing the drug management of HA, members agreed that the Panel would discuss the subject in February 2017.

[Note: The Administration proposed on 10 January 2017 that the discussion of the subject be deferred to a later time (exact timing to be confirmed).]

4. Extension of Operating Theatre Block for Tuen Mun Hospital ("TMH") March 2017

At the meeting on 18 May 2015, the Panel was consulted on the funding proposal for the stage one works for the extension of the Operating Theatre Block for TMH which would be implemented in two stages. On the recommendation of the Public Works Subcommittee, the Finance Committee approved the funding proposal for stage one works for the project on 22 April 2016.

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the proposed project to carry out the main works for the extension of the Operating Theatre Block for TMH under the 10-year hospital development plan.

5. Development of the new acute hospital at Kai Tak Development Area March/April
2017

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the development of the new acute hospital at the Kai Tak Development Area under the 10-year hospital development plan.

6. Redevelopment of the Prince of Wales Hospital, phase 2 (stage 1) May 2017

Item proposed by the Administration.

7. Mental health policy and services 1st quarter 2017

The Review Committee on Mental Health was set up in May 2013. Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki and Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT respectively suggested at the meeting on 10 October 2013 that medical support to children with learning disabilities and mental health services for adolescents should be separately discussed by the Panel before the Review Committee concluded its review.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and the Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2013-2014 legislative session on 16 October 2013, it was agreed that the Panel would follow up on the mental health service needs of different age groups (i.e. children and adolescents, adults, and elders) in the session.

At the meeting on 28 April 2014, the Panel was briefed on the progress of the review and proposals for strengthening mental health services provided by HA for adults. The Panel received views from 22 deputations on mental health policy and services at the meeting on 16 June 2014. Members agreed that the Administration should provide a consolidated written response to views expressed by the deputations, and the Panel should revisit the subject in the 2014-2015 legislative session. At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2014-2015 session on 5 November 2014, it was agreed that the subject be scheduled for discussion in the first half of 2015.

Separately, the Administration advised in May 2014 that it would brief the Panel on the mental health services for children and adolescents and that for the elderly in the second half of 2014. The proposed timing for

discussion of the two subjects was revised to the first half of 2015 in November 2014. At the meeting on 20 April 2015, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki urged the Administration to revert to the Panel on the progress of the review on the mental services for children and adolescents as early as possible.

In June 2015, the Administration advised that it planned to brief the Panel on the mental health policy and services in the second half of 2015. At the informal meeting between the Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2015-2016 session on 26 October 2015, it was agreed that a joint meeting of the Panel and the Panel on Welfare Services could be held to discuss the mental health review. The Administration's proposed timing for discussion of the subject was the first half of 2016.

At the meeting on 18 January 2016, in the context of discussing the policy initiatives in respect of health matters, members were advised that the review on mental health would be completed in 2016. In May 2016, the Administration advised that the Review Committee had completed its work and it was expected that the report would be published around the end of June 2016. Its latest plan was to brief the Panel on the subject in the second half of 2016.

8. Voluntary accredited registers scheme for healthcare personnel who are currently not subject to statutory regulation

1st half of 2017

At the meeting on 16 May 2016, the Administration briefed the Panel on the proposed regulatory framework of the voluntary accredited registers scheme for healthcare personnel who are currently not subject to statutory regulation. Members noted that a pilot scheme would be launched before end of 2016 to test the feasibility of the voluntary accredited registers scheme. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the implementation of the pilot scheme in the 2016-2017 legislative session. Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che and Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki suggested that the Panel should receive views from the stakeholders on the pilot scheme.

9. Regulation of electronic cigarettes

1st half of 2017

At the meeting on 18 May 2015, the Panel was briefed on the legislative proposals to strengthen tobacco control, which included, among others, the policy direction of the legislative proposal to regulate electronic cigarettes. A special meeting was held on 6 July 2015 to receive public views on the proposals. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on how it would take forward the proposals.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2015-2016 session on 26 October 2015, it was agreed that the item be scheduled for discussion in January 2016.

Hon Alice MAK and Hon KWOK Wai-keung proposed vide their joint letter dated 11 November 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)266/15-16(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to the regulation of electronic cigarettes. The Administration's proposed timing for discussion of the subject was revised to the first half of 2016 in December 2015, and to the second half of 2016 in May 2016.

10. Complaint handling mechanism of the Medical Council of Hong Kong ("the Medical Council")

1st half of 2017

At the meeting on 28 April 2014, the Panel considered two submissions dated 28 March and 24 April 2014 respectively from a member of the public proposing discussion on matters relating to the complaint handling mechanism of the Medical Council (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1251/13-14(01) and CB(2)1382/13-14(01)) and the response provided by the Administration in this regard (LC Paper No. CB(2)1364/13-14(01)). Members agreed that the subject should be discussed at a future meeting.

At the meeting on 9 October 2014, Hon Alice MAK considered that the Panel should discuss at the earliest opportunity in the 2014-2015 session the mechanism of

the Medical Council for handling matters in relation to the professional conduct of registered medical practitioners. The Administration proposed in November 2014 to discuss the subject in the first half of 2015, and subsequently revised the proposed timing for discussion to the second half of 2015 in June 2015.

At the meeting on 16 November 2015, in the context of discussing the proposed Member's Bill to amend the Medical Registration Ordinance (Cap. 161), the Administration advised that the complaint handling and disciplinary inquiry mechanism of the Medical Council was covered, among others, in the strategic review being conducted by the Steering Committee on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development. It was expected that the strategic review would be completed in the first half of 2016.

At the meeting on 29 February 2016, in the context of receiving the briefing from the Administration on the Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill 2016, members were advised that the legislative proposals were aimed to, among others, improve the complaint investigation and disciplinary inquiry mechanism of the Medical Council. The Administration introduced into the Legislative Council the Bill on 2 March 2016. A Bills Committee was set up to scrutinize the Bill.

At the meeting on 16 May 2016, members considered the proposal of Hon Alice MAK to discuss issues relating to the resources requirement for the Medical Council to handle complaints (LC Paper No. CB(2)1526/15-16(01)) and agreed that the subject should be discussed at a future meeting of the Panel. Members further agreed that the scope of the discussion should cover also that of other healthcare professional regulatory bodies covered under the review of the Steering Committee.

Upon the completion of the scrutiny of the Bill by the Bills Committee, the Administration resumed the Second Reading debate on the Bill at the Council meeting of 29 June 2016. The Bill lapsed at the end of the term of office of the Legislative Council under section 9(4) of the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542).

The Administration has undertaken to set up a tripartite platform, comprising doctors, patients (including the Consumer Council) and Legislative Council Members, on the composition of the Medical Council and its complaint handling and disciplinary inquiry mechanism. In the Sixth Legislative Council, members of the Panel have been invited to indicate their interest in joining the tripartite platform. Six members of the Panel have indicated that they are interested in joining the tripartite platform. The Administration will report to the Panel on the discussion of the tripartite platform.

According to its 2016-2017 Legislative Programme, the Administration intends to introduce the Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill to the Legislative Council in the second half of the 2016-2017 legislative session.

11. Review on HA

1st half of 2017

At the meeting on 20 July 2015, the Panel was briefed on the Report of the Steering Committee on Review of HA. It was noted that HA planned to implement the recommendations of the Steering Committee within three years. Members agreed that the Administration and HA should report the progress on the implementation of the recommendations to the Panel on a yearly basis.

HA released its action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the Steering Committee on 22 October 2015. The action plan together with an information paper provided by the Administration on the subject were issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)97/15-16(01) on the same day.

At the meeting on 20 June 2016, the Panel was briefed on the first progress report of HA on the implementation of the recommendations of the Steering Committee.

12. General Outpatient Clinic Public-Private Partnership Programme 2nd half of 2017

At the meeting on 16 March 2015, the Panel was briefed on the progress of the General Outpatient Clinic Public-Private Partnership Programme. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the findings of the interim review on the Programme to be carried out by HA in mid-2015. In October 2015, the Administration advised that the interim review is currently under way.

13. Provision of obstetric services in the Tseung Kwan O Hospital To be confirmed

At the meeting on 13 June 2011, the Administration advised that HA would monitor closely the manpower situation with regard to obstetric and paediatric services and would review in 2012-2013 the appropriate timing for the commissioning of the obstetric and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit services in the Tseung Kwan O Hospital ("TKOH"). Before such services were provided in TKOH, the relevant demand in the Kowloon East region could continue to be catered for by the United Christian Hospital.

At the meeting on 21 January 2013, the Administration advised that HA would continue to make plan to prepare for the opening of such services in TKOH at an opportune time as and when sufficient manpower was available and safety standard could be assured. The Administration would revert to the Panel on the progress.

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT proposed vide her letter dated 22 August 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2234/13-14(03)) that the Panel should discuss the subject in the 2014-2015 legislative session. In November 2014, the Administration advised that it would brief the Panel on the subject in the third quarter of 2015. In October 2015, the Administration advised that its latest plan was to brief the Panel on the subject in the fourth quarter of 2015. The proposed timing for discussion was further revised to the first half of 2016 in November 2015, and to the second half of 2016 in May 2016.

14. Public and private hospital development under the dual-track healthcare system

(See note)

At the meeting on 18 December 2012, members requested the Administration to revert to the Panel on the blueprint to develop the medical services, including the service capacity of public and private hospitals.

The Panel discussed private hospital development at the meeting on 15 April 2013. As regards public hospital development, the Panel was briefed on the redevelopment and expansion plans of public hospitals at the meeting on 15 July 2013.

At the meeting on 10 October 2013, members considered the suggestion of the Administration to remove the item from the list and were of the view that the Administration should revert to the Panel on its blueprint for the long-term development of public and private hospitals under the dual-track healthcare system.

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT proposed vide her letter dated 19 August 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2234/13-14(02)) that the Panel should discuss the implementation of the phase two expansion project of the Prince of Wales Hospital ("PWH") in the 2014-2015 legislative session.

At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the planning progress of the development of a new acute general hospital in the Kai Tak Development Area and the redevelopment of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the 2015-2016 session.

At the meeting on 18 January 2016, SFH briefed the Panel on the public hospital development plan for the coming 10 years as announced by the Chief Executive in his 2016 Policy Address. Members noted that a total provision of \$200 billion has been earmarked for the implementation of the development plan.

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Hon CHAN Han-pan suggested that the Administration should update the

Panel on the progress of the development of a Chinese medicine hospital. Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki respectively suggested at the same meeting that the Administration should brief the Panel on its plan to enhance the hospital services of the New Territories East Cluster and the timetable of individual projects under the 10-year public hospital development plan in the 2016-2017 session.

[Note: At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2016-2017 session on 27 October 2016, the Administration has advised that it would consult the Panel on the funding proposals for the development and/or expansion plans of individual public hospitals as and when appropriate.]

15. Prenatal tests provided by HA

(See note)

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT proposed in her letter dated 19 August 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2234/13-14(01)) discussion on introduction of non-invasive prenatal test for Down's syndrome in public hospitals. The Chairman instructed that the subject of prenatal screening for Down's syndrome under HA be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

At the meeting on 19 January 2015, in the context of discussing the policy initiatives in respect of health matters, members were advised that the Administration and HA were exploring the introduction of non-invasive prenatal test for Down's syndrome in the future Hong Kong Children's Hospital.

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the provision of low-risk prenatal tests should be discussed by the Panel in the 2016-2017 session. Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested at the same meeting that the Panel should discuss the provision of antenatal checkups for pregnant women in the New Territories West Cluster in the session.

[Note: At the informal meeting between the Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan

for the 2015-2016 session on 26 October 2015, it was agreed that the subject "Prenatal screening for Down's syndrome under HA" would be discussed in the context of "Women's health"(i.e. item 21 below).]

16. Healthcare and support services for patients with chronic diseases To be confirmed

Hon CHAN Yuen-han and Hon Alice MAK proposed vide their joint letter dated 1 December 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)401/14-15(01)) that the Panel should discuss the provision of healthcare and support services for patients with chronic diseases. Members agreed at the meeting on 15 December 2014 that the subject be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2015-2016 session on 26 October 2015, it was noted that the Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy set up under the Panel and the Panel on Welfare Services had studied the relevant issues. The Joint Subcommittee had completed its work, and made a number of recommendations for the Administration's consideration. A motion to take note of the report of the Joint Subcommittee was moved by its Chairman at the Council meeting of 3 December 2014. The Administration has provided a progress report on the motion in May 2015.

17. Handling of public requests for emergency medical needs within the vicinity of public hospitals To be confirmed

Hon Alice MAK proposed vide her letter dated 10 August 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2004/14-15(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to the handling of emergency medical requests by public hospitals arising from a recent North Lantau Hospital incident.

The Chairman instructed that the subject of handling of public requests for emergency medical needs within

vicinity of public hospitals be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion. In October 2015, the Administration advised that it would brief the Panel on the subject in the fourth quarter of 2015. The proposed timing for discussion was further revised to the first half of 2016 in November 2015, and to the second half of 2016 in May 2016.

18. Procedure in organ transplant To be confirmed

Hon CHAN Han-pan proposed vide his letter dated 28 August 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2062/14-15(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to a recent organ donation and transplantation incident in PWH whereby it was found that the donor had renal cell carcinoma after the carrying out of the heart and lungs transplantations. The Chairman instructed that the subject of procedure in organ transplant be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

19. Monitoring of the unauthorized sale of pharmaceutical products To be confirmed

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki proposed vide his letter dated 9 October 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2229/14-15(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to the monitoring of the unauthorized sale of pharmaceutical products and invited views from deputations on the subject. The Chairman instructed that the subject be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

20. Regulation and development of beauty services (See note)

The subject was last discussed at the joint meeting of the Panel and the Panel on Commerce and Industry held on 23 June 2015. At the meetings on 15 October 2015 and 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should follow up on issues relating to the regulation of beauty services in the sessions concerned.

[Note: At the informal meetings with SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 sessions held on 26 October 2015 and 27 October 2016 respectively, it was agreed that issues relating to the use control of medical devices commonly used in beauty procedures and the regulation of day procedure centres would respectively be discussed under the subjects "Proposed regulatory framework for medical devices" (which has subsequently been scheduled for discussion in January 2017) and "Legislative proposal for regulation of private healthcare facilities" (i.e. item 2 above).]

21. Women's health

To be confirmed

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT proposed at the meeting on 15 October 2015 and vide her letter dated 20 October 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)117/15-16(01)) that the subject on women's health, including the prevention of breast and cervical cancers and provision of cervical cancer vaccination for the female population, should be discussed by the Panel in the 2015-2016 session.

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the provision of breast cancer screening should be discussed by the Panel in the 2016-2017 session.

22. Public health measures for the lead in drinking water incidents

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Administration should revert to the Panel at the earliest opportunity in the 2015-2016 session on the public health measures for the lead in drinking water incidents, in particular measures to safeguard the quality of drinking water from the health perspective, analysis of blood lead testing results and health impacts of lead consumption on affected persons not belonged to the three more easily affected groups.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2015-2016 session on 26 October 2015, it was agreed that the item be scheduled for discussion in the second quarter of 2016.

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki considered that the Administration should revert to the Panel on the subject in the 2016-2017 session.

23. Healthcare referral mechanism between DH and HA To be confirmed

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki proposed vide his letter dated 16 October 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)71/15-16(01)) that the Panel should discuss issues relating to the healthcare referral mechanism between DH and HA. He was particularly concerned about the referral arrangement for patients suffering from Psoriasis under the treatment of the dermatological clinics of DH. The Chairman instructed that the subject be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

24. Implementation of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme To be confirmed

At the meeting on 16 November 2015, in the context of discussing the Administration's proposed supplementary provision to meet the estimated voucher expenditure of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme in 2015-2016, members agreed that the Administration should revert to the Panel on the implementation of the Scheme, including the pilot scheme launched at the University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital in October 2015, at a future meeting.

At the meeting on 20 June 2016, in the context of discussing the "Review of Elderly Health Assessment Pilot Programme", members were advised that a comprehensive review of the Scheme was in progress. The strategic directions of the elderly health assessment service provided by DH would be reviewed taking into account the findings of the study.

25. HA's private patient services To be confirmed

At the meeting on 21 December 2015, HA advised that the priority areas identified by the Private Service Review Working Group for improving the administration of private patient services and the processing of related revenue in the two teaching hospitals would be considered by the Teaching Hospital Committee. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the way forward for implementing the recommendations of the Working Group. In July 2016, the Administration provided a written response (LC Paper No. CB(2)1893/15-16) on the matter.

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki considered that the Panel should further discuss the subject in the 2016-2017 session.

26. Review of the implementation of the smoking ban at the bus interchanges at the eight tunnel portal areas To be confirmed

The item was referred to the Panel for follow-up by the Subcommittee on Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 2) Order 2015.

During the scrutiny of the Amendment Order, the Administration has advised that it would review the smoking ban at the eight bus interchanges concerned after 12 months of implementation and consider the way forward for further expanding the non-smoking areas to other facilities or areas. The Subcommittee agreed to refer the outcome of the review to the Panel for follow-up.

27. Review of the Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance (Cap. 561) To be confirmed

The item was referred to the Panel for follow-up by the Bills Committee on Human Reproductive Technology (Amendment) Bill 2015.

During the scrutiny of the Bill, the Administration has advised that it would work with the Council on Human Reproductive Technology ("CHRT") to look into the need to amend the Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance comprehensively having regard to the stakeholders' feedback and the operating experience of CHRT. The Administration undertook to keep the Panel informed of the progress.

28. Provision of alternative therapy

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 16 May 2016, members considered the proposal of Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki to discuss issues relating to the provision of alternative therapy (LC Paper No. CB(2) 1479/15-16(01)) and agreed that the subject should be discussed at a future meeting of the Panel.

29. Regulation of pesticide residues and heavy metal in Chinese herbal medicines

(See note)

The subject was last discussed at the meeting of the Panel held on 16 December 2013. Separately, issues relating to the reference standards, safety and quality of the commonly used Chinese herbal medicines were discussed by the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Development of Chinese Medicine appointed by the Panel in the Fifth Legislative Council. At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Helena WONG proposed that the Panel should discuss the safety standard and surveillance of pesticide residues and heavy metal in Chinese herbal medicines in the 2016-2017 session.

[Note: At the meeting on 21 November 2016, Dr Hon Helena WONG requested and the Administration agreed that information on the safety standard and surveillance of pesticide residues and heavy metal in Chinese herbal medicine would be provided at the same meeting when the Administration briefed the Panel on the amendments to the Chinese Medicine Ordinance (i.e. item 1 above).]

- 30. Regulation of health food products** To be confirmed
- Hon CHAN Han-pan and Dr Hon Helena WONG proposed at the meeting on 18 October 2016 that the Panel should discuss the regulation of health food products in the 2016-2017 session.
- At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2016-2017 session on 27 October 2016, SFH has advised that the Food and Health Bureau was studying whether an independent legislation should be introduced for regulating health food products. In the course, consideration would be given to the priority of various other tasks under its purview.
- 31. Provision of one-stop services for victims of sexual violence in public hospitals** To be confirmed
- At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss the provision of one-stop services for victims of sexual violence in public hospitals in the 2016-2017 session.
- 32. Measures for the prevention and control of Zika virus infection** To be confirmed
- The subject was last discussed at the meeting of the Panel held on 15 February 2016. At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Hon Tanya CHAN suggested that the Administration should update the Panel on measures for the prevention and control of Zika virus infection at an opportune time in the 2016-2017 session.
- 33. Nursing manpower** To be confirmed
- At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Panel should discuss nursing manpower, including the establishment of nursing staff in public hospitals, in the 2016-2017 session.

34. Provision of public dental care services To be confirmed

At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested the discussion of the provision of public dental care services in the 2016-2017 session.

35. Organ donation To be confirmed

The subject was last discussed at the meeting of the Panel held on 18 April 2016. At the meeting on 18 October 2016, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Panel should further discuss organ donation in the 2016-2017 session.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the Panel's work plan for the 2016-2017 session on 27 October 2016, the Administration has advised that it is planning a survey to assess more in-depth the public's understanding and acceptance of organ donation and different organ donation mechanism.

36. Clinical governance of the obstetric surgeries of HA To be confirmed

Hon CHAN Han-pan suggested vide his letter dated 23 December 2016 (LC Paper No. CB(2)506/16-17(01)) that the Panel should hold an urgent discussion on the maternal death cases in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The Chairman instructed that the subject "Clinical governance of the obstetric surgeries of HA" be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

37. Substitute decision-making and advance directives in relation to medical treatment To be confirmed

At the meeting on 8 December 2008, the Panel was briefed on the recommendations made by the Law Reform Commission ("LRC") on advance directives in its report entitled "Substitute Decision-making and

Advance Directives in Relation to Medical Treatment" published in August 2006. Members were advised that taking into account that the concept of advance directives was not one with which the community was generally familiar, the Administration considered that it would be premature to attempt to formulate a statutory framework and to embark on any legislation process for advance directives at this stage. It would however consult and solicit inputs of the relevant professions and organizations on the information about advance directives to be provided to the public in the first quarter of 2009, with a view to enabling an informed choice by an individual who wished to make an advance directive.

The Administration has advised that having regard to the outcome of the consultation, it considered it more advisable to implement advance directives by way of legislation where there was a greater degree of awareness and consensus over the use of advance directives and that the community was ready for it. The Review Committee on Mental Health, which was set up in May 2013, would consider, among others, whether and how necessary changes should be introduced to the Mental Health Ordinance (Cap. 136) including LRC's recommendations in relation to the definition of "mentally incapacitated persons". In May 2015, the Administration commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong ("CUHK") to conduct a three-year research on quality of healthcare for the ageing. As far as medical directive is concerned, CUHK will study whether the definition of "mentally incapacitated persons" under the Mental Health Ordinance should be amended. The Administration will decide on the way forward after the completion of CUHK's research.