

**For discussion  
on 17 January 2017**

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**Legislative Council Panel on Health Services  
Commissioning of the Tin Shui Wai Hospital**

**Purpose**

This paper briefs Members on the completion of works and the commissioning of services of the Tin Shui Wai Hospital (TSWH).

**Background**

2. To cope with the projected increasing demand for public hospital services in the New Territories West Cluster (NTWC), approval of the Finance Committee of Legislative Council to construct a new TSWH was obtained in 2013. The new TSWH, with a planned capacity of 300 in-patient and day beds, aims to provide a wide range of healthcare services, covering Accident and Emergency (A&E) services, in-patient services, and ambulatory and community care services. The full scope of services for TSWH is set out at **Annex**. The construction works were completed in September 2016.

3. Apart from commissioning the new TSWH, the Hospital Authority (HA) has been allocating additional resources to the NTWC to enhance the service capacity. In the past three financial years from 2013-14 to 2015-16, 100 and 192 additional beds were opened in Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH) and Pok Oi Hospital (POH) respectively to alleviate the demand for in-patient service. In 2016-17, NTWC is scheduled to open 109 additional beds, bringing the cumulative increase to more than 400 additional beds in four years' time. Moreover, NTWC has also enhanced other medical services to meet its service demand and shortened the

waiting time. Highlights include an additional Computed Tomography Scanner in TMH, 24-hour thrombolytic service in TMH, additional Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory in TMH, Joint Replacement Centre in POH, emergency operating theatre services in POH and more General Out-patient Clinic quotas.

4. Upon its service commencement, TSWH will become the fifth hospital member of the NTWC, and the third hospital providing A&E service in the cluster<sup>1</sup>. The NTWC also operates a Tin Shui Wai Community Health Centre providing primary health care services to local population. The new TSWH will provide additional service point of medical care in Tin Shui Wai and further strengthen the A&E service network serving the New Territories West as a whole. This will improve the access to A&E service by the local residents, in particular those living in the vicinity of Tin Shui Wai.

### **Commencement of Non-emergency Services**

5. Since the Architectural Services Department handed over the new hospital building to HA on 30 September 2016, the NTWC has immediately begun a series of preparatory work such as testing and installing medical equipment.

6. A new hospital normally takes around six months of preparation from handover of hospital building to service commencement. In response to the anticipation and need of the local residents for earlier service commencement of TSWH, the following non-emergency services have been advanced to start operation on 9 January 2017:

(a) Specialist Out-patient Clinic

Specialist Out-patient Clinic (SOPC) provides medical consultation in Medicine & Geriatrics, Family Medicine and Orthopaedics and

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<sup>1</sup> The other four member hospitals are TMH, POH, Castle Peak Hospital and Siu Lam Hospital. Both TMH and POH are acute hospitals providing A&E service.

Traumatology. These additional sessions will help shorten the waiting time for new patients suffering from chronic medical illnesses as well as bone and joint diseases. Referral from private practitioners will be accepted.

(b) Renal Dialysis Service

The Renal Dialysis Unit provides four places of haemodialysis and two places of peritoneal dialysis at the outset. A full capacity of ten haemodialysis and two peritoneal dialysis places are planned in the new TSWH. The dialysis service unit in TMH, the only service point in the whole cluster to date, has already been burdened with the most number of renal patients among all seven clusters of HA. The new Renal Dialysis Unit in TSWH will help provide additional service capacity as well as decongest the situation in TMH. Besides, TSWH will be the designated training centre of NTWC for home haemodialysis.

(c) Diagnostic Service

Comprehensive range of radiological, ultrasound and computed tomography examinations are to be provided to support the patient care in the Accident & Emergency Department (AED), SOPC as well as the ambulatory care and in-patient services to be opened at a later stage.

(d) Community Outreach Service

Community Outreach Service is to provide holistic care for clients staying in the Tin Shui Wai community by conducting comprehensive health assessment as well as formulating and implementing nursing

care plan. Community Outreach Service adopts case management model of care to manage patients with chronic disease such as Cardiac and Stroke care. This facilitates discharge of patients from cluster hospitals.

(e) Allied Health Services

In order to support the rehabilitation needs of patients, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy services are in place.

7. The Pathology services in TSWH shall be supported by TMH at the initial stage until the laboratory in TSWH is in operation in March 2017.

### **Commencement of Accident & Emergency Service**

8. A&E service is among the essential services that TSWH is going to provide. To ensure the provision of sufficient support and quality care to emergency patients, HA needs more time to prepare for the opening of A&E service. As planned, the AED of TSWH will start service on 15 March 2017, from 8am to 4pm daily at the initial stage. As the TSWH is yet to provide in-patient service, patients who need to be admitted will be transferred to TMH and POH for further management.

### **Manpower of the Hospital**

9. Despite the territory-wide healthcare manpower constraints, the TSWH has already recruited more than 300 staff now. The number of staff will gradually increase in accordance with the hospital's service expansion. Upon full commissioning, around 1 000 staff will be hired by TSWH.

## Way Forward

10. The new TSWH will commence services in several phases. The initial phase will focus on A&E. Subject to manpower availability, the NTWC plans to extend the A&E service of TSWH from 8 hours to 12 hours in the fourth quarter of 2017 in order to address the demand from 4pm to 8pm. This will help decongest the situation in the other AEDs in TMH and POH. The A&E service is planned to be extended to 24 hours by the end of 2018.

11. In the next phase, TSWH will focus on the development of ambulatory care services including endoscopy, day surgery, day chemotherapy and electro-diagnostic service. Day Ward will also be opened to support service development, as patients are more inclined to having timely investigations and day interventions instead of medical care keeping them away from home.

12. In the last phase, acute and convalescent in-patient services of various specialties will be provided to cater for the need of the ageing and growing population. By that time, TSWH together with other hospitals in NTWC will provide a comprehensive and complementary range of medical services.

13. In order to cope with the need of the growing population of the Tin Shui Wai vicinity, we will pursue the possibility of expanding the hospital on a land lot near TSWH in the longer term.

14. HA will continue to strive to commission the remaining services, including ambulatory services and other SOPCs, having regard to the growth in service demand and the manpower availability. Before the full operation of TSWH, other specialist services will continue to be provided by other hospitals in the NTWC.

## **Advice Sought**

15. Members are invited to note the completion of works and commissioning of services of TSWH.

**Food and Health Bureau**

**Hospital Authority**

**January 2017**

## **Scope of Services of Tin Shui Wai Hospital Upon Full Operation**

The Tin Shui Wai Hospital has a planned capacity of 300 in-patient and day beds in total, providing the following scope of facilities and services: –

- (a) in-patient services for emergency care, rehabilitation, convalescent and palliative care;
- (b) ambulatory services covering –
  - (i) an accident and emergency department;
  - (ii) day procedure centre / endoscopy centre with operating theatres;
  - (iii) specialist out-patient clinics;
  - (iv) a haemodialysis centre;
  - (v) day hospice services; and
  - (vi) integrated rehabilitation services;
- (c) community care services including –
  - (i) community nursing / community geriatric assessment service;
  - (ii) community rehabilitation service and education to patients;
  - (iii) psychiatric outreaching service;
  - (iv) medical social work services; and
  - (v) a health resources centre;
- (d) diagnostic and ancillary services to support in-patient and out-patient services, including core laboratory, computed tomography scanner and ultrasound scanner;
- (e) support services including catering services, pharmacy (including out-patient), central sterile supplies department, mortuary, linen, procurement and supplies, transportation and portering service, and engineering plants; and
- (f) administrative services including hospital administration, medical staff and nursing administration, admission, staff accommodation and medical records, etc.