

Legislative Council Secretariat,  
Legislative Council Complex,  
1 Legislative Council Road,  
Central, Hong Kong  
6 January 2017

Dear Chairman,

Re: Proposal to amend the health warnings on packets and retail containers of tobacco products

On behalf of the CUHK Jockey Club Bowel Cancer Education Centre, I am writing to support the Government to amend the health warnings on packets and retail containers of tobacco products.

The hazardous health effects of tobacco on health are widely recognized. It is a known carcinogen to many chronic diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular diseases, stroke, and other chronic disorders. Since 2001, the Tobacco Control Office has successfully reduced the number of smokers (age 15 or over) from 26.1% to 18.6% and 3.6% to 3.2% in male and female respectively<sup>1</sup>. Although these reductions are significant, the harmful impacts of tobacco smoking could be reduced further by our organized and concerted efforts.

To further protect the public from the harm of smoking, we strongly support new measures proposed by the Government such as enlargement of health warnings on tobacco products to at least 85%, expansion of no smoking area to 8 bus interchanges at tunnel portal areas and ban on e-cigarettes including import, manufacture, sale, distribution and advertising.

We believe the above measures not only could reduce the number of smokers, but also bring economic advantages to the society since the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that, globally, smoking causes over US\$500 billion in economic damage each year<sup>2</sup>. Here, I would like to express once again that we welcome the proposal submitted by the Government to amend the health warnings on packets and retail containers of tobacco products.

Yours Faithfully,



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