



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

Our ref: FHB/H/24/2  
Your ref:

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15 March 2018

Ms Maisie LAM  
Clerk to Legislative Council Panel on Health Services  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms LAM,

**Update on Chinese medicine development in Hong Kong**

The Legislative Council Panel on Health Services requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the development of Chinese medicine at its meeting on 12 February 2018. The relevant information is set out at **Annex** for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,

(James LAM)

for Secretary for Food and Health

Encl.

c.c. Department of Health (Attn: Dr Edwin TSUI)

**Update on Chinese medicine development in Hong Kong**

At the request of the Legislative Council Panel on Health Services for the following information, the Administration's response is as follows:

- (a) in respect of the financial assistance to be provided to local manufacturers of proprietary Chinese medicines ("pCms") to facilitate their compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practice, advise the details of the options under consideration of the Administration

The Chinese medicines industry have expressed concern about the difficulties faced by the manufacturers of local proprietary Chinese medicines (pCm), especially those small-and-medium-sized enterprises, to be compliant with the Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) particularly on the high cost associated with setting up GMP facilities. The Government is considering options to offer financial assistance to prospective GMP manufacturers, say, through engaging relevant consultancy service in seeking technical advice, enrolling in manufacturing-related courses for competency enhancement, etc. We are currently mapping out details of the assistance in consultation with the industry.

- (b) provide information on the number of successful prosecutions instigated by DH as well as the penalties handed down by the court in each of the past five years against the illegal sale and possession of unregistered pCms

In the past five years, the Department of Health has handled a total of 17 convicted cases involving illegal sale and/or possession of unregistered pCm contrary to section 119 of the Chinese Medicine Ordinance (Cap. 549). Information on the breakdown of the convicted cases is provided below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of convicted cases involving illegal sale and/or possession of unregistered pCm</b>	<b>Court penalty (in terms of total fine)</b>
2014	6	\$2,000 – \$14,200
2015	9	\$1,800 – \$20,000 2 months imprisonment (suspended for 2 years)
2016	1	\$8,000
2017	0	–
2018 (as at 27 February 2018)	1	\$6,000