

香港醫學會

The Hong Kong Medical Association

FOUNDED IN 1920-INCORPORATED IN 1960 AS A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE MEMBER OF WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND CONFEDERATION OF MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS IN ASIA & OCEANIA

5th Floor, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 2527 8285 (6 lines) Fax: (852) 2865 0943 E-mail: hkma@hkma.org Website: www.hkma.org 香港軒尼詩道十五號溫莎公爵社會服務大廈五樓

14 June 2018

2017 - 2018

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HON. AUDITOR 義務核數師

Messrs. Li, Tang, Chen & Co. 李湯陳會計師事務所

CHIEF EXECUTIVE 行 政 總 監 Ms. Jovi W.S. LAM 林偉珊女士 Prof. Hon Joseph LEE Kok Long, SBS, JP Chairman,

Panel on Health Services,
Legislative Council of the HKSAR,
Legislative Council Secretariat,
Legislative Council Complex, 1 Legislative Council Road,

Central, Hong Kong

Email: panel hs@legco.gov.hk

Dear Prof. LEE,

The Hong Kong Medical Association believes the protection of the public from harmful products forms an essential and integral part of public health policy. We hold the following opinion with regards to the Government's legislative proposal to regulate electronic cigarettes and new tobacco products.

RESPONSE ON

THE GOVERNMENT'S LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO REGULATE ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES AND OTHER NEW TOBACCO PRODUCTS

OUR RESPONSES

1. The ultimate goal is a smoke and tobacco free Hong Kong

As a professional organization of doctors, we object to the import of new tobacco products into Hong Kong, including heat-not-burn tobacco and all types of electronic cigarettes. Such products are potentially harmful, addictive and unnecessary for human health.



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2. Debates of harmfulness between new and conventional tobacco products

There are debates that such new products are less harmful than conventional tobacco products. We see no reason to introduce any harmful product into Hong Kong, regardless of the level of harm in comparison with conventional cigarettes.

3. New tobacco products are void of any constructive purposes to human health

We understand there is a proportion of our citizens who are habitual users of tobacco. We encourage smokers to cease smoking. Evidence is at best inconclusive that that heat-not-burn tobacco might be helpful for some smokers to cease smoking. New tobacco products are void of any constructive purposes to human health.

4. Packaging of electronic cigarettes can be attractive to young citizens

Packaging of electronic cigarettes as trendy, harmless products attractive to young citizens is all-the-more worrying. It is upon the shoulder of any responsible individual of society, more so on the Government, to curb the spread of potentially addictive and harmful behavior to our younger generations.



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Thank you for your consideration. It remains our conviction that we have a responsibility to provide our children and teenagers with a smoke and tobacco free world.

Yours sincerely,

~ Lm 92-

Dr. CHOI Kin President.

The Hong Kong Medical Association

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