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Dear Panel Members,

I am a clinical psychologist working in the Correctional Services Department (CSD) and would like to submit my views on the Pilot Accredited Registers (AR) Scheme for Healthcare Professions.

I strongly believe that the HKPS-DCP proposal for the AR Scheme is of paramount importance for the protection of the safety and public interest of Hong Kong citizens. It upholds high professional standard in the accreditation criteria for protection of the public. Although I am aware of the shortage of clinical psychologists in Hong Kong, any attempts to increase supply by compromising the accreditation criteria are unacceptable as it would, in turn, pose significant risk to the service users. Instead, putting more resources to train up qualified clinical psychologists or helping eligible practitioners to become qualified through remedial training are regarded as better solutions.

Regarding the standard of training, I support on-site supervision, as promoted in the HKPS-DCP proposal, being an indispensable part of our clinical training. Speaking from my experience of working with persons-in-custody, a population which often presents with complicated problems involving physical or sexual violence against others, drug abuse, anti-social behaviours, and even self-harm behaviours, I believe an on-site supervisor who is a qualified clinical psychologist working in CSD is crucial to ensure the quality of the training as well as the welfare of the clients. The HKPS-DCP AR proposal has suggested Remedial Training for eligible practitioners to meet the AR criteria. I believe this has already struck a good balance between upholding professional standard and inclusiveness.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Best regards,  
WONG Shan (Mr.)