

**Panel on Health Services**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**  
(position as at 8 November 2024)

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Loan arrangement for CUHK Medical Centre</b>  On 24 February 2023, the Finance Committee (“FC”) of the Legislative Council approved the Government to grant CUHK Medical Centre (“CUHKMC”) the first 2-year extension of its original loan agreement, and, subject to review of CUHKMC’s financial situation by Panel on Health Services, to seek further approval from FC for the Government to grant CUHKMC the remainder 3-year extension.  Following the first annual report to the Panel on Health Services on the operation of CUHKMC on 15 March 2024, the Administration proposes to provide an update on the latest position of CUHKMC with a view to seeking members’ support to submit the proposal for the remainder 3-year extension for FC’s approval.	To be confirmed
<b>2.</b>	<b>Report on Oral Health Survey 2021, Final Report of The Working Group on Oral Health and Dental Care, and relevant staffing proposal</b>  The Administration proposes to brief members on the salient points of the report of Oral Health Survey 2021 and the strategic directions for development of oral health care as recommended in the Final Report of the Working Group on Oral Health and Dental Care, and to seek members’ views on the proposed creation of a permanent Consultant post as part of the Government’s effort in enhancing community dental service.	December 2024

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Corporate governance (including internal auditing and handling of patients' privacy), and manpower situation of the Hospital Authority</b>  This subject includes the following items proposed by Members:  Ms Alice MAK, a then Member, requested vide her letter dated 10 May 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(4)985/20-21(01)) the Panel to discuss the Hospital Authority ("HA")'s handling of patients' privacy;  Hon CHAN Han-pan proposed vide his letter dated 17 March 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)727/19-20(01)) that the Panel should discuss the effectiveness of the internal auditing mechanism of HA;  Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee at the Panel meeting on 25 January 2022 raised concern that some HA's doctors have turned to private practice after receiving specialist training in HA and requested to discuss the proposed topic; and  Corporate governance and manpower situation of HA and Progress report on the use of the additional funding earmarked in the 2019-2020 Budget for HA's work concerning its manpower, drug treatments and medical equipment.  In January 2024, the above items were merged as suggested by the Administration.	Second half of 2024
<b>4.</b>	<b>Provision of one-stop services for victims of sexual violence in and prevention of crime in psychiatric wards of public hospitals</b>  This subject was originally placed on the Panel's list of outstanding list for discussion as two separate items (viz. (i) Provision of one-stop services for victims of sexual violence in public hospitals and (ii) Prevention of crime in psychiatric wards of the hospitals under HA).	To be confirmed

**Subject**

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

In November 2019, the two items were merged as suggested by the Administration.

**5. Pilot Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions** To be confirmed

The Panel held a special meeting to receive views from members of the public on the subject on 10 December 2018. The Administration advised at the meeting that the Accreditation Agent announced the accreditation results for the speech therapist and audiologist professions in April and November 2018 respectively, and expected to announce the accreditation results for dietitian and educational psychologist professions in phases by the first quarter of 2019. Separately, the accreditation process for the clinical psychologist profession has commenced. Upon completion of the accreditation, the Accreditation Agent will review the effectiveness of the Pilot Scheme and report to the Administration with recommended measures for improvement. The Administration would study how to formulate a statutory registration regime for relevant accredited professions based on the Pilot Scheme.

At the Panel meeting on 17 January 2023, Dr Hon David LAM Tzit-yuen suggested discussion of the statutory registration of five healthcare professions (namely clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, dietitians, audiologists and speech therapists) under primary healthcare development.

The Administration advised in January 2024 that Dr Hon David LAM Tzit-yuen had raised an oral question on the relevant subject at the LegCo meeting on 1 November 2023, and the Government had [replied](#).

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
6.	<b>Provision of treatment and support for cancer patients and rare disease patients</b>  Hon Elizabeth QUAT requested vide her letter dated 13 September 2022 (LC Paper No. CB(4)828/2022(01)) the Panel to discuss the subject on “Strengthening support for rare disease patients and cancer patients”. The Administration’s response has been issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)858/2022(01).	To be confirmed
7.	<b>Public-private Partnership Programme</b>  Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, a then Member, proposed vide her letter dated 2 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)161/20-21(03)) that the Panel should discuss in the 2020-2021 legislative session the enhancement of the Public-private Partnership Programme. She further suggested vide her letter dated 18 May 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(4)1010/20- 21(01)) that the Panel Chairman should arrange for discussion of the subject as soon as possible. The Administration’s response to the letter was issued to members on 2 July 2021 vide LC Paper No. CB(4)1191/20-21(01).  Dr Hon David LAM Tzit-yuen further suggested discussion of this subject on 16 January 2024.	To be confirmed
8.	<b>Ophthalmology services</b>  Item proposed by Hon YANG Wing-kit at the Panel meeting on 25 January 2022. Hon YANG Wing-kit raised concern about the prolonged waiting time for bookings for ophthalmology specialist services by the elderly, and requested that the Administration should review the effectiveness of providing ophthalmology specialist services.	To be confirmed

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
9.	<b>Comprehensive policy on digital health technologies and legal framework of telehealth services</b>	To be confirmed
	<p>Item proposed by Hon Duncan CHIU, Prof Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun and Dr Hon David LAM Tzit-yuen at the Panel meeting on 25 January 2022. Hon Duncan CHIU proposed discussion on the comprehensive policy on digital health technologies. In addition, he and Prof LEUNG proposed that a legal framework of telehealth services be formulated by the Administration.</p>	
10.	<b>Urban-rural healthcare system and general outpatient services in the evening and during weekend</b>	To be confirmed
	<p>Item proposed by Hon LAM So-wai at the Panel meeting on 25 January 2022. She raised concern about the balance and development of urban-rural medical resources, and proposed discussion of the implementation of a government-led urban-rural healthcare system suitable to Hong Kong in the long run. She also proposed enhancement of general outpatient services in the evening and during weekend.</p>	
11.	<b>Reforming the composition and functions of the Medical Council of Hong Kong</b>	To be confirmed
	<p>Item proposed by Hon CHAN Hoi-yan on 17 January 2023.</p> <p>At the request of Hon CHAN Hoi-yin, the Research Office of the Research and Information Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat prepared an information note on <a href="#"><u>“Composition, complaint investigation and disciplinary inquiry mechanisms of medical councils in selected places”</u></a> dated 22 November 2023 (IN23/2023).</p>	

	Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
12.	<b>Healthcare financing issues</b>	To be confirmed
Item proposed by Dr Hon David LAM Tzit-yuen on 17 January 2023 and 16 January 2024. Dr LAM suggested discussion on how to further enhance the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme by providing semi-private ward in public hospitals for people who had taken out voluntary health insurance, and exploring the establishment of individual or family healthcare accounts and adopting a co-payment model in the provision of newer and more expensive healthcare services.		
At the request of Dr LAM, the Research Office of the Research and Information Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat prepared an information note on <a href="#"><u>“Healthcare financing in Singapore and the United States”</u></a> dated 28 June 2023 (IN13/2023).		
13.	<b>Measures to support people having “Post COVID-19 condition” or “Long COVID”, and promoting the use of telemedicine services for the elderly at home and in residential care homes for the elderly</b>	To be confirmed
Hon LEUNG Man-kwong requested the Panel to follow up on measures to address the sequelae of children infected with COVID-19 vide his letter dated 13 June 2022 (LC Paper No. CB(4)548/2022(01)) (Chinese version only). The Administration’s response has been issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)664/2022(01).		
Hon Judy CHAN Kapui further suggested discussion of this subject on 17 January 2023.		
The Administration proposed in February 2023 to include this subject for discussion when there are major changes in epidemic prevention policy which entails the need to report to the Panel.		

Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
<b>14. Review of fees and charges for public healthcare services</b>	To be confirmed

Item proposed by Prof Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, Revd Canon Hon Peter Douglas KOON Ho-ming and Hon Elizabeth QUAT on 16 January 2024. Members expressed concern about Hong Kong people who had settled overseas returning to Hong Kong to receive public healthcare services, abuse of the accident and emergency departments, and ways to resolve the charging problem in the future, such as whether tiered charging would be adopted.

Council Business Divisions  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
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