

Panel on Health Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 12 December 2012)

- | Subject | Proposed timing
for discussion |
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| 1. Issues relating to the development and operation of private hospitals | December 2012 |
| <p>Item proposed by Dr Hon Joseph LEE and Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG. The two letters dated 15 November 2012 from Dr LEE and Dr CHEUNG respectively were circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)220/12-13 on 16 November 2012. At the meeting on 19 November 2012, the Panel agreed to discuss the subject at a special meeting.</p> <p>A special meeting has been scheduled for 18 December 2012 for the purpose. On the instruction of the Chairman, the Hong Kong Private Hospitals Association and the 11 registered private hospitals have been invited to give views at the meeting.</p> | |
| 2. Provision of obstetric services in the Tseung Kwan O Hospital | January 2013 |
| <p>The issue was discussed by the Panel on 13 June 2011. The Administration advised that HA would monitor closely the manpower situation with regard to obstetric and paediatric services and would review in 2012-2013 the appropriate timing for the commissioning of the obstetric and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit services in the Tseung Kwan O Hospital ("TKOH"). Before such services were provided in TKOH, the relevant demand in the Kowloon East region could continue to be catered for by the United Christian Hospital.</p> <p>At the meeting on 16 October 2012, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT proposed to discuss the subject at a future meeting.</p> | |

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3. Development of Chinese medicine	February 2013
<p>At the meeting on 11 June 2012, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the Panel should follow up the subject of development of Chinese medicine in the fifth term of LegCo.</p>	
4. Ward renovation in Kwai Chung Hospital	February 2013
<p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p>	
<p>The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the proposed project to renovate the inpatient wards of Kwai Chung Hospital to immediately improve the physical condition of the Hospital.</p>	
5. Reprovisioning of Yaumatei Specialist Clinic at Queen Elizabeth Hospital	March 2013
<p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p>	
<p>The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the proposed project to construct a new building for the reprovisioning of Yaumatei Specialist Clinic at the southeast side of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.</p>	
6. Electronic health record sharing	March 2013
<p>At the meeting on 9 March 2009, the Administration briefed the Panel on the proposal to develop a territory-wide patient-oriented electronic health record ("eHR") sharing system. At the special meeting of the Panel on 19 June 2009, the Panel received the views of deputations on the proposal.</p>	
<p>FC of LegCo approved the funding proposals for the directorate staffing support for the Electronic Health Record Office ("eHR Office") and the implementation of the first stage of the territory-wide eHR Programme on 10 July 2009. On the legal framework and the implementation plan for the eHR sharing system, the Administration advised that it would commence the formulation of the necessary long-term legal framework</p>	

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after obtaining the funding approval, and would provide an interim report to the Panel in due course.

The eHR Office was set up in July 2009 to take forward the Programme. At the special meeting of the Panel on 16 October 2009, the Administration advised that it would consult the relevant professions, stakeholders and the public in 2010 on issues such as voluntary participation, authorization and consent for record access and the long-term legal framework required for the protection of privacy and security of personal health data, and prepare for the drafting of the necessary legislation.

At the special meeting of the Panel on 20 October 2011, the Administration advised that the eHR Office had commissioned a Privacy Impact Assessment ("PIA") scoping study in August 2010 to prepare, among others, a strategy plan for a full scale PIA, which would be conducted in three phases. The first phase PIA was planned for commencement before end 2011. A Privacy Compliance Audit would be implemented upon operation of individual components of the system. The eHR Office would also conduct a Security Risk Assessment and a Security Audit in collaboration with the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer in respect of the whole eHR Programme and individual development designs and projects.

The Panel was briefed on 12 December 2011 on the proposed Legal, Privacy and Security Framework for eHR Sharing set out in the consultation document issued by the Administration on the same day for public consultation till 11 February 2012.

On 11 June 2012, the Administration reverted to the Panel on the outcome of the public consultation. The Panel was advised that the Administration would commence the drafting of the eHR legislation in 2012-2013 and plan to implement the first stage of the eHR Sharing System by the end of 2014. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the drafting of the eHR legislation before introducing the bill to LegCo.

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7. Implementation of the Public-Private Chronic Disease Management Shared Care Programme	1 st quarter, 2013

The Panel was briefed on the three-year pilot Programme at the meeting on 8 March 2010. The Administration advised that HA planned to send invitation letters to eligible patients in batches and arrange briefing sessions to introduce the Programme details starting from 2nd quarter, 2010. The Administration agreed to revert to the Panel on the progress of the Programme one year after implementation.

8. Health Protection Scheme	1 st quarter, 2013
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The Panel was briefed on 6 October 2010 on the proposed Health Protection Scheme ("HPS") set out in the Healthcare Reform Second Stage Consultation Document entitled "My Health My Choice" issued by the Administration on the same day for public consultation till 7 January 2011.

The Panel received public views on the proposed HPS on 11 December 2010 and further discussed the subject with the Administration on 13 December 2010. On 13 December 2010, the Administration advised that it planned to revert to the Panel on the outcome of the consultation within the 2010-2011 legislative session.

At the meeting on 11 July 2011, the Administration briefed the Panel on the Healthcare Reform Second Stage Public Consultation Report. The Panel decided to appoint a subcommittee to follow up the subject of the proposed HPS. Noting that more than eight subcommittees on policy issues were already in operation and the subcommittee would be put on the waiting list, members agreed that the Panel should convene special meetings to further discuss the subject pending the activation of the subcommittee. Members also agreed to receive public views on the subject.

A special meeting was held on 8 August 2011 for the purpose. At the meeting, the Panel agreed to the proposed terms of reference, work plan and time frame of the subcommittee. The House Committee agreed at the

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meeting on 21 October 2011 that the subcommittee could be activated only after any one of the subcommittees on policy issues in operation had completed its work.

Members agreed at the meeting on 13 October 2011 that pending the approval of the House Committee for the activation of the Subcommittee, the Panel should hold special meetings to discuss the subject. A special meeting was held on 24 November 2011 for the purpose. A further discussion with the Administration was held on 13 February 2012.

The Subcommittee on Health Protection Scheme, which commenced work in February 2012, has completed its work and submitted a report to the Panel on 10 July 2012. The Panel supported the recommendations of the Subcommittee which included, among others, the recommendation that the Panel should follow up the issue with the Administration in the fifth term of LegCo and appoint a subcommittee to assist its monitoring work in this regard if necessary.

On 26 October 2012, the Panel decided to appoint a subcommittee to follow up the issues relating to HPS.

9. Elderly Health Assessment Pilot Programme

1st quarter, 2013

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration plans to launch a pilot programme in collaboration with the non-governmental organizations with the aim to promote preventive care for the elderly and encourage its provision in the community. The Administration will brief the Panel before launching the pilot programme in the first half of 2013.

10. Refurbishment of Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital

April 2013

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the proposed project to refurbish the Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital to upgrade the existing facilities and enhance the services to patients.

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11. Improvement of doctors' working hour in public hospitals	2 nd quarter, 2013
<p>The Panel discussed with the Administration on the Final Report on Doctor Work Reform on 12 April 2010. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the progress of improving doctors' working hour in six to 12 months' time.</p>	
12. Development of a Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics	2 nd quarter, 2013
<p>The Panel was briefed on the proposed development of a Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics ("CEP") at the meeting on 12 March 2012. The Administration has invited tender in April 2012 and will conclude the tender evaluation by first half of 2013. Subject to funding approval from FC of LegCo, construction works of CEP will start in 2013 with a target date for completion by 2017 and commissioning by phases starting from mid 2018.</p> <p>The Administration will consult the Panel on the capital works proposal before seeking funding approval of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC")/FC of LegCo.</p>	
13. Community health centre at ex-Mong Kok Market site	2 nd quarter, 2013
<p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p> <p>The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the funding proposal for establishing a community health centre at the ex-Mong Kok Market site before seeking approval of PWSC/FC of LegCo. The site has been earmarked for private commercial development. The construction works for the centre will be entrusted to the developer.</p>	
14. Commissioning of the North Lantau Hospital, phase 1	2 nd quarter, 2013
<p>The Panel was consulted on 8 June 2009 on the proposed phase 1 development of the North Lantau Hospital ("NLH") project. The funding proposal for the construction of NLH phase 1 was approved by FC of LegCo on 22 January 2010. The construction works were targeted for completion</p>	

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in December 2012.

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, Hon CHAN Wai-yip requested the Administration to brief the Panel on the commissioning of NLH, phase 1.

15. Proposed regulatory framework of medical devices

To be confirmed

The Panel was briefed on the proposed regulatory framework for medical devices at the meeting on 8 November 2010. The Administration advised that in response to the recommendation of the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee, it would conduct a business impact assessment at the detailed design stage. The Administration planned to report to the Panel on the outcome of the business impact assessment together with the details of the legislative proposal in 2011.

At the meeting, Dr Hon Joseph LEE and Hon Vincent FANG proposed that the trade and industry should be invited to give views on the subject.

16. Regulation of pharmaceutical products in Hong Kong

To be confirmed

On 24 March 2009, the Administration set up a Review Committee on Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong to undertake a comprehensive review of the existing regime for the regulation and control of pharmaceutical products in the light of the drug incidents in early 2009. At the meeting on 11 January 2010, the Panel was briefed on the outcome of the review conducted by the Review Committee. The Administration advised that it would take follow-up actions to implement the 75 recommendations put forward by the Review Committee on measures to improve the existing regime, which included, among others, the necessary legislative amendments.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and the Secretary for Food and Health to discuss the Panel's workplan for the 2012-2013 legislative session on 25 October 2012, the Administration advised that it would consult the Panel on the relevant legislative amendments in the session.

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17. Redeployment of directorate posts in the Department of Health	To be confirmed
<p>Item proposed by the Administration in the 2008-2009 legislative session.</p>	
<p>The Administration has advised that the discussion of the item was deferred due to the unavailability of time slot. Item was then planned to be incorporated in a composite proposal on creation of directorate posts for discussion on 12 April 2010. In the light of a letter dated 26 March 2010 from the Government Doctors' Association ("GDA") to the Director of Health, copied to Panel members, the item was withdrawn, pending further consultation with GDA.</p>	
18. Pilot project on outreach primary dental care services for elderly in residential care homes and day care centres	To be confirmed
<p>The Panel was briefed on the pilot project at the meeting on 10 January 2011. The Administration advised that it planned to launch the pilot project for a period of three years, tentatively from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2014.</p>	
<p>The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel one year after the launch of the pilot project on a review of its effectiveness.</p>	
<p><i>[Note: The Administration has advised that it would revert to the Panel after completion of the interim review on the pilot project.]</i></p>	
19. Regulation of "Health Maintenance Organizations"	To be confirmed
<p>The issue was last discussed by the Panel at the meeting on 11 June 2007. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the timeframe for establishing a statutory licensing regime to regulate health maintenance organizations to safeguard patients' welfare.</p>	

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20. Referral from Duty Roster Member regarding the provision of medical services for children in poverty	(see note)
<p>On 16 April 2010, Duty Roster Members of LegCo met with representatives of the Hong Kong Society for Community Organization to receive views on the provision of medical services for children in poverty. Duty Roster Members agreed that the issue be referred to the Panel for follow-up.</p>	
<p><i>[Note: At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and the Secretary for Food and Health to discuss the Panel's workplan for the 2012-2013 legislative session on 25 October 2012, it was agreed that the subject be discussed by the Panel in the context of "Waiting time for public Specialist Outpatient Clinics" at a future meeting.]</i></p>	
21. Private hospital development	To be confirmed
<p>The development of private healthcare services is one of the major Government policies announced by the Chief Executive in his 2009-2010 Policy Address and a key initiative under the healthcare reform. Four sites at Wong Chuk Hang, Tseung Kwan O, Tai Po and Lantau have been reserved for development of private hospitals.</p>	
<p>The Panel was briefed on 14 December 2009 on the Expression of Interest exercise for private hospital development launched by the Administration on the same day to solicit market interest in the development of private hospitals at the four reserved sites till 31 March 2010.</p>	
<p>At the meeting on 13 October 2011, members requested the Administration to brief the Panel on its plan for the development of the medical services industry, including the disposal of the four pieces of land reserved for private hospital development, as highlighted in the 2011-2012 Policy Address.</p>	
<p>At the special meeting of the Panel on 20 October 2011, the Administration advised that it was formulating the land disposal arrangements for the four reserved hospital sites.</p>	

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It planned to first dispose of the two sites at Wong Chuk Hang and Tai Po in the first quarter of 2012. The other two sites would be disposed of later in phases.

The invitation of tenders for the development of private hospitals at the two identified sites at Wong Chuk Hang and Tai po opened on 13 April and ended on 27 July 2012. The Panel held a special meeting on 7 May 2012 to discuss and receive views from deputation on the land disposal arrangement of these two sites.

At the informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and the Secretary for Food and Health to discuss the Panel's workplan for the 2012-2013 legislative session on 25 October 2012, the Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the outcome of the tender exercise in the first quarter of 2013.

22. Mental health services

To be confirmed

At the joint meeting of the Panel and the Panel on Welfare Services on 31 March 2012, the Panels were briefed on the Administration's initiatives to support persons with mental illness in the community and the work progress of the Working Group on Mental Health Services. The Panels also received views from deputations at the meeting.

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che considered that to enable more focused discussion, there was a need for the Panel and the Panel on Welfare Services to appoint a joint subcommittee in the fifth term of LegCo to follow up the discussion with the Administration on mental health services.

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki proposed to discuss the development of mental health services at a future meeting.

23. Drug Formulary of HA and the Samaritan Fund

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 10 July 2012, Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau requested the Administration to review the mechanism and operation of the Drug Formulary of HA and the Samaritan Fund, and revert to the Panel on the outcome of the review

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in the fifth term of LegCo.

On 29 May 2012, Duty Roster Members of LegCo met with representatives of 加以域藥物關注組 to receive views on issues relating to the inclusion of "Glivec" in the Drug Formulary and applications from patients taking "Glivec" for assistance under the Samaritan Fund. Duty Roster Members agreed that the issue be referred to the Panel for follow-up. The relevant referral memorandum has been circulated to members on 26 October 2012 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)96/12-13.

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG proposed to discuss the Drug Formulary of HA at a future meeting.

24. Public and private hospital development

(see note)

At the meeting on 13 October 2011, concern was raised over the infrastructure support of the healthcare system, including the service capacity of the public and private healthcare sectors to meet the increasing demand for healthcare services. The Administration was requested to brief the Panel on its plans for the development or redevelopment of public hospitals, as well as the development of the medical services industry, including the disposal of the four pieces of land reserved for private hospital development (at Wong Chuk Hang, Tseung Kwan O, Lantau and Tai Po respectively), as highlighted in the 2011-2012 Policy Address.

The invitation of tenders for the development of private hospitals at the two identified sites at Wong Chuk Hang and Tai Po opened on 13 April and will end on 27 July 2012. The Panel held a special meeting on 7 May 2012 to discuss and receive views from deputation on the land disposal arrangement of these two sites.

The Financial Secretary announced in his Budget Speech of 2012-2013 the redevelopment of the Queen Mary Hospital ("QMH") and Kwong Wah Hospital ("KWH") in the coming year. The redeveloped QMH would provide

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upgraded accident and emergency services and cardiology services. For KWH, redevelopment would involve revamping existing medical facilities, and strengthening the hospital's Chinese and Western medicines shared care services, including Chinese medicine in-patient service.

[Note: The Administration has advised that the development and redevelopment of public hospitals will be presented to the Panel project by project. It has briefed the Panel on the expansion of United Christian Hospital and the redevelopment of KWH on 12 March and 11 June 2012 respectively. The Administration will brief the Panel on the other projects upon completion of the relevant preparatory works.]

25. Waiting time for public Specialist Outpatient Clinics

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, Hon CHAN Han-pan proposed to discuss the subject at a future meeting.