Panel on Health Services

List of follow-up actions
(Position as at 14 February 2014)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Regulation and control of pharmaceutical products in Hong Kong	31 March 2009	The Administration was requested to provide the revised checklist used by the inspectors of the Department of Health ("DH") when conducting inspections on pharmaceutical manufacturers once they were finalised.	The Review Committee on Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong recommended DH in January 2010 to upgrade Hong Kong's current Good Manufacturing Practices ("GMP") licensing standards by a phased approach to the international standards promulgated by the World Health Organization and Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme ("PIC/S"). On DH's invitation, PIC/S conducted a gap assessment between the standards of GMP and PIC/S in end-2010. DH procured a consultancy service in July 2012 for advice on upgrading the current GMP licensing standards to PIC/S standards. It is expected that the consultancy will be completed in 2014. The inspection checklist will be revised in accordance with the advice of the consultant and submitted to the Panel once available.

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2. Creation of new directorate posts in DH	11 April 2011	The Administration was requested to report on a quarterly or bi-annual basis the progress in taking forward the recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong after the establishment of the Office on Drugs.	The Assistant Director (Drug) and one Chief Pharmacist posts were created on 1 and 14 September 2011 respectively for the setting up of the Drug Office to take forward the recommendations of the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in Hong Kong ("Review Committee"). The Administration consulted the Panel on 18 November 2013 in relation to the legislative proposals to implement some of the Review Committee's recommendations, which sought to enhance the regulation of pharmaceutical products. The Administration also attended special meetings of the Panel respectively on 10 December 2013 and 10 February 2014 to exchange views with deputations and Members on the legislative proposals. The Administration planned to introduce the legislative proposals into the Legislative Council in the first half of 2014.

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3. Pilot project on enhancing radiological investigation services through collaboration with the private sector	12 December 2011	The Administration was requested to provide data on the average waiting time of cancer patients for radiological investigation services before and six months after implementation of the pilot project.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
4. An overview of the re-development and expansion plans of public hospitals	15 July 2013	The Administration was requested to provide a breakdown of the catchment population, the number of beds per 1 000 population, the range of services (including those services that had yet been provided because of manpower constraint or other reasons, and the respective proportion of services provided to patients within and outside the catchment area of the hospital cluster concerned), the manpower shortfall of doctors and nurses, as well as the anticipated changes in the above areas for the next fifteen years (at five-year intervals), by hospital clusters.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
5. Dental care policy and services for the elderly and people with disabilities	16 December 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on - (a) the financial implications for increasing the number of	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		government dental clinics to cover all 18 districts in the territory and expanding the scope of services of the clinics to include oral check-up and other curative treatments (e.g. fillings) for the general public; (b) a comparison of the amount of public expenditure on dental care services and its percentage share in public health expenditure in Hong Kong and that of other developed countries such as the United States and major European countries; (c) the oral health conditions (in terms of tooth loss and decay experience) of institutionalized older persons aged 65 and above as captured by OHS 2001 and OHS 2011; and (d) whether non-institutionalized older persons aged 75 and above and people with disabilities were covered by OHS 2011, and if not, the reasons for that.	

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6. Regulation of pesticide residues in Chinese herbal medicines	16 December 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on - (a) a list of the types of Chinese herbal medicines collected by DH from the market for testing by the Government Laboratory ("GL") in the past 12 months, including information on those samples which had been found to contain pesticide residues in the first-stage test; (b) the rationale for setting the number of samples of Chinese herbal medicines collected by DH every month for testing by GL at the level of around 30 samples; and (c) the reason why DH used the safety reference values of Acceptable Daily Intake for pesticide instead of the Maximum Residue Limits as the standard for assessing the safety of Chinese herbal medicines.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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7. Recommendations of the Working Group on Differentiation between Medical Procedures and Beauty Services	23 December 2013	The Administration was requested to provide the statistics of various enforcement actions taken under the Undesirable Medical Advertisement Ordinance (Cap. 231) in the past five years.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
8. Resources allocation among hospital clusters by the Hospital Authority	20 January 2014	The Administration was requested to provide - (a) the relevant papers of the Hospital Authority Review Steering Committee on matters concerning the resources management system within the Hospital Authority ("HA"); and (b) information on the amount of funding allocated to each public hospital in the past five years, with a breakdown by (i) the funding to sustain the baseline operations of respective hospitals; (ii) additional funding to deliver the new services that had been supported during the annual service planning process; and (iii) other funding to address specific pressure areas/gaps. The information on (i), (ii) and (iii)	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		should include a further breakdown by manpower, drugs, equipment, facilities and other operating needs.	
9. Legislative proposals to enhance the regulation of pharmaceutical products	10 February 2014	The Administration was requested to provide the numbers of inspection conducted, prosecution instituted and conviction secured in relation to non-compliance with regulation 19(2)(a) of the Pharmacy and Poisons Regulations (Cap. 138A) in the past five years.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
10. Surgical Outcomes Monitoring and Improvement Programme of the Hospital Authority	10 February 2014	The Administration was requested to provide the methodology used in, and the outcome of, HA's recent study on resources utilization by its patient populations which had taken into account cross-cluster utilization of hospital services, including a breakdown of the average resources utilized by each patient by hospital clusters.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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