Panel on Health Services

List of follow-up actions

(Position as at 6 October 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 finalized.	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 introduced the legislative proposals, i.e. the Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Bill 2014, into the Legislative Council on 26 March 2014. At the House Committee of the Legislative Council on 28 March 2014, Members formed a Bills Committee to study the Bill.

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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.

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5.	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, the recent study conducted by the Hospital Authority ("HA") 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's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2083/13-14(01) on 18 July 2014.
6.	General Outpatient Clinic Public-Private Partnership Programme in Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Tuen Mun districts and progress of other public-private partnership initiatives on chronic disease management	17 February 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on - (a) the total expenditure (including the service fees to participating private doctors, and the costs for drugs and relevant laboratory and x-ray services provided by HA) incurred under the Tin Shui Wai Primary Care Partnership Project and the average cost per consultation per participating patient; (b) in case the private doctors participating in the General Outpatient Clinic Public-Private Partnership Programme ("the	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2015/13-14(01) on 9 July 2014.

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	Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
			Programme") provided both chronic and acute care in a single consultation, the service fee to be provided by HA to the doctor for that consultation; and (c) the arrangement to reimburse the participating private doctors the service fees borne by HA under the Programme.	
7.	Drug Formulary of HA and the Samaritan Fund	17 March 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on - (a) outcomes of the cost-effectiveness studies on individual drugs as measured by the quality-adjusted life years conducted by the Drug Management Committee and the then Drug Utilization Review Committee since the introduction of the HA Drug Formulary in 2005, including the findings of those overseas studies to which the Committees had made reference; (b) a breakdown by the types of rare disease identified by the World Health Organization of the number	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2053/13-14(01) on 15 July 2014.

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			of patients receiving treatments in HA who were suffering from rare diseases and the drugs and/or treatment provided to these patients;	
			(c) the number of resected colon cancer patients receiving treatments in HA who had to purchase Oxaliplatin at their own expenses before the drug was repositioned as Special Drug in the HA Drug Formulary in April 2012; and	
			(d) whether the prescription of drugs for patients suffering from the same disease and with similar clinical conditions would vary among different hospital clusters due to the difference in resources available for individual hospital clusters to purchase drugs.	
8.	Refurbishment of Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital	19 May 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information in its paper on the refurbishment of Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital ("HKBH") to be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee on -	The information was provided vide LC Paper No. PWSC (2014-15)25 for discussion at the meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee on 24 June 2014.

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		(a) the total number of beds to be provided at the refurbished HKBH with a breakdown by bed types;	
		(b) whether the service capacity of the refurbished HKBH could meet the projected increasing needs of the community for public inpatient convalescent and rehabilitation services;	
		(c) whether there would be adequate healthcare manpower to provide the strengthened services in HKBH upon completion of the refurbishment works in September 2018;	
		(d) how the design of the inpatient wards and the associated facilities (e.g. the lobby) of the refurbished HKBH would be geared towards creating a pleasant and comfortable environment for patients; and	
		(e) service co-ordination among the redeveloped or refurbished hospitals (such as refurbishment of HKBH and the proposed redevelopment of	

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		Queen Elizabeth Hospital) and newly developed hospitals (such as Hong Kong Children's Hospital and the proposed new acute general hospital in the Kai Tak Development Area) in the Kowloon Central cluster.	
9. Proposed regulatory framework of medical devices	16 June 2014	The Administration was requested to provide a soft copy of the full version of the consultant's report on "Business Impact Assessment on Statutory Regulation of Medical Devices" commissioned by the Department of Health.	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2025/13-14(01) on 9 July 2014.
10. Mental health policy and services	16 June 2014	The Administration/HA was requested to - (a) explain the discrepancy between HA's figure of patients with severe mental illness currently taken care of by HA (i.e. around 40 000) and the number of persons with severe mental illness in Hong Kong as estimated in HA's Mental Health Service Plan for Adults 2010-2015	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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			(i.e. 70 000 to 200 000); and(b) advise whether it had set any target for enhancing financial resources for mental health services.	
11.	Consultation result of the Hong Kong Code of Marketing and Quality of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants and Young Children	21 July 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on how the proposed restriction to be imposed upon marketing practices for formula milk for young children up to 36 months age would contribute to an increase of breastfeeding and the exclusive breastfeeding rates of Hong Kong among other countries.	The English and the Chinese versions of the Administration's response were issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2256/13-14(01) on 3 and 15 September 2014 respectively.

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