



To: Panel on Health Services of the Legislative Council

From: Professor E.K. Yeoh, JC School of Public Health and Primary Care,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Date: 12 January 2016

Re: Support amendment order to ban smoking at the 8 bus interchange of tunnel portal areas

Second-hand smoking is similar to active smoking in causing significant health harms, which include but not limited to cancers, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, and perinatal and postnatal complications. Many countries, such as Australia, Singapore, New Zealand, the United Kingdom (UK), have established legislation to ban smoking in public spaces, e.g. bus interchanges and shelters, taxi ranks. Singapore has banned smoking at bus interchanges & shelters, within 5 metres radius of bus shelters, as well as ferry terminals & piers, and areas occupied by a queue of two or more persons in a public place. With the established harmful effects of second hand smoke on health, we fully support the amendment order to ban smoking at the 8 bus interchange of tunnel portal areas proposed by the government to safeguard public health in Hong Kong. Additionally, we suggest that more bus stops and shelters in open areas should be considered as no smoking areas.

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