

Annual Report 2018



- Ensuring Justice
- Maintaining Professionalism
- Protecting the Public



**THE MEDICAL COUNCIL
OF HONG KONG**

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Preface

This annual report, covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018, is the 24th report published by the Medical Council of Hong Kong (the Council). Through this publication, the Council aims to keep members of the profession as well as the public better informed of the functions and work of the Council during the year.

It should be noted that this report is intended for general information only and certain functions of the Council have accordingly been simplified and/or presented in the form of an information document. For details of the statutory functions of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, readers should refer to the Medical Registration Ordinance, Cap. 161, Laws of Hong Kong, and its subsidiary legislation.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Medical Council of Hong Kong (the Council) is empowered under the Medical Registration Ordinance to handle registration and disciplinary regulation of medical practitioners in Hong Kong. To assist in carrying out these functions, the Council Secretariat, which is staffed by the Department of Health, provides executive and secretarial support to the Council. Apart from conducting policy and committee meetings, the Council had processed, with the support of the Secretariat, for the year 2018 —
- (a) 457 applications to take various parts of the Licensing Examination, the passing of which shows the achievement of a standard acceptable for registration as a medical practitioner;
 - (b) 1 219 applications for registration (including 472 applications for full registration, 477 applications for provisional registration, 174 applications for limited registration, and 96 applications for temporary registration);
 - (c) 285 applications for specialist registration;
 - (d) 14 075 renewals of annual practising / retention certificates; and
 - (e) 639 disciplinary complaints.
- 1.2 2018 was a very busy year for the Council. This is evident from the statistics in this report, in particular, the large number of disciplinary complaints. The Council continued to defend itself in a number of judicial review / appeal cases. Although being challenged in such cases, the Council is committed to protecting the public, maintaining professionalism and ensuring justice in discharging its statutory functions.
- 1.3 To address public concerns, the Government introduced the Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill 2017 (the Bill) into the Legislative Council (LegCo) in June 2017 with a view to increasing lay participation in the Council, improving its complaint investigation and disciplinary inquiry mechanism, and extending the validity period and renewal period of limited registration from not exceeding one year to not exceeding 3 years.
- 1.4 The Bill was passed by the LegCo on 28 March 2018 and the Medical Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 was enacted on 6 April 2018 upon gazettal. The following changes were effected under the new provisions of the Medical Registration Ordinance (MRO) in 2018:

Change of composition of the Medical Council

To increase the transparency, accountability and credibility of the Council, the composition of the Council was changed as follows –

Before amendment (28 Members)	After amendment (32 Members)
2 medical members nominated by Director of Health and appointed by Chief Executive (CE)	Director of Health, or his or her representative, as ex officio Member
2 medical members nominated by the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and appointed by CE	2 medical members nominated by HKU and appointed by CE (<i>no change</i>)
2 medical members nominated by The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and appointed by CE	2 medical members nominated by CUHK and appointed by CE (<i>no change</i>)
2 medical members nominated by the Hospital Authority (HA) and appointed by CE	Chief Executive of the HA, or his or her representative, as ex officio Member
2 medical members nominated by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM) and appointed by CE	2 medical members nominated by HKAM and appointed by CE (<i>no change</i>)
	2 medical members nominated and elected by HKAM
7 medical members elected by all registered medical practitioners with full registration or limited registration	7 medical members elected by all registered medical practitioners with full registration or limited registration (<i>no change</i>)
7 medical members nominated and elected by the Hong Kong Medical Association (HKMA)	7 medical members nominated and elected by HKMA (<i>no change</i>)
4 lay members appointed by CE	8 lay members which consist of – (i) 4 lay members appointed by CE (ii) 3 lay members elected by patient organizations; and (iii) 1 lay member nominated by the Consumer Council

Under the new arrangement, a new lay member nominated by the Consumer Council and 2 new medical members elected by HKAM joined the Council in June 2018 and September 2018 respectively.

The 1st election of lay members of the Council was successfully held under the Medical Council (Election and Appointment of Lay Members) Regulation, and returned 3 other lay members to the Council in December 2018.

Complaint investigation and disciplinary inquiry mechanism

To improve the efficiency and enhance the flexibility of the complaint investigation and disciplinary inquiry mechanism of the Council, a number of changes had been made to the MRO. The major ones included empowering the Council to decide on the number of the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) and inquiry panel to be set up and to appoint members to the PIC and the inquiry panel, to expand the pool of the lay assessors and medical assessors for sitting on both the PIC and the inquiry panel and to decide on their qualification and experience requirements, to appoint more than one legal adviser to the Council, and to appoint any solicitor or counsel in private practice (besides legal officers of the Department of Justice) to carry out the duties of the Secretary in respect of an inquiry, etc.

The Council had implemented a number of new arrangements, such as setting up more than one PIC and one inquiry panel, and appointing more lay assessors and medical assessors. The Council would review the arrangements from time to time with a view to enhancing the mechanism.

Composition of the Health Committee

Under the amended MRO, there were 2 lay persons appointed to the Health Committee. The Council had appointed one lay assessor to the Committee, in addition to the lay member of the Council previously appointed.

Validity and renewal period of limited registration

The Council had considered and approved a number of applications for limited registration with validity period and renewal period up to 3 years under the amended MRO. The Council would continue to uphold the professional standards of non-locally trained doctors admitted under limited registration.

2. Membership of the Medical Council and Elections held in 2018

2.1 With the enactment of the Medical Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 on 6 April 2018, the Council comprises 24 medical members and 8 lay members. The composition of the Council is as follows —

- (a) 2 registered medical practitioners nominated respectively by —
 - University of Hong Kong;
 - The Chinese University of Hong Kong;
 - Hong Kong Academy of Medicine;
- (b) the Director of Health, or his or her representative, as an ex officio member;
- (c) the Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority, or his or her representative, as an ex officio member;
- (d) 2 registered medical practitioners who are Fellows of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM) nominated and elected by HKAM;
- (e) 7 registered medical practitioners who are members of the Hong Kong Medical Association (HKMA) nominated and elected by HKMA;
- (f) 7 registered medical practitioners who are ordinarily resident in Hong Kong elected by all registered medical practitioners with full registration or limited registration;
- (g) 4 lay members appointed by the Chief Executive;
- (h) 3 lay members elected by patient organizations; and
- (i) 1 lay member nominated by the Consumer Council.

The Director of Health is the ex officio Registrar of Medical Practitioners.

2.2 The membership of the Council (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Professor LAU Wan-ye, Joseph, SBS (Chairman)
Mrs BIRCH LEE Suk-ye, Sandra, GBS, JP (from 10 December 2018 onwards)
Dr CHAN Hon-ye, Constance, JP
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN
Mr CHAN Wing-kai (from 21 December 2018 onwards)
Dr CHENG Chi-man
Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming
Dr CHEUNG Chin-pang (from 14 September 2018 onwards)
Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong, JP
Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel
Dr CHOW Pak-chin, BBS, JP
Dr CHOW Yu-fat (from 1 August 2018 onwards)
Professor FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP
Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan
Dr HO Pak-leung, JP

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Dr IP Wing-yuk
Mr KWONG Cho-shing, Antonio, MH (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Mr LAM Chi-yau (from 21 December 2018 onwards)
Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David
Dr LAU Chor-chiu, GMSM, MH, JP
Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny (from 14 September 2018 onwards)
Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu
Professor Felice LIEH-MAK, GBS, CBE, JP
Dr LO Chi-yuen, Albert
Mr MUI Cheuk-nang, Kenny (from 21 December 2018 onwards)
Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Dr SHEA Tat-ming, Paul (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Professor TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP
Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Professor WONG Yung-hou, MH (from 1 June 2018 onwards)

The Council's Legal Adviser is Mr SHUM Ping-sang, Edward and its Secretary is Ms LAI Yuk-wan, Lisa.

- 2.3 Dr CHEUNG Chin-pang and Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny were elected by HKAM as members of the Council for a period of 3 years with effect from 14 September 2018.
- 2.4 Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey and Dr SHEA Tat-ming, Paul were elected by HKMA as members of the Council for a period of 3 years with effect from 24 January 2018.
- 2.5 Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David and Dr CHENG Chi-man were re-elected and Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica was elected as members of the Council for a period of 3 years with effect from 24 January 2018 in the 22nd election of medical members of the Council conducted on 11 December 2017.
- 2.6 Mr CHAN Wing-kai, Mr MUI Cheuk-nang, Kenny and Mr LAM Chi-yau were elected as lay members of the Council for a period of 3 years with effect from 21 December 2018 in the 1st election of lay members of the Council conducted on 13 December 2018.
- 2.7 The 23rd election of the Council was conducted on 18 December 2018 to fill 2 vacancies for a period of 3 years with effect from 24 January 2019. The election exercise was carried out smoothly. Dr Hon Pierre CHAN and Dr LUNG David Christopher, with the highest number of votes, were declared to be re-elected / elected.

3. The Preliminary Investigation Committees and Disciplinary Proceedings

- 3.1 The Council's jurisdiction over the professional conduct of registered medical practitioners is laid down in the Medical Registration Ordinance (MRO) and the Medical Practitioners (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulation (the Regulation).
- 3.2 The situations that give rise to disciplinary proceedings include where a registered medical practitioner has been convicted in Hong Kong or elsewhere of any offence punishable with imprisonment or where there is evidence that a registered medical practitioner has been guilty of misconduct in a professional respect.
- 3.3 For the purpose of giving general guidance to registered medical practitioners as to what may commonly constitute professional misconduct, the Council has published a Code of Professional Conduct (the Code) (revised in January 2016), and each registered medical practitioner has been given a personal copy of the Code.
- 3.4 Complaints against registered medical practitioners touching on matters of professional misconduct are normally either lodged with the Council by individuals or referred to the Council by other bodies such as the Hong Kong Police Force, the Drug Office and the press. In accordance with the established procedures, complaints will be processed through part or all of the following 3 stages –
- (a) Initial consideration by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of a Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) to determine whether a complaint should be deliberated at PIC meetings or be referred to the Health Committee (HC) for consideration. For those complaints which are considered groundless or frivolous, and therefore cannot or should not proceed further, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman will consult a lay member of the PIC before a decision is made to dismiss the complaints;
 - (b) Examination at PIC meetings of the complaint as well as explanation of the medical practitioner(s) concerned, and the forming of a decision on whether or not there is a prima facie case to refer the complaint to the Council for holding of an inquiry; and
 - (c) Inquiry by an inquiry panel to hear the evidence from both the complainant and the defending registered medical practitioner(s).
- 3.5 The deemed PIC, established under section 20S(1) of the pre-amended MRO, comprises 7 members including 6 registered medical practitioners and 1 of the 4 lay members of the Council. The Chairman of the deemed PIC is assisted by the Deputy Chairman, both of them being elected by the Council from among its members. The membership of the deemed PIC (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows –
- Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong, JP (Chairman)
Professor FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Dr CHONG Yee-hung
Dr FOO Kam-so, Stephen
Dr LEE Siu-yin, Ruby, JP
Dr SO Yui-chi (from 24 February 2018 onwards)

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (from 7 February 2018 onwards)*
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (from 7 February 2018 onwards)*
Mr KWONG Cho-shing, Antonio, MH (from 7 February 2018 onwards)*

** serving on rotation basis, each for a period of 3 months*

3.6 The new PIC, established under sections 20S(1) and 20S(1A) of the amended MRO, comprises 7 members including 4 registered medical practitioners and 3 lay persons. The membership of the new PIC (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Dr CHENG Chi-man (Chairman)
Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas (Deputy Chairman)
Dr CHIU Shing-ping, James
Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny
Ms NG Ka-man, Rendy
Mr WONG Hin-wing
Professor WONG Yung-hou, MH

3.7 Both PICs are tasked to perform the following functions —

- (a) to make preliminary investigations into complaints or information touching any matter that may be inquired into by an inquiry panel or heard by the HC and to give advice on the matter to any registered medical practitioner;
- (b) to refer a case to an inquiry panel for holding an inquiry under section 21 of the MRO;
- (c) to make recommendations to the HC for conducting a hearing; and
- (d) to make preliminary investigations upon a referral by the Education and Accreditation Committee.

3.8 Section 9 of the Regulation states that unless a complaint case is found to be frivolous or groundless and should not proceed further or is referred to the HC for a hearing, it is mandatory for the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman of the PIC to direct that the case be referred to the PIC for its consideration (i.e. stage (b) stated in paragraph 3.4 above).

- 3.9 In the past, when a complaint case proceeded into the PIC stage, the doctor under complaint would be notified of the receipt of the complaint by way of a PIC Notice. He or she would be invited to make representation, if any, to the particulars of complaint stated in the PIC Notice before the PIC met to discuss the case concerned. Following the comments of the judge in *Law Yiu Wai Ray v Medical Council of Hong Kong* (HCAL 46/2015), refined measures have been adopted since 2016 with regard to the processing of complaint cases at the PIC stage.
- 3.10 Specifically, the doctor under complaint will be notified of the receipt of the complaint by the PIC and be provided a copy of such complaint. The doctor under complaint will be informed that the PIC will meet for the first time to consider the complaint. However, he or she is not required to give any explanation at this stage. At the first meeting to consider a complaint case, the PIC may either dismiss the complaint case or decide to seek explanation / clarification from the doctor under complaint to facilitate the making of a decision¹ on the complaint case. In the latter scenario, the PIC will inform the doctor under complaint the allegations or disciplinary charges against him/her (if any) and invite him or her to provide a written explanation in response. The above refined measures aim at expediting process of complaint case by streamlining the procedures so involved and keeping it in compliance with the law. It is hoped that the refined measures will assure and promote the professional competency of doctors in Hong Kong and uphold the principle of professional self-regulation.
- 3.11 In 2018, the Council received a total of 639 complaints. **Table 1** shows the nature of complaints. Comparative figures for the years of 2014 to 2018 are shown in the same table. As the figures show, the number of disciplinary cases received by the Council had maintained at a high level in recent years. The category of “disregard of professional responsibility to patients” mainly included cases on inappropriate prescription of drugs, conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery, failure / unsatisfactory result of treatment / surgery, failure to properly / timely diagnose illness and disagreement with doctor’s medical opinion.
- 3.12 Among the 639 cases received, 5 were dismissed jointly by the deemed PIC’s Chairman and Deputy Chairman in consultation with a lay member as being frivolous or groundless. **Table 2** shows the nature of these complaints. Another 2 cases could not be pursued further because the complainants failed to provide further information or statutory declaration, or the complaints were anonymous or withdrawn. A total of 237 cases were referred to the PICs for consideration and out of which, 6 cases were subsequently referred to the Council for no inquiry and one case was referred to the Council for no pre-registration inquiry. No decision has yet been reached on the remaining 395 cases for which further information is required.

¹ The duty of the PIC is to decide only whether a complaint case should be referred to the inquiry panel for inquiry. It is not empowered to pass judgment or sentence.

3.13 **Table 3** shows the decisions of the PICs on the cases considered. In 2018, a total of 242 cases were considered by the PICs, including cases received in 2018 or before.

3.14 **Tables 4a and 4b** give a closer look into PICs' work in 2018. For the deemed PIC, decisions were made to 234 cases at its monthly meetings. Of the 234 cases, 153 were dismissed, 39 were referred to the Council / inquiry panel for inquiry or restoration inquiry, 41 were referred to the Council for no inquiry or no pre-registration inquiry and 1 was referred to the HC. For the new PIC, decisions were made to dismiss 8 cases at its meeting in December 2018. It should be noted that only cases to which final decisions were made are included in the tables. Cases discussed but pending further discussion at future meetings are not included in the tables.

3.15 The majority of complaints did not reach the inquiry stage. They were dismissed either because they were groundless, frivolous or related to allegations which did not constitute professional misconduct. As a considerable number of these complaints were related to doctors' communication skills and attitude falling short of the expectation of the patients, the PIC has since December 2012 adopted a practice of informing the doctors concerned of the dismissed complaints for their attention and improvement. Some of the complaints could not be pursued further due to the lack of supporting evidence, withdrawal of the complaints by the complainants or the complainants being unwilling to testify. There were also some complaints which in fact touched on civil claims of professional negligence or compensation. These cases should be dealt with in civil proceedings or the Small Claims Tribunal and the complainants were so advised accordingly.

3.16 An inquiry panel consists of —

- (a) 3 registered medical practitioners each of whom is (i) a member of the Council; or (ii) a medical assessor; and
- (b) 2 lay persons each of whom is (i) a lay member of the Council; or (ii) a lay assessor.

Lay assessors and medical assessors are appointed by the Council under section 20BB and 20BC of the amended MRO respectively. The lists of lay assessors and medical assessors (as at 31 December 2018) were as follows —

Lay assessors

Mr CHAN Hiu-fung, Nicholas, MH

Dr CHENG Lai-ling

Ms CHUI Hoi-yee, Heidi

Mr HUI Cheuk-lun, Lawrence

Mr KAN Pak-him, Christopher

Mr LAI Yat-hin, Adrian

Ms NG Ka-man, Rendy

Mr NG Ting-shan

Mr POON Yiu-kin, Samuel
Mr WONG Hin-wing
Mr WOO King-hang

Medical assessors

Dr AU-YEUNG Kam-chuen, Sidney
Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas
Professor CHAN Anthony Tak-cheung
Dr CHIU Shing-ping, James
Professor CHU Kent-man
Dr FUNG Ho-wang
Dr FUNG Tak-kwan, James
Dr KONG Wing-ming, Henry
Professor KWONG Yok-lam
Dr LI Mun-pik, Teresa
Dr MOK Pik-tim, Francis
Professor TAN Choon-beng, Kathryn
Professor WONG Wing-kin, Gary
Dr WONG Yee-him, John
Dr YAM Kwong-yui
Dr YEUNG Chiu-fat, Henry

- 3.17 Most of the defendant doctors are legally represented. The Secretary of the Council, who is represented by a Government Counsel of the Department of Justice, is responsible for presenting evidence to substantiate the disciplinary charges. The complainant seldom needs to engage his or her own lawyer to present the case in a disciplinary inquiry.
- 3.18 To deal with any legal issues raised at disciplinary inquiries, the inquiry panel is assisted throughout the hearing by its own Legal Adviser.
- 3.19 In the case *Medical Council of Hong Kong v Helen Chan* (FACV 13/2009), the Court of Final Appeal in May 2010 held that the Legal Adviser's (i) presence at the Council's private deliberations and (ii) drafting of the Council's decisions in disciplinary inquiries not only are lawful, but also contribute to safeguarding the defendant's constitutional right to hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal. In view of the Court of Final Appeal's decision, the Council decided in June 2010 to resume the former practice of inviting the Legal Adviser (i) to be present during the Council's deliberations in disciplinary inquiries and (ii) to draft the Council's judgments on the basis of the Council's decisions, findings and reasoning.

- 3.20 The Legal Adviser does not take part in the inquiry panel's deliberations or decision-making. He only gives legal advice to the inquiry panel, and will inform the parties of any legal advice given during the inquiry panel's private deliberations. He will also draft the judgment on the basis of the inquiry panel's decisions, findings and reasoning. The inquiry panel will thoroughly scrutinize the draft and modify it where necessary in order to ensure that the judgment says what the inquiry panel means.
- 3.21 It should also be stressed that, before any registered medical practitioner is found guilty of any disciplinary offence, the offence has to be proved to the required standard by the evidence put before the inquiry panel. The standard of proof which applies in each case has to be commensurate with the gravity of the offence charged.
- 3.22 If a registered medical practitioner is found guilty of a disciplinary offence after an inquiry, he will face one or more of the following disciplinary sanctions —
- Removal from the General or Specialist Register;
 - Removal from the General or Specialist Register for such period as the Council may think fit;
 - Reprimand;
 - Suspended application of any of the above for a period not exceeding 3 years, subject to any conditions the inquiry panel may think fit; or
 - Warning letter.
- 3.23 **Table 5** shows the number of disciplinary inquiries conducted in 2018. A total of 24 cases (including 2 cases to be continued in 2019) were heard in the year of 2018. In 21 of the 22 completed cases (95.5%), the registered medical practitioners concerned were found guilty. The more prominent cases were related to the registered medical practitioners' disregard of professional responsibilities to patients.
- 3.24 A registered medical practitioner aggrieved by the disciplinary order of the inquiry panel has a right in law to appeal to the Court of Appeal. **Table 6** shows the number of appeals against the disciplinary orders in the 5 years from 2014 to 2018. A total of 4 appeals had been lodged with the Court of Appeal as at end 2018 (including 2 appeals which were carried forward from previous years). Of them, 1 appeal was dismissed by the Court of Appeal and 1 appeal was subsequently withdrawn.

4. *The Licentiate Committee and the Licensing Examination of Medical Council*

4.1 The Licentiate Committee (LC) established by the Council is responsible for administering and running the Licensing Examination for non-local medical graduates.

4.2 The Licensing Examination was introduced to replace the Licentiate Scheme with effect from 1 September 1996. Upon passing the examination and completion of the period of assessment, a person will be qualified for full registration as a registered medical practitioner.

4.3 The Licensing Examination is held twice annually starting from 2014 and it consists of 3 parts —

Part I

Examination in Professional Knowledge — consisting of 2 multiple-choice question papers, set in both Chinese and English, on professional subjects including medicine, surgery, orthopaedic surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, psychiatry, medical ethics / community medicine and basic sciences.

Part II

Proficiency Test in Medical English — a written professional English paper to test candidates' proficiency in medical English.

Part III

Clinical Examination — an examination to test candidates' ability to apply professional knowledge to solve clinical problems, in which candidates will be examined in medicine, surgery (including cases on orthopaedic surgery), obstetrics and gynaecology, and paediatrics. Candidates may answer in English, Cantonese or Putonghua.

4.4 Candidates who have passed all 3 parts of the Licensing Examination will normally be required to undergo a 12-month period of assessment in hospitals accredited by the Committee on Internship of the Hospital Authority. During this period, an intern will work under supervision in the following disciplines —

- Medicine
- Surgery
- Orthopaedics and Traumatology
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Oncology / Psychiatry / Intensive Care
- Neurosurgery / Otorhinolaryngology / Ophthalmology
- Emergency Medicine / Family Medicine

4.5 The membership of the LC (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming (Chairman)
Dr CHAN Kit-sheung
Dr KO Pat-sing, Tony (from 8 January 2018 onwards)
Dr KONG Wing-ming, Henry (from 12 February 2018 onwards)
Dr LAM Man-kin, Ronald, JP
Dr LAM Wing-wo (from 12 February 2018 onwards)
Professor LAU Yu-lung
Professor LEUNG Wai-keung
Professor NG Kwok-wai, Enders
Professor SZETO Cheuk-chun

4.6 To discharge the respective functions of the LC, a total of 5 Sub-Committees have been set up —

(a) Examination Sub-Committee

- responsible for conducting the Licensing Examination and certifying passes and failures in the examination

- the membership (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Professor SZETO Cheuk-chun (Chairman)
Dr CHAN Kar-loen, Karen
Professor CHEUNG Yiu-fai
Professor HUNG Ivan Fan-ngai
Professor KHOO Ui-soon
Dr LAM Man-kin, Ronald, JP
Professor LANG Hung-hin, Brian (from 15 May 2018 onwards)
Professor LEUNG Frankie Ka-li (from 1 January 2018 onwards)
Professor LEUNG Tak-yeung
Professor LI Albert Martin
Professor LUK On-yan, Andrea
Professor NG Kwok-wai, Enders
Professor TSE Man-kit, Gary (from 1 January 2018 onwards)
Professor YUNG Shu-hang, Patrick, JP

(b) Internship Sub-Committee

- responsible for the assessment and supervision of interns during the period of assessment

- the membership (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Professor LAU Yu-lung (Chairman)
Professor CHAN Chi-fung, Godfrey
Dr CHAN Siu-mui, Tina

Professor CHIM Chor-sang, James
Professor HUI Shu-cheong, David, BBS
Professor KUMTA Shekhar Madhukar
Professor LAI Bo-san, Paul
Professor LANG Hung-hin, Brian
Professor LEUNG Tak-yeung
Professor LEUNG Ting-fan
Professor NG Hung-yu, Ernest
Professor NG Kwok-wai, Enders
Dr WONG Ming-yan, Sharon
Dr WONG Tin-chun, Gordon (from 15 May 2018 onwards)
Dr YAU Wai-pan

(c) Credentials Sub-Committee

- responsible for considering and determining the eligibility of the applicants for sitting the Licensing Examination
- the membership (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —
Professor LEUNG Wai-keung (Chairman)
Professor CHAN Lik-yuen, Henry
Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming
Dr CHIANG Kwok-shing, Alan
Dr CHUNG Wai-hung, Thomas
Dr IP Wing-yuk
Professor LAM Chiu-wa, Linda
Dr LAM Ming (from 15 May 2018 onwards)
Professor LEUNG Gilberto Ka-kit (from 15 May 2018 onwards)

(d) Exemptions Sub-Committee

- responsible for considering and determining applications for exemption from various parts of the Licensing Examination and part of the period of assessment
- the membership (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —
Professor NG Kwok-wai, Enders (Chairman)
Dr CHAN Yiu-che
Dr CHOI Mei-yee, Sarah, JP
Dr KWOK Tin-fook
Professor LAU Yu-lung
Professor LEUNG Ting-fan
Professor LEUNG Wai-keung
Professor SZETO Cheuk-chun
Dr TSUI Sik-hon (from 15 May 2018 onwards)

(e) Review Sub-Committee

- responsible for considering and determining applications for review from candidates aggrieved by the decisions of other sub-committees regarding the examination and/or period of assessment
- the membership (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Mr Erik SHUM (Chairman)

Dr CHENG Man-yung

Professor Leung Yu-hung, Anskar

Professor LI Albert Martin

Dr LI Mun-pik, Teresa

Dr YEUNG Tai-kong, Deacons (from 15 May 2018 onwards)

4.7 Apart from the LC and its Sub-Committees which oversee the overall operation of the Licensing Examination, the administrative and operational work of the examination are also shouldered by The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the University of Hong Kong (HKU). CUHK and HKU assist in the planning, implementation and administration and final delivery of the Licensing Examination with the support of the Hospital Authority in providing examiners, patients, venues, facilities and logistics. They also provide chief examiners for all parts of the Licensing Examination and invite overseas examiners for the Clinical Examination to ensure the quality and standard of the examination. The overseas examiners appointed for the Clinical Examination of the Licensing Examination held in 2018 were as follows —

<u>Subject</u>	<u>First Sitting</u>	<u>Second Sitting</u>
Medicine	Professor Jacob GEORGE	Professor LIU Chun-Jen
Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Professor Sean DALY	Professor Mark JOHNSON
Paediatrics	Professor HUNG Chih Hsing	Professor Carsten G BÖNNEMANN
Surgery	Professor Jimmy Bok Yan SO	Professor Giovanni De MANZONI

4.8 Starting from 2014, the number of sittings of the Licensing Examination has been increased from 1 to 2 per annum. Details of the results of the Licensing Examination since 1996 are shown in **Table 7**.

4.9 To attract more non-locally trained doctors to serve in Hong Kong, the Council has relaxed the requirements on the period of assessment. Applicants who have passed the Licensing Examination and have a specialist qualification may apply to the Council for exemption from assessment of the relevant specialty. Under this arrangement, the period of assessment can be shortened from 1 year to half year.

5. *The Education and Accreditation Committee*

5.1 The Education and Accreditation Committee (EAC) is established by the Council to perform the following functions —

- (a) to determine, upon the recommendation of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM), the specialties under which names of registered medical practitioners may be included in the Specialist Register;
- (b) to recommend to the Council, on the recommendation of the HKAM, the qualification, experience and any other attributes that qualify a registered medical practitioner to have his or her name included in the Specialist Register under a particular specialty;
- (c) to recommend to the Council the procedures, documentations and fees payable for including the name of a registered medical practitioner in the Specialist Register;
- (d) to recommend and review the standard and structure of undergraduate medical education and medical training required for a person to become a registered medical practitioner;
- (e) to recommend to the Council whether the name of a registered medical practitioner should be included in or removed from the Specialist Register; and
- (f) to make recommendations to an inquiry panel on a referral under section 20Y(a) of the Medical Registration Ordinance (MRO).

5.2 The membership of the EAC (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Professor TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Professor CHAN Anthony Tak-cheung
Dr CHOW Yu-fat (from 3 October 2018 onwards)
Professor HUNG Chi-tim, JP (from 1 January 2018 onwards)
Professor HUNG Ivan Fan-ngai (from 12 February 2018 onwards)
Dr IP Wing-yuk
Dr LAU Chor-chiu, GMSM, MH, JP (from 7 February 2018 onwards)
Professor LEUNG Gilberto Ka-kit
Dr LI Kai-ming
Dr LUK Hung-to, Danny
Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey (from 7 February 2018 onwards)
Dr TONG Kai-sing (from 22 January 2018 onwards)
Professor WING Yun-kwok
Dr WONG Tin-chun, Gordon (from 12 February 2018 onwards)

- 5.3 The Specialist Register was established in 1998 to provide for specialist registration of registered medical practitioners qualified in various specialties. There were 59 specialties as at 31 December 2018. On the recommendation of the EAC, the Council approved 285 applications of registered medical practitioners for inclusion of their names in the Specialist Register in 2018.
- 5.4 The Council strives to encourage registered medical practitioners to undergo continuing medical education (CME) to keep themselves up-to-date on current developments in medical practice, so as to maintain a high professional standard and to protect the public. While it is a statutory requirement for specialists to undergo such CME relevant to their specialties as determined by the HKAM, the Council has implemented the voluntary “CME Programme for Practising Doctors who are not taking CME Programme for Specialists” (the Programme) since 1 October 2001. As at 31 December 2018, there were over 2 800 medical practitioners whose names were not included in the Specialist Register participating in the Programme.
- 5.5 Under the Programme, participating medical practitioners who have accumulated 30 or more CME points in a year within the 3-year CME cycle will be awarded a CME certificate to certify that they have achieved a satisfactory level of CME activity during that particular period. The CME certificate can be displayed inside the medical practitioner’s clinic. Since the implementation of the Programme and up to 31 December 2018, the Council had, on the recommendation of the EAC, issued 24 487 CME certificates to the participating medical practitioners.
- 5.6 Besides, participating medical practitioners who have acquired 90 or more CME points in a CME cycle will be given approval to use the title “CME-Certified” on their visiting cards during the immediately following CME cycle. As at 31 December 2018, there were 1 051 medical practitioners holding valid “CME-Certified” title.
- 5.7 There are different types of activities which can be recognized and approved as CME activities under the Programme. In 2018, the Council endorsed the recommendation of the EAC that participation in clinical attachment / teaching in family medicine or primary care provided to medical students as part of the undergraduate medical curriculum of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the University of Hong Kong (HKU) be accepted as a recognized CME activity. The Council will keep the Programme under constant review and will liaise closely with the CME Programme Providers for providing more CME activities and for facilitating participation in the activities.

- 5.8 The EAC is also responsible for scrutinizing applications for quotability of qualifications and recommending to the Council whether a particular qualification may be quoted on signboards, letterheads and visiting cards, etc. In 2018, the Council considered the recommendations of the EAC on a total of 16 qualifications. Of these 16 qualifications, 6 were regarded as having fulfilled the prevailing guidelines and were included in the “List of Quotable Qualifications” with the endorsement of the Council.
- 5.9 The “Rules on Quotable Appointments” (QA Rules) and the “Guidelines on Quotability of Appointments by Private Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Maternity Homes and Medical Clinics” were implemented by the Council with effect from 1 December 2014. Under the QA Rules, appointments made by the Hospital Authority (HA), CUHK, HKU and Department of Health are quotable by registered medical practitioners in their medical practice. As for a private hospital, nursing home, maternity home or medical clinic, it has to satisfy the Council that it has an established and objective system of offering appointments which is acceptable to the Council before its appointments are quotable. The names of the 14 institutions with their appointment systems accepted by the Council and their approved quotable appointments have been included in the “List of Quotable Appointments by Private Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Maternity Homes and Medical Clinics accepted under the Rules on Quotable Appointments” published on the Council’s website.
- 5.10 By virtue of sections 8 and 9 of the MRO, medical graduates of CUHK and HKU on completion of internship training are qualified to register as medical practitioners without taking the Licensing Examination. As set out in paragraph 5.1(d) above, it is a statutory function of the EAC “*to recommend and review the standard and structure of undergraduate medical education and medical training required for a person to become a registered medical practitioner*”. Since 1997, the Council has been conducting the 5-yearly “Accreditation Exercise of the Medical Education and Training of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Hong Kong”. Starting from 2016, the Council has implemented a new mechanism for the 2 universities to apply for accreditation of any new medical programme or significant change to the existing programme anytime in-between the 5-yearly regular accreditation exercises.

- 5.11 On the recommendation of the EAC, the Council appointed an Accreditation Team comprising the following members for a term of 5 years to carry out the 5th regular accreditation exercise in 2018, as well as any subsequent ad-hoc accreditation exercise —

Chairperson:	Dr LUK Hung-to, Danny
External Assessors (Overseas Experts):	Professor Sir Terence STEPHENSON
	Professor David ELLWOOD
Representative of HA:	Dr WONG Ming-yan, Sharon
Representative of HKAM:	Dr CHOW Yu-fat
Lay member of the Council:	Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP
Registered medical practitioner from the private sector:	Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel
Secretary:	Ms Kaye BRODIE

The Accreditation Team conducted the visits to the 2 universities in late October / early November 2018. It would submit a report on its findings and recommendations on the medical education and training of the 2 universities for consideration by the EAC and the Council in early 2019.

6. The Ethics Committee and the Code of Professional Conduct

- 6.1 The Ethics Committee (EC) is established by the Council and its functions include —
- (a) to study and review any case relating to medical ethics or professional conduct, either on its own motion or at the request in writing of not less than 20 registered medical practitioners;
 - (b) to advise and make recommendations to the Council on matters about medical ethics and professional conduct generally; and
 - (c) to make recommendations to an inquiry panel on a referral under section 20Y(a) of the Medical Registration Ordinance.
- 6.2 The membership of the EC (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —
- Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu (Chairman)
 - Dr AU Kit-sing, Derrick (from 12 February 2018 onwards)
 - Dr CHAN Hau-ngai, Kingsley (from 12 February 2018 onwards)
 - Dr Hon Pierre CHAN
 - Dr HO Pak-leung, JP
 - Mr KWONG Cho-sing, Antonio, MH (from 1 March 2018 onwards)
 - Dr LAI Cham-fai
 - Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David (from 4 July 2018 onwards)
 - Professor TAO LAI Po-wah, Julia
 - Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica (from 7 February 2018 onwards)
 - Dr WONG Grace Josephine Wing-san (from 12 February 2018 onwards)
 - Professor WONG Yung-hou, MH (from 3 October 2018 onwards)
- 6.3 On the recommendation of the EC, the Council decided to update the Declaration of Geneva as set out in Part I(D) of the Code of Professional Conduct (the Code) with the latest version promulgated by the World Medical Association General Assembly in October 2017. The update was promulgated to the profession in the 25th issue of the Council's newsletter in December 2018.
- 6.4 Appendix F of the Code has set out the specified form of dangerous drugs register at the First Schedule to the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, with additional notes provided by the Council for the guidance of doctors. Regarding Note 7 *"Each entry shall be made in ink or other indelible form. Therefore, a register stored electronically in a computer will not fulfil the requirement."*, the EC considered that the Dangerous Drugs Regulations did not exclude the use of an electronic dangerous drugs register provided that all statutory requirements could be met. Taking into account the view of the EC, the Council decided to revise Note 7 to bring it more in line with the statutory provision as follows —

“Every entry and every correction of such an entry shall be made in ink or otherwise so as to be indelible. Therefore, a register stored electronically in a computer may not fulfil the requirement.”

The revised Note 7 was promulgated to the profession in the 25th issue of the Council’s newsletter in December 2018, with an emphasis that it was the personal duty of a doctor to ensure compliance with the legal requirements of the Dangerous Drugs Regulations when using a computerized register of dangerous drugs.

- 6.5 The Council, on the recommendation of the EC, renewed its approval for the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians to continue to publish the doctors directory of its members.
- 6.6 The EC was reviewing other sections of the Code with a view to providing clearer guidelines to medical practitioners, and would make recommendations to the Council for consideration in due course.

7. The Health Committee

7.1 The Health Committee (HC) is established by the Council to deal with the health aspect of medical practitioners whose fitness to practise medicine is called into question. It acts in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Medical Practitioners (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulation.


7.2 The functions of the HC are as follows —

- (a) to conduct a hearing into any case or matter concerning the health or physical or mental fitness to practise of any registered medical practitioner, whether or not the case or matter has been investigated by a Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) or inquired into by an inquiry panel;
- (b) to conduct a hearing into cases referred to it by an inquiry panel under section 20Y(a) or 21(1)(ivb) of the Medical Registration Ordinance;
- (c) to make a recommendation to the Council, after due hearing conducted under paragraph (a) or (b) above, that the name of a registered medical practitioner be removed from the General Register permanently or for any period not exceeding 12 months, and that such an order for removal be suspended subject to such conditions as recommended by the HC, where appropriate; and
- (d) to recommend the extension, not exceeding 12 months, of a period of temporary removal of name recommended under paragraph (c) above.

7.3 The membership of the HC (as at 31 December 2018) was as follows —

Dr CHOW Pak-chin, BBS, JP (Chairman)
Dr CHAN Siu-kim (from 30 December 2018 onwards)
Dr CHENG Lai-ling (from 3 October 2018 onwards)
Dr CHOW Chun-kwan, John
Dr FAN Yuen-man, Cecilia, JP
Dr HO Chung-ping, MH, JP (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan
Dr HUNG Bing-kei, Gabriel
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (from 7 February 2018 onwards)
Dr LO Chi-yuen, Albert (from 24 January 2018 onwards)
Dr LO See-kit, Raymond (from 2 February 2018 onwards)
Dr WONG Ho-shan, Steven (from 12 February 2018 onwards)

7.4 In May 2018, the HC held a hearing to consider a case relating to fitness to practise which was referred by the deemed PIC in January 2018. The registered medical practitioner concerned was subsequently found mentally fit to practise.

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- 7.5 In September 2018, the HC held another hearing to consider a case relating to fitness to practise which was referred by the Chairman of the Council in the same year. The registered medical practitioner concerned was subsequently found mentally fit to practise.
- 7.6 In December 2018, the HC held 2 hearings to consider 2 cases relating to fitness to practise which were referred by the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the deemed PIC respectively. The 2 registered medical practitioners concerned were both subsequently found mentally unfit to practise. One of them was removed from the General Register permanently while the other was removed from the General Register for 12 months with suspension.

8. Registration of Medical Practitioners

- 8.1 As at 31 December 2018, there were 14 651 medical practitioners with full registration. This figure included those resident in Hong Kong and those on the non-resident list. **Table 8** shows that there had been an increase in the number of registered medical practitioners from 13 417 in 2014 to 14 651 in 2018 (9.2%). In addition to the medical practitioners with full registration, there were 124 medical practitioners with limited registration among whom 31 were permitted to work in the exempted clinics.
- 8.2 Keeping the entries in the General Register and the Specialist Register up-to-date has been a major task for the Council Secretariat. Hundreds of transactions are carried out weekly, including changes of registered address or personal particulars, removal from and restoration to the Registers, transfer to and from the resident and the non-resident lists respectively, issue of Certificates of Good Standing and Certificates Verifying Registration, etc.
- 8.3 **Table 9** lists in detail the registration figures in respect of various parts of the General Register, including “full”, “provisional”, “limited” and “temporary” registration as well as cases of restoration to the Register from 2009 to 2018.
- 8.4 A medical practitioner whose name has been removed from the General Register, whether as a consequence of disciplinary proceedings or otherwise, may apply to the Council for restoration of his or her name to the Register. The Council may hold an inquiry to decide whether to grant or refuse the application. **Table 9** shows that in 2018, 13 such applications were approved.
- 8.5 Every year, the Council Secretariat has to conduct a large-scale exercise of renewal of practising and retention certificates for all registered medical practitioners. With the increase in the number of registered medical practitioners, the number of annual practising and retention certificates issued had also risen from 13 015 in 2014 to 14 075 in 2018, representing an increase of 8.1%.
- 8.6 As at 31 December 2018, there were 7 230 medical practitioners registered on the Specialist Register under 59 specialties. The number of medical practitioners registered under each specialty is set out in **Table 10**.

9. *Communication with Medical Practitioners and the Public*

9.1 In order to disseminate information to all medical practitioners and to solicit their views, the Council would publish a newsletter on a regular basis. The editorial board comprises —

Professor LAU Wan-ye, Joseph, SBS (Chairman)
Dr CHENG Chi-man
Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming
Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong, JP
Dr CHOW Pak-chin, BBS, JP
Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu
Professor TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP
Secretary of the Council

The 25th issue of the newsletter was published in December 2018.

9.2 The Council has launched its website (www.mchk.org.hk) on the Internet. The following information on the website is accessible to members of the public —

- (a) Medical Registration Ordinance;
- (b) Membership and functions of the Council and its committees;
- (c) Registration requirements and application forms for registration;
- (d) List of registered medical practitioners on the General Register and the Specialist Register;
- (e) List of doctors directories approved by the Council;
- (f) Licensing Examination;
- (g) Code of Professional Conduct;
- (h) Complaints and disciplinary inquiries;
- (i) CME Programme for Practising Doctors who are not taking CME Programme for Specialists;
- (j) Guidelines and information for medical practitioners;
- (k) Quotable qualifications;
- (l) Quotable appointments;
- (m) Publications and press releases; and
- (n) Useful links.

10. Future Developments

- 10.1 With the growing complexity of complaints against registered medical practitioners, members of the public expect greater accountability and transparency in dealing with the complaints from the Council. Within the medical profession, there are also discussions on ethical issues and expression of concerns over the standard and quality of medical practice which requires the Council's attention. The Council will continue to improve its services to meet the changing needs from both the members of the public and the profession. It is expected that with the implementation of the various new arrangements by the Council upon the enactment of the Medical Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2018, the efficiency of the complaint investigation and disciplinary inquiry mechanism will be improved. The Council will keep such arrangements under constant review for continuous enhancement.
- 10.2 Since end 2018, the Council on the invitation of the Government has started discussing the recommendations in the Report of the Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development promulgated by the Food and Health Bureau. The Council will continue to deliberate the matters and work out the plans to take forward the recommendations as appropriate.

TABLE 1

Complaints received by the Medical Council

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of Complaints Received	624*	493	628*	496	639*
(A) Allegations by category					
1. Conviction in Court	58	31	53	57	55
(a) Failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	(4)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(2)
(b) Others	(54)	(28)	(50)	(55)	(53)
2. Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	285	289	330	321	446 [#]
3. Issuing misleading / false medical certificates	28	24	24	36	29
4. Practice promotion	6	10	7	13	33
5. Misleading, unapproved description and announcement	12	9	150	9	6
6. Improper / indecent behaviour to patients	6	5	8	7	17
7. Abuse of professional position to further improper association with patients	2	2	2	-	-
8. Fitness to practise	2	-	3	-	-
9. Abuse of professional confidence	-	-	-	2	2
10. Depreciation of other medical practitioners	1	1	2	-	1
11. Sharing fee and improper financial transaction	-	-	-	2	3
12. Medical records	-	-	-	11	6
13. Handling of patient's personal data	-	-	-	3	1
14. Other minor issues unrelated to professional responsibility	224	122	49	35	40

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
(B) Progress of complaints as at 31 December 2018					
1. Dismissed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the relevant Preliminary Investigation Committee (“PIC”) in consultation with a lay member as being frivolous or groundless	439	323	197	109	5
2. Could not be pursued further because the complainants failed to provide further information or statutory declaration or the complaints were anonymous or withdrawn, etc.	24	30	38	18	2
3. Under consideration by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the relevant PIC in consultation with a lay member	1	2	21	124	395
4. Held in abeyance	-	1	2	-	-
5. Being considered at the PIC meetings	6	18	72	173	220
6. Dismissed by the relevant PIC	64	81	235	33	10
7. Referred to the Medical Council for no disciplinary inquiry	40	19	41	29	6
8. Referred to the Medical Council for no pre-registration inquiry	-	-	1	2	1
9. Referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel for disciplinary inquiry	42	17	20	4	-
10. Referred to the Medical Council for restoration inquiry	6	1	-	1	-
11. Referred to the Medical Council for pre-registration inquiry	-	1	1	2	-
12. Referred to the Health Committee for hearing	2	-	-	1	-

Remarks:

- * The net number of complaints received in 2014 and 2016 were 434 and 493 respectively as there were 191 and 136 complaints on the same incident against the same registered medical practitioner received in 2014 and 2016 respectively. The net number of complaints received in 2018 was 506 as there were 74 complaints on the same incident against a registered medical practitioner and 61 complaints on another incident against 3 registered medical practitioners received in 2018 respectively.
- # The breakdown of cases on “Disregard of professional responsibility to patients” in 2018 is as follows –
- Inappropriate prescription of drugs – 195 cases
 - Conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery – 118 cases
 - Failure / unsatisfactory result of treatment / surgery, failure to properly / timely diagnose illness and disagreement with doctor’s medical opinion – 56 cases
 - Fees and others – 28 cases
 - Doctor’s unprofessional attitude / Doctor-patient communication – 23 cases
 - Failure to give proper medical advice / explanation – 20 cases
 - Treatment (others) – 6 cases

TABLE 2

Breakdown on the complaints received in 2018 which were dismissed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the deemed PIC of the Medical Council as being frivolous or groundless

Nature of Complaints	No. of Cases
1. Fees dispute	3
2. Undesirable reactions to drugs prescribed	1
3. Other issues unrelated to professional misconduct	1
Total:	5

Remarks:

No complaint was dismissed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the new PIC of the Medical Council as being frivolous or groundless in 2018.

TABLE 3

Work of the PICs of the Medical Council

Nature	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1. Total number of cases referred to the PIC meetings	95	129	154	368	242*
2. Total number of cases referred to the Medical Council for no disciplinary inquiry / pre-registration inquiry after the PIC meetings	20	35	38	53	41 [#]
3. Total number of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel for disciplinary inquiry / restoration inquiry after the PIC meetings	48	57	57	38	39 [#]
4. Total number of cases referred to the Health Committee for hearing after the PIC meetings	-	1	-	1	1

Remarks:

* This figure included those cases received before 2018. They were considered by the PICs in 2018 under the following categories –

	No. of Cases
(a) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	153
• <i>conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery</i>	57
• <i>inappropriate prescription of drugs</i>	32
• <i>failure / unsatisfactory results of treatment / surgery</i>	28
• <i>failure to properly / timely diagnose illness</i>	25
• <i>failure to give proper medical advice / explanation</i>	5
• <i>fees and others</i>	5
• <i>doctor's unprofessional attitude / doctor-patient communication</i>	1
(b) <i>Conviction in court</i>	46
(c) <i>Misleading, unapproved description and announcement</i>	10
(d) <i>Issuing misleading / false medical certificates</i>	7
(e) <i>Practice promotion</i>	7
(f) <i>Improper / indecent behaviour to patients</i>	4
(g) <i>Fee dispute</i>	3
(h) <i>Medical records</i>	1
(i) <i>Fitness to practise</i>	1
(j) <i>Handling of patient's personal data</i>	1
(k) <i>Abuse of profession confidence</i>	1
(l) <i>Miscellaneous</i>	8
Total:	242

No case was referred by the new PIC to the Medical Council / inquiry panel in 2018. The cases referred by the deemed PIC to the Medical Council / inquiry panel in 2018 are classified as follows –

	No. of Cases
(A) Recommended for no disciplinary inquiry	
Conviction in court	38
• <i>careless driving</i>	31
• <i>dangerous driving</i>	3
• <i>riding or driving on a footpath</i>	1
• <i>camping / erecting tent or temporary shelter within a country park without permit or otherwise in designated camping site</i>	1
• <i>failing to comply with a prescribed traffic sign within the Tsing Ma Control Area</i>	1
• <i>failing to comply with the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance</i>	1
(B) Recommended for no pre-registration inquiry	
(a) Conviction in court	2
• <i>careless driving</i>	1
• <i>driving under influence with blood alcohol content of 0.08% or higher, contrary to section 23152(b) of the California Vehicle Code of the United States</i>	1
(b) Found guilty by an overseas medical school	1
(C) Recommended for disciplinary inquiry	
(a) Conviction in court	7
• <i>dangerous drugs related conviction</i>	3
• <i>driving a motor vehicle with alcohol concentration in breath exceeding the prescribed limit</i>	1
• <i>indecent assault</i>	1
• <i>fraud</i>	1
• <i>committing an act outraging public decency</i>	1
(b) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	21
• <i>inappropriate prescription of drugs</i>	10
• <i>failure / unsatisfactory results of treatment / surgery</i>	5
• <i>failure to properly / timely diagnose illness</i>	3
• <i>conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery</i>	2
• <i>failure to give proper medical advice / explanation</i>	1
(c) Practice promotion / Misleading, unapproved description and announcement	2
(d) Misleading description and announcement	3
(e) Abuse of professional confidence	1
(f) Improper association with patients	1
(g) Fee dispute	1
(h) Other issues unrelated to professional misconduct	2
(D) Recommended for restoration inquiry	
Other issues unrelated to professional misconduct	1
Total:	80

TABLE 4a

Work statistics of the deemed PIC of the Medical Council in 2018

	Quarter				Total
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
No. of PIC Meetings	3	3	3	3	12
No. of cases considered	65	63	55	51	234
No. of cases dismissed (%)	44 (67.7%)	36 (57.1%)	34 (61.8%)	39 (76.5%)	153 (65.4%)
No. of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel (%)	20 (30.8%)	27 (42.9%)	21 (38.2%)	12 (23.5%)	80* (34.2%)
No. of cases referred to the Health Committee (%)	1 (1.5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.4%)

* Of them, 41 cases were of minor offences and the Medical Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no disciplinary inquiry / no pre-registration inquiry was to be held (Please see details in Table 3).

TABLE 4b

Work statistics of the new PIC of the Medical Council in 2018

	Quarter				Total
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
No. of PIC Meetings	-	-	-	1	1
No. of cases considered	-	-	-	8	8
No. of cases dismissed (%)	-	-	-	8 (100%)	8 (100%)
No. of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel (%)	-	-	-	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
No. of cases referred to the Health Committee (%)	-	-	-	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

TABLE 5

Disciplinary inquiries conducted in 2018

Nature	No. of cases involved	Decision
(A) Conviction in court		
(a) Failure to keep a register of dangerous drugs in the specified form	(2)	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 6 months)
(b) Fraud	(1)	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 12 months)
(c) Offence of committing an act of outraging public decency	(1)	Removed for 4 months (suspended for 12 months)
(d) Indecent assault	(1)	Removed for 6 months
Sub-total	5	
(B) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	(1)	Warning letter (not gazetted)
	(1)	Warning letter (gazetted)
	(2)	Reprimanded
	(3)	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 12 months)
	(1)	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 18 months)
	(1)	Removed for 2 months (suspended for 12 months)
	(1)	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 12 months)
	(2)	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 24 months)
	(2)	Removed for 6 months
	(1)	Not guilty
	(2)	To be continued
Sub-total	17	
(C) Practice promotion / Quotable qualification	(1)	Warning letter (gazetted)
	(1)	Reprimanded
Sub-total	2	

Total: 24

[Summary: 21 cases : guilty
1 case : not guilty
2 cases : to be continued]

No of inquiry days: 35 days

All cases were referred for inquiry by the PIC meetings held in/before 2018.]

TABLE 6

Figures on appeal cases

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of appeals lodged during the year	2	1	0	2	2
No. of appeal cases carried forward from previous years	5	4	0	0	2
Total no. of appeal cases in progress in the year:	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

Results of appeal cases concluded in 2018:

	No. of cases
(a) Dismissed by Court of Appeal	1
(b) Allowed by Court of Appeal	0
(c) Appeal withdrawn	1
Total:	<u>2</u>

TABLE 7

Results of the Licensing Examination

Year	Examination in Professional Knowledge			Proficiency Test in Medical English (March)			Proficiency Test in Medical English (September)			Clinical Examination			Completed Internship	
	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%		
1996	154	11	7	-	-	-	140	88	63	40	12	30		
1997	178	13	7	15	12	80	90	48	53	27	9	33	11	
1998	165	43	26	7	7	100	51	43	84	49	17	35	6	
1999	165	20	12	5	4	80	57	39	68	49	9	18	16	
2000	132	13	10	1	0	0	48	28	58	42	10	24	10	
2001	124	13	10	*	-	-	50	37	74	35	9	26	10	
2002	104	11	11	*	-	-	31	13	42	33	13	39	7	
2003	76	11	14	*	-	-	30	26	87	27	7	26	9	
2004	77	7	9	*	-	-	20	13	65	21	9	43	7	
2005	81	11	14	*	-	-	29	22	76	22	5	23	10	
2006	105	21	20	*	-	-	36	29	81	26	9	35	5	
2007	117	22	19	*	-	-	34	33	97	37	18	49	8	
2008	138	12	9	*	-	-	38	25	66	23	8	35	9	
2009	158	41	26	*	-	-	39	22	56	48	15	31	12	
2010	168	43	26	*	-	-	65	64	98	72	21	29	11	
2011	221	51	23	*	-	-	54	50	93	76	21	28	15	
2012	237	61	26	*	-	-	74	67	91	108	47	44	23	
2013	280	102	36	*	-	-	115	103	90	143	46	32	27	
2014	(1 st Sitting)	107	25	23	28	22	79	-	-	-	85	46	54	48
	(2 nd Sitting)	200	35	18	-	-	-	77	58	75	70	28	40	
2015	(1 st Sitting)	121	18	15	42	30	71	-	-	-	62	24	39	79
	(2 nd Sitting)	176	41	23	-	-	-	56	50	89	66	16	24	
2016	(1 st Sitting)	163	22	13	60	57	95	-	-	-	68	14	21	45
	(2 nd Sitting)	132	14	11	-	-	-	37	33	89	64	27	42	
2017	(1 st Sitting)	109	31	28	45	40	89	-	-	-	63	27	43	37
	(2 nd Sitting)	116	29	25	-	-	-	44	44	100	63	26	41	
2018	(1 st Sitting)	122	24	20	52	48	92	-	-	-	54	25	46	52
	(2 nd Sitting)	117	40	34	-	-	-	56	46	82	56	26	46	

* suspended from 2001 to 2013

TABLE 8

Total number of registered medical practitioners in the General Register of Hong Kong

Part I of the Register (Full registration) (as at 31 December)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
On the Resident List	12 650	12 981	13 298	13 602	13 986
On the Non-resident List	767	745	715	688	665
Total:	13 417	13 726	14 013	14 290	14 651

Part III of the Register (Limited registration) (as at 31 December)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Promulgation No. 2	97	104	93	110	92
<i>University of Hong Kong</i>	(33)	(30)	(27)	(48)	(30)
<i>The Chinese University of Hong Kong</i>	(51)	(62)	(52)	(48)	(50)
<i>Hospital Authority</i>	(13)	(12)	(14)	(14)	(12)
<i>Department of Health</i>	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Promulgation No. 3	34	31	27	22	22
Promulgation No. 4	15	13	12	10	9
Promulgation No. 9	-	2	2	2	0
Promulgation No. 10	-	0	0	0	1
Promulgation No. 12	-	0	0	0	0
Total:	146	150	134	144	124

Remarks:

- (i) The types of employment as described in Promulgations No. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11 no longer exist.
- (ii) Promulgation No. 9, 10 and 12 came into force in 2015.

TABLE 9

Breakdown of registrations and restoration to the General Register

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Registration in Part I of the Register (Full registration)	293	280	281	260	274	299	397	379	378	472
Registration in Part II of the Register (Provisional registration for interns)	280	272	261	275	299	399	383	380	471	477
Registration in Part III of the Register (Limited registration)	170	174	195	220	192	184	198	168	197	174
Registration in Part IV of the Register (Temporary registration)	94	101	135	98	102	110	109	86	108	96
Restoration to the Register	31	23	26	21	22	34	17	16	9	13
Total:	868	850	898	874	889	1 026	1 104	1 029	1 163	1 232

TABLE 10

Number of registered medical practitioners in the Specialist Register

(Position as at 31 December 2018)

	No.
1. Anaesthesiology	478
2. Intensive Care	29
3. Community Medicine	23
4. Emergency Medicine	353
5. Family Medicine	445
6. Obstetrics & Gynaecology	456
7. Ophthalmology	290
8. Orthopaedics & Traumatology	454
9. Otorhinolaryngology	173
10. Paediatrics	565
11. Pathology	166
12. Internal Medicine	99
13. Cardiology	256
14. Critical Care Medicine	62
15. Dermatology & Venereology	107
16. Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism	117
17. Gastroenterology & Hepatology	199
18. Geriatric Medicine	166
19. Haematology & Haematological Oncology	55
20. Nephrology	135
21. Neurology	127
22. Respiratory Medicine	180
23. Rheumatology	80
24. Psychiatry	392
25. Radiology	377
26. Clinical Oncology	143
27. Nuclear Medicine	20
28. General Surgery	553
29. Urology	131
30. Neurosurgery	76
31. Cardio-thoracic Surgery	46

32.	Plastic Surgery	64
33.	Paediatric Surgery	37
34.	Immunology & Allergy	4
35.	Infectious Disease	32
36.	Medical Oncology	39
37.	Administrative Medicine	10
38.	Public Health Medicine	87
39.	Occupational and Environmental Medicine	13
40.	Anatomical Pathology	10
41.	Chemical Pathology	13
42.	Forensic Pathology	8
43.	Haematology	11
44.	Immunology	3
45.	Clinical Microbiology & Infection	39
46.	Palliative Medicine	22
47.	Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics	0
48.	Rehabilitation	25
49.	Gynaecological Oncology	3
50.	Urogynaecology	3
51.	Reproductive Medicine	11
52.	Maternal & Fetal Medicine	0
53.	Pain Medicine	2
54.	Paediatric Immunology & Infectious Diseases	8
55.	Developmental-Behavioural Paediatrics	15
56.	Paediatric Neurology	6
57.	Clinical Toxicology	3
58.	Paediatric Respiratory Medicine	7
59.	Genetics and Genomics (Paediatrics)	2
Total:		7 230

Attendance

Policy Meetings of the Council

Twelve policy meetings were held by the Council in 2018.

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Prof. LAU Wan-ye, Joseph, SBS (Chairman)	12	12
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN	12	12
Dr CHENG Chi-man	12	9
Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming	12	10
Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong, JP	12	9
Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel	12	11
Dr CHOW Pak-chin, BBS, JP	12	11
Director of Health	12	12
Prof. FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP	12	9
Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan	12	4
Dr HO Pak-leung, JP	12	9
Dr IP Wing-yuk	12	7
Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David	12	10
Dr LAU Chor-chiu, GMSM, MH, JP	12	10
Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu	12	11
Prof. Felice LIEH-MAK, GBS, CBE, JP	12	8
Dr LO Chi-yuen, Albert	12	10
Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP	12	11

Members whose tenure started in 2018

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	11
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	11
Mr KWONG Cho-shing, Antonio, MH (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	8
Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	11
Dr SHEA Tat-ming, Paul (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	10
Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	11
Prof. WONG Yung-hou, MH (<i>membership from 1 June 2018 onwards</i>)	7	6
Dr CHOW Yu-fat (<i>membership from 1 August 2018 onwards</i>)	5	4
Dr CHEUNG Chin-pang (<i>membership from 14 September 2018 onwards</i>)	3	3

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny (<i>membership from 14 September 2018 onwards</i>)	3	3
Mrs BIRCH LEE Suk-yee, Sandra, GBS, JP (<i>membership from 10 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-
Mr CHAN Wing-kai (<i>membership from 21 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-
Mr LAM Chi-yau (<i>membership from 21 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-
Mr MUI Cheuk-nang, Kenny (<i>membership from 21 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-
<u>Members whose tenure ended in 2018</u>		
Miss CHAU Man-ki, Mabel, MH (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1
Ms CHOY Hok-man, Constance (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	-
Dr HO Chung-ping, MH, JP (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	-
Ms LAU Wai-yee, Monita (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1
Dr TSE Hung-hing, JP (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1
Dr WONG Yee-him, John (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	-
Deputy Director of Health (<i>membership ended on 5 April 2018</i>)	3	3
Dr LI Tak-lai, Theresa (<i>membership ended on 5 April 2018</i>)	3	3
Dr HUNG Se-fong, BBS (<i>membership ended on 30 June 2018</i>)	6	6
Mr YU Kwok-kuen, Harry (<i>membership ended on 31 August 2018</i>)	8	7

Meetings of the deemed Preliminary Investigation Committee

Twelve meetings were held by the Committee in 2018.

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong, JP (Chairman)	12	10
Prof. FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)	12	8
Dr CHONG Yee-hung	12	6
Dr FOO Kam-so, Stephen	12	12
Dr LEE Siu-yin, Ruby, JP	12	11
<u>Members whose tenure started in 2018</u>		
Dr SO Yui-chi (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	11	10
Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>) [#]	4	4
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>) [#]	4	4
Mr KWONG Cho-shing, Antonio, MH (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>) [#]	3	3
<u>Members whose tenure ended in 2018</u>		
Miss CHAU Man-ki, Mabel, MH (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>) [#]	-	-
Ms CHOY Hok-man, Constance (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>) [#]	-	-
Ms LAU Wai-yee, Monita (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>) [#]	-	-
Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	-
Mr YU Kwok-kuen, Harry (<i>membership ended on 31 August 2018</i>) [#]	3	3

Remarks:

Serving on rotation basis, each for a period of 3 months

Meetings of the new Preliminary Investigation Committee

One meeting was held by the Committee in 2018.

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Dr CHENG Chi-man (Chairman)	1	1
Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas (Deputy Chairman)	1	1
Dr CHIU Shing-ping, James	1	1
Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny	1	1
Ms NG Ka-man, Rendy	1	1
Mr WONG Hin-wing	1	1
Prof. WONG Yung-hou, MH	1	1

Meetings of the Licentiate Committee

Three meetings were held by the Committee in 2018.

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming (Chairman)	3	3
Dr CHAN Kit-sheung	3	2
Dr LAM Man-kin, Ronald, JP	3	3
Prof. LAU Yu-lung	3	2
Prof. LEUNG Wai-keung	3	2
Prof. NG Kwok-wai, Enders	3	3
Prof. SZETO Cheuk-chun	3	2
<u>Members whose tenure started in 2018</u>		
Dr KO Pat-sing, Tony (<i>membership from 8 January 2018 onwards</i>)	3	-
Dr KONG Wing-ming (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	3	2
Dr LAM Wing-wo (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	3	3
<u>Members whose tenure ended in 2018</u>		
Dr CHEUNG Wai-lun, JP (<i>membership ended on 1 January 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr AU Kit-sing, Derrick (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr CHAN Ming-wai, Angus (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	-	-

Meetings of the Education and Accreditation Committee

Ten meetings were held by the Committee in 2018.

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP (Chairman)	10	10
Prof. CHAN Anthony Tak-cheung	10	3
Dr IP Wing-yuk	10	8
Prof. LEUNG Gilberto Ka-kit	10	8
Dr LI Kai-ming	10	7
Dr LUK Hung-to, Danny	10	9
Prof. WING Yun-kwok	10	7

Members whose tenure started in 2018

Prof. HUNG Chi-tim, JP (<i>membership from 1 January 2018 onwards</i>)	10	10
Dr TONG Kai-sing (<i>membership from 22 January 2018 onwards</i>)	9	6
Dr LAU Chor-chiu, GMSM, MH, JP (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>)	9	6
Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>)	9	2
Prof. HUNG Ivan Fan-ngai (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	9	3
Dr WONG Tin-chun, Gordon (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	9	6
Dr CHOW Yu-fat (<i>membership from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	2	2

Members whose tenure ended in 2018

Dr Cissy YU, MH (<i>membership ended on 21 January 2018</i>)	1	-
Dr HO Chung-ping, MH, JP (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	-
Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David (<i>membership ended on 3 February 2018</i>)	1	-
Prof. CHEUNG Yiu-fai (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	1	1
Prof. LAW Ying-kit, Simon (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	1	-
Dr LI Tak-lai, Theresa (<i>membership ended on 5 April 2018</i>)	3	3

Meetings of the Ethics Committee

Six meetings were held by the Committee in 2018.

Member	No. of meeting during the tenure	No. of attendance
Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu (Chairman)	6	6
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN	6	6
Dr HO Pak-leung, JP	6	4
Dr LAI Cham-fai	6	3
Prof. TAO LAI Po-wah, Julia	6	6
<u>Members whose tenure started in 2018</u>		
Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>)	5	5
Dr AU Kit-sing, Derrick (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	5	5
Dr CHAN Hau-ngai, Kingsley (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	5	3
Dr WONG Wing-san, Grace Josephine (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	5	3
Mr KWONG Cho-sing, Antonio, MH (<i>membership from 1 March 2018 onwards</i>)	5	3
Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David (<i>membership from 4 July 2018 onwards</i>)	3	2
Prof. WONG Yung-hou, MH (<i>membership from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	1	-
<u>Members whose tenure ended in 2018</u>		
Dr TSE Hung-hing, JP (<i>chairmanship ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1
Dr David FANG, SBS, JP (<i>membership ended on 3 February 2018</i>)	1	1
Dr CHAN Chok-wan, BBS (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	1	1
Prof. LEUNG Ping-chung, SBS, OBE, JP (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	1	-
Ms CHOY Hok-man, Constance (<i>membership ended on 28 February 2018</i>)	1	-
Mrs LING LEE Ching-man, Eleanor, SBS, OBE, JP (<i>membership ended on 24 March 2018</i>)	2	1
Dr HUNG Se-fong, BBS (<i>membership ended on 30 June 2018</i>)	3	3
Mr YU Kwok-kuen, Harry (<i>membership from 25 March 2018 to 4 September 2018</i>)	2	2

Hearings of the Health Committee

Four hearings were held by the Committee in 2018.

Member	No. of hearing during the tenure	No. of attendance
Dr CHOW Pak-chin, BBS, JP (Chairman)	4	4
Dr CHOW Chun-kwan, John	4	3
Dr FAN Yuen-man, Cecilia, JP	4	4
Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan	4	-
Dr HUNG Bing-kei, Gabriel	4	4
<u>Members whose tenure started in 2018</u>		
Dr HO Chung-ping, MH, JP (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	4	2
Dr LO Chi-yuen, Albert (<i>membership from 24 January 2018 onwards</i>)	4	2
Dr LO See-kit, Raymond (<i>membership from 2 February 2018 onwards</i>)	4	4
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (<i>membership from 7 February 2018 onwards</i>)	4	4
Dr WONG Ho-shan, Steven (<i>membership from 12 February 2018 onwards</i>)	4	3
Dr CHENG Lai-ling (<i>membership from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	2	-
Dr CHAN Siu-kim (<i>membership from 30 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-
<u>Members whose tenure ended in 2018</u>		
Miss CHAU Man-ki, Mabel, MH (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr TSOI Lai-to, Sammy (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr WONG Yee-him, John (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas (<i>membership ended on 1 February 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr CHAN Hin-biu, Bill (<i>membership ended on 11 February 2018</i>)	-	-
Dr YEUNG Hip-wo, Victor (<i>membership ended on 29 December 2018</i>)	4	4

Disciplinary Inquiries

A total of 24 disciplinary inquiries involving 35 hearing days were conducted in 2018.

(A) Attendance of Council Members

Member	No. of inquiry	No. of hearing day	Remarks
Prof. LAU Wan-ye, Joseph, SBS (Chairman)	15	18	(1a)
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN	4	7	
Dr CHENG Chi-man	5	6	(1e)
Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming	1	2	
Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong, JP	1	7	(1c)
Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel	-	-	(1b)
Dr CHOW Pak-chin, BBS, JP	-	-	(2)
Director of Health	-	-	(3)
Prof. FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP	-	-	(1d)
Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan	-	-	
Dr HO Pak-leung, JP	3	5	
Dr IP Wing-yuk	-	-	
Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David	2	2	
Dr LAU Chor-chiu, GMSM, MH, JP	3	3	
Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu	3	3	
Prof. Felice LIEH-MAK, GBS, CBE, JP	9	17	(1a)
Dr LO Chi-yuen, Albert	2	8	
Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP	-	-	(4)
<u>Members whose tenure started in 2018</u>			
Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (membership from 24 January 2018 onwards)	7	13	(1g)
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (membership from 24 January 2018 onwards)	7	7	(1g)
Mr KWONG Cho-shing, Antonio, MH (membership from 24 January 2018 onwards)	3	5	(1g)
Dr PONG Chiu-fai, Jeffrey (membership from 24 January 2018 onwards)	1	1	
Dr SHEA Tat-ming, Paul (membership from 24 January 2018 onwards)	2	2	
Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica (membership from 24 January 2018 onwards)	1	1	
Prof. WONG Yung-hou, MH (membership from 1 June 2018 onwards)	-	-	(1g)

Member	No. of inquiry	No. of hearing day	Remarks
Dr CHOW Yu-fat (<i>membership from 1 August 2018 onwards</i>)	1	1	
Dr CHEUNG Chin-pang (<i>membership from 14 September 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny (<i>membership from 14 September 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	(1g)
Mrs BIRCH LEE Suk-yee, Sandra, GBS, JP (<i>membership from 10 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	(1g)
Mr CHAN Wing-kai (<i>membership from 21 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Mr LAM Chi-yau (<i>membership from 21 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Mr MUI Cheuk-nang, Kenny (<i>membership from 21 December 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	

Members whose tenure ended in 2018

Miss CHAU Man-ki, Mabel, MH (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	-	-	(1g)
Ms CHOY Hok-man, Constance (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	-	-	(1g)
Dr HO Chung-ping, MH, JP (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1	
Ms LAU Wai-yee, Monita (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1	(1g)
Dr TSE Hung-hing, JP (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1	
Dr WONG Yee-him, John (<i>membership ended on 23 January 2018</i>)	1	1	
Deputy Director of Health (<i>membership ended on 5 April 2018</i>)	1	1	
Dr LI Tak-lai, Theresa (<i>membership ended on 5 April 2018</i>)	1	7	
Dr HUNG Se-fong, BBS (<i>membership ended on 30 June 2018</i>)	4	6	
Mr YU Kwok-kuen, Harry (<i>membership ended on 31 August 2018</i>)	6	13	(1g)

(B) Attendance of Assessors

Assessor	No. of inquiry	No. of hearing day	Remarks
Prof. CHAN Anthony Tak-cheung	3	3	
Dr KONG Wing-ming, Henry	3	4	
Prof. KWONG Yok-lam	2	4	
Dr LI Mun-pik, Teresa	2	3	
Dr MOK Pik-tim, Francis	5	5	
Mr POON Yiu-kin, Samuel	7	8	
Prof. TAN Choon-beng, Kathryn	2	3	
Mr WONG Hin-wing	4	5	(1g)
Mr WOO King-hang	3	4	
Dr YAM Kwong-yui	3	3	

Assessors whose tenure started in 2018

Ms NG Ka-man, Rendy (<i>term of appointment from 9 April 2018 onwards</i>)	4	4	(1g)
Dr AU YEUNG Kam-chuen, Sidney (<i>term of appointment from 6 September 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Dr CHIU Shing-ping, James (<i>term of appointment from 6 September 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	(1g)
Mr CHAN Hiu-fung, Nicholas, MH (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	(1f)
Dr CHENG Lai-ling (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Ms CHUI Hoi-yee, Heidi (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Dr FUNG Ho-wang (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Mr HUI Cheuk-lun, Lawrence (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Mr KAN Pak-him, Christopher (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Mr LAI Yat-hin, Adrian (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Mr NG Ting-shan (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	
Prof. WONG Wing-kin, Gary (<i>term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards</i>)	-	-	

Assessor	No. of inquiry	No. of hearing day	Remarks
Dr WONG Yee-him, John (term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards)	-	-	
Dr YEUNG Chiu-fat, Henry (term of appointment from 3 October 2018 onwards)	-	-	
Prof. CHU Kent-man (term of appointment from 1 December 2018 onwards)	-	-	
Assessors whose tenure ended in 2018			
Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (term of appointment ended on 23 January 2018)	2	3	
Dr LAI Sik-to, Thomas (term of appointment ended on 5 September 2018)	1	1	
Prof. WING Yun-kwok (term of appointment ended on 5 September 2018)	-	-	
Dr YAN Wing-wa (term of appointment ended on 5 September 2018)	3	3	

Remarks:

- (1) According to the Medical Registration Ordinance (MRO), members of the deemed Preliminary Investigation Committee (deemed PIC) and the new Preliminary Investigation Committee (new PIC) (including assessors) must not attend disciplinary inquiry into a case of which they have taken part in the preliminary investigation.
 - (a) Prof. LAU Wan-ye, Joseph was the Chairman of the deemed PIC from 8 February 2006 to 6 March 2012 and therefore could not attend the disciplinary inquiries into those cases of which he had taken part in the preliminary investigation. Prof. Felice LIEH-MAK had been elected as the Temporary Chairman of the Council in such disciplinary inquiries until the enactment of the amended MRO in April 2018. After that, Prof. LAU and Prof. LIEH-MAK had been appointed as the Chairpersons of inquiry panels.
 - (b) Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel was the Chairman of the deemed PIC from 7 March 2012 to 16 May 2016. He therefore could not attend the disciplinary inquiries into those cases of which he had taken part in the preliminary investigation.
 - (c) Dr CHEUNG Tak-hong was the Chairman of the deemed PIC.
 - (d) Prof. FOK Tai-fai was the Deputy Chairman of the deemed PIC.
 - (e) Dr CHENG Chi-man was the Chairman of the new PIC.
 - (f) Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas was the Deputy Chairman of the new PIC.
 - (g) Council Members / assessors who were members of the deemed PIC / new PIC.
- (2) The Chairman of the Health Committee (HC), Dr CHOW Pak-chin, had refrained from taking part in disciplinary inquiries, so as to keep himself untainted when considering relevant disciplinary cases of the defendant doctors in subsequent HC proceedings.
- (3) The Director of Health did not take part in disciplinary inquiries as she is also the Registrar of Medical Practitioners who is responsible for maintaining the General Register and Specialist Register.
- (4) The Chairman of the Education and Accreditation Committee (EAC), Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, had refrained from taking part in disciplinary inquiries, so as to keep herself untainted when considering relevant disciplinary cases of the defendant doctors in subsequent EAC proceedings.