

香港醫務委員會 The Medical Council of Hong Kong

Ensuring Justice

守專業 Maintaining Professionalism

護社羣 Protecting the Public

貴處檔號:

MC 6/4/A

電話 Tel. No.

Your Ref. 本會檔號: Our Ref.

5 September 2022

To: All Registered Medical Practitioners

Dear Doctor,

Code of Professional Conduct for the Guidance of Registered Medical Practitioners

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the English version of the "Code of Professional Conduct (revised in October 2022)" ("the updated Code") of the Medical Council of Hong Kong ("the Council"), which will supersede with effect from October 2022 the one last revised in January 2016, for your retention and reference. The Chinese version will be delivered to you as soon as possible.

The updated Code has incorporated revisions made and promulgated after the last revision in 2016 to the following part or appendices:

- revision to the "Guidelines on Proper Prescription and Dispensing of Dangerous Drugs" at Appendix E in 2017;
- update of the "Declaration of Geneva" at Part I (D) in 2018; and
- revision to Note 7 regarding "Dangerous Drugs Register" in Appendix F in 2018.

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Revisions / additions / corresponding amendments made to the following section / appendices, which have been promulgated to the profession vide the Council's newsletter in September 2022, are also incorporated in the updated Code:

- revisions to sections 5.2.3 ("Dissemination of professional service information to the public"), 5.2.4 ("Dissemination of professional service information to patients") and 5.2.5 ("Unsolicited promotion of doctor's services");
- corresponding amendments to Appendix B ("Sample Commencement / Removal Notice"), Appendix C ("Guidelines on Service Information Notices") and Appendix D ("Guidelines on Doctors Directories") arising from revisions to sections 5.2.3 to 5.2.5;
- updating of information concerning the Hong Kong Medical Association in Part I (B) and Appendix E ("Guidelines on Proper Prescription and Dispensing of Dangerous Drugs"); and
- addition of a new Appendix H ("Information Allowed to be Disseminated by Type of Media").

A copy of the Council's newsletter Issue No. 29 of September 2022 explaining the rationale for the revisions made to sections 5.2.3 to 5.2.5 of the Code is enclosed for easy reference. A set of Questions and Answers to the Ethical Guidelines on Practice of Telemedicine, which was issued vide the Council's website in early March 2022, is also reproduced and enclosed herewith.

All doctors should familiarize themselves and comply with the updated Code. Contravention of its provision(s), as well as any written and unwritten rules of the profession, may render a doctor liable to disciplinary proceedings.

In order to maintain impartiality in its quasi-judicial function in disciplinary proceedings, the Council will not advise individual doctors on questions of professional conduct arising in particular circumstances. A doctor seeking advice on such questions may consult his or her own legal adviser.

Yours faithfully,

(Prof. Joseph LAU, SBS) Chairman,

The Medical Council of Hong Kong

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