

**The Medical Council of Hong Kong**  
**Guidelines on Quoting of Qualifications**  
(August 2014)

According to section 5 “Professional communication and information dissemination” of the Code of Professional Conduct (“the Code”) issued by the Medical Council of Hong Kong (“the Medical Council”), doctors may quote those quotable qualifications approved by the Medical Council in dissemination of service information to the public. Such quotable qualifications include: -

- (a) qualifications entitling a doctor to registration (i.e. primary registrable qualifications) (e.g. MB BS (HK), MB ChB (CUHK), LMCHK, MB BS (Lond)<sup>1</sup>, MRCS (Eng)<sup>1</sup>);
- (b) specialist qualifications registered on the Specialist Register (e.g. FHKAM (Medicine)); and
- (c) additional registrable qualifications<sup>2</sup> as well as other additional quotable qualifications approved by the Medical Council as included in the List of Quotable Qualifications.

2. Doctors are advised to quote the qualification entitling him / her to registration whenever he / she quotes any of his / her qualifications, and to quote it as the first qualification before all other quotable qualifications. Repeated failure to comply with this advice may constitute professional misconduct.

3. For doctors registered with the Medical Council by virtue of being Licentiate of the Medical Council of Hong Kong (“LMCHK”), he / she is given a choice to quote “Licentiate of the Medical Council of Hong Kong” / “LMCHK” with or without any specification of his / her primary medical qualifications. If the primary medical qualification is quoted, the exact wordings shown on the graduation certificate should be quoted in brackets and placed after “Licentiate of the Medical Council of Hong Kong” / “LMCHK” as illustrated below<sup>3</sup>:-

Title in full	: Licentiate of the Medical Council of Hong Kong (Primary medical qualification as described in the graduation certificate, XYZ Medical School, ABC Country of Origin)
Abbreviation	: LMCHK (Primary medical qualification as described in the graduation certificate, XYZ Medical School, ABC Country of Origin)
Title in Chinese	: 香港醫務委員會執照 (ABC國家 XYZ醫科學校 畢業証書所寫的醫科資格)

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<sup>1</sup> While previously certain overseas diplomas entitled the holders to registration as doctors in Hong Kong, currently only MB BS (HK), MB ChB (CUHK) and LMCHK entitle the holders to registration.

<sup>2</sup> The Medical Council previously accepted doctors’ applications for registration of additional degrees or other qualifications recognized by the General Medical Council (“GMC”) to be recorded against their entries on the General Register. The Medical Council reviewed such policy and decided that such additional degrees or other qualifications recognized by GMC would no longer be added to the General Register after the cut-off date on 28 February 2001. Nevertheless, such additional degrees or other qualifications continue to be accepted for use as quotable qualifications on signboards, letterheads and visiting cards, etc.. Fellowships awarded by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine are not affected by the revised policy.

<sup>3</sup> The above policy on how the Licentiates of the Medical Council should quote their primary medical qualifications was promulgated vide the Council’s Newsletter Issue No. 4 in May 2000.

4. Doctors should observe the following in quoting their qualifications:-
  - (a) carefully word the English / Chinese titles and abbreviations of the qualification by referring to (i) the official ones provided by the conferring authority, (ii) the statutory names provided under Schedules 3 and 4 of the Medical Registration Ordinance, and (iii) the List of Quotable Qualifications of the Medical Council, the Avicenna Directory for Medicine<sup>4</sup> or the International Medical Education Directory<sup>5</sup>, as appropriate; and
  - (b) specify the conferring authority or medical school of the qualification in both the full titles and the abbreviation.
5. Doctors may apply for inclusion of additional qualifications in the List of Quotable Qualifications. Application form and relevant guidelines are available at the website of the Medical Council at [www.mchk.org.hk](http://www.mchk.org.hk).
6. Doctors should read these Guidelines in conjunction with section 5 of the Code, and comply with all the relevant provisions in dissemination of service information.

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<sup>4</sup> The Avicenna Directory for Medicine is maintained by the University of Copenhagen in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the World Federation for Medical Education, which is available at <http://avicenna.ku.dk/database/medicine>.

<sup>5</sup> International Medical Education Directory is maintained by the Foundation of Advancement of International Medical Education and Research of USA, which is available at <https://imed.faimer.org/>.