

Quoting of Primary Registrable Qualifications

Paragraph 1 of the *Guidelines on Quoting of Qualifications* stipulates quotability of certain qualifications, which include, among others, those entitling a doctor to registration (i.e. primary registrable qualifications), for example, MB BS (HK), MB ChB (CUHK), and LMCHK.

The Medical Council would like to remind all doctors that **“Honours” should not be quoted in all primary registrable qualifications.** This is to prevent the perception of superiority over doctors who do not possess or claim such distinctions.

Following are some examples of *impermissible* quotation of “Honours” in local primary registrable qualifications:

✗ MB BS (HK) (Honours) ✗

✗ MB ChB (CUHK) (Hons) ✗

To ensure compliance, we kindly request all doctors to review their name cards, signboards, and other relevant materials for communication with patients and the public, and make all necessary adjustments within a transitional period from 6 December 2023 to 5 December 2026. During this transitional period, doctors should take all practicable steps to remove any reference to “Honours” in their primary registrable qualifications. After that, impermissible quoting of “Honours” in primary registrable qualifications might be seen as a violation of section 5.2.1.2(b) of the *Code of Professional Conduct*^{1Note} and subject to disciplinary action.

To avoid inadvertent contravention of the prevailing rules, all doctors are advised to familiarise themselves with the *Guidelines on Quoting of Qualifications* and section 5 of the *Code of Professional Conduct* (both available at the Medical Council’s website), and to follow the relevant provisions in dissemination of service information.

^{Note} According to section 5.2.1.2(b) of the Code of Professional Conduct, any information provided by a doctor to the public or his/her patients must not be comparative with or claim superiority over other doctors.