



香港醫務委員會
THE MEDICAL COUNCIL
OF HONG KONG

第三十一期通訊 / 二零二四年三月
NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 31 / MARCH 2024

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*^{Note} 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.

Special Registration

In a bid to alleviate the frontline manpower shortage and better respond to service needs, the Government has introduced another pathway, i.e. special registration, since 2021 for qualified non-locally trained doctors to return to Hong Kong and practise in the public healthcare sector. Pursuant to the amended Medical Registration Ordinance (“MRO”) (Chapter 161), the Government announced on 12 November 2021 the establishment of the Special Registration Committee (“SRC”). The SRC is responsible for making recommendations to the Registrar of Medical Practitioners (“the Registrar”), i.e. Director of Health, on the list of recognised medical qualifications for the purposes of special registration under section 14C of the MRO. In accordance with section 14F of the MRO, the SRC will consider and recommend a medical qualification that fulfils the following criteria -

- (a) that is at the level of degree or higher;
- (b) that is awarded by a body in a place outside Hong Kong that is broadly comparable to any local university in terms of international rankings; and
- (c) that is broadly comparable to the medical qualifications awarded by any local university in terms of -
 - (i) curriculum of the programmes leading to the award of the medical qualifications;
 - (ii) medium of instruction of the programmes; and
 - (iii) any other aspects the SRC considers appropriate.

Current List of Recognised Medical Qualifications

The SRC has so far recommended to the Registrar a total of 100 medical qualifications for recognition which were gazetted on 29 April 2022, 10 June 2022, 30 December 2022 and 30 June 2023 respectively. The prevailing list of recognised medical qualifications showing the place and name of awarding institutions, title of medical qualifications and duration of medical programmes is available on the Medical Council’s website at https://www.mchk.org.hk/english/registration/recognised_medical_qualifications.html. The list has been drawn up by the SRC after detailed examination of the stipulated aspects (including international rankings, programme curriculum, medium of instruction, etc.). The key consideration is whether the medical programmes are broadly comparable to any medical programmes offered by a local university. Study on relevant programmes of the awarding institutions concerned by the SRC is still ongoing. Enquiries on matters relating to special registration can be directed to the SRC secretariat by email at src-secretariat@dh.gov.hk.

Quotable Qualifications

According to section 5 “Professional communication and information dissemination” of the *Code of Professional Conduct*, doctors may quote those quotable qualifications approved by the Medical Council in the dissemination of service information to the public. To ensure accuracy, doctors should be careful in wording the English and Chinese titles and abbreviations of the qualifications. It is important to specify the conferring authority or medical school for both the full titles and abbreviations.

If doctors wish to quote a qualification that is not currently listed in the List of Quotable Qualifications (“QQ List”), they must submit a new application to the Medical Council through its Education and Accreditation Committee (“EAC”). Additionally, for specifically approved qualifications (such as research master and doctoral degrees other than “Master of Surgery” and “Doctor of Medicine”), individual approval from the Medical Council is necessary.

The *Guidelines on Quoting of Qualifications* and the current QQ List can be found on the Medical Council’s website at <https://www.mchk.org.hk/english/guideline/qualification.html>.

Change of official abbreviation of quotable qualification “*Fellow, College of Ophthalmologists of Hong Kong*” under the grandfathering arrangement

The Medical Council decided on 5 July 2023 to adopt the official abbreviation of the qualification as advised by the College of Ophthalmologists of Hong Kong, i.e. “FCOphthHK”, instead of the previously adopted abbreviation “FCOphth HK” (i.e. to delete the spacing between “FCOphth” and “HK”). There will be a transitional period from 5 July 2023 to 4 July 2026, during which the use of either “FCOphthHK” or “FCOphth HK” by a medical practitioner would be acceptable by the Medical Council.

Update on quoting of “*Master of Health Management, University of New South Wales*”

The following qualification is quotable under the QQ List:

Title of Qualification	Abbreviation	Chinese Title	Date of Approval by the Medical Council
Master of Health Management, University of New South Wales	MHM (UNSW)	新南威爾斯大學 衛生管理碩士	4 May 2011

Please note that the qualification has been replaced by “*Master of Health Leadership and Management*” on 1 January 2021. Any holders of the “*Master of Health Management*” can continue to quote this qualification. However, holders of the new “*Master of Health Leadership and Management*” cannot quote this qualification, and must submit fresh application for such quoting if they wish so.

New quotable qualifications under the QQ List

For the year of 2023, the Medical Council, on the EAC's recommendation, has approved the following qualifications for inclusion in the QQ List under the generally approved category:

Title of Qualification		Abbreviation	Chinese Title	Date of Approval by the Medical Council
1.	Board Certified in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology by the American Board of Pediatrics	/	美國兒科醫學委員會文憑 (兒童血液腫瘤科)	12 April 2023
(Remarks: As advised by the American Board of Pediatrics, the qualification does not have an abbreviation and therefore only the full title should be quoted by doctors.)				
2.	Certificate of Subspecialist Accreditation in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, Hong Kong College of Paediatricians	Cert HKCPaed (PRM)	香港兒科醫學院 兒童呼吸科證書	19 May 2023
3.	Master of Science in Paediatrics and Child Health: Intensive Care, University College London	MSc Paediatrics and Child Health: Intensive Care, UCL	倫敦大學學院兒科及 兒童健康理學碩士： 深切治療科	7 June 2023
4.	Master of Surgery in Oncoplastic Breast Surgery, University of East Anglia	MS in Oncoplastic Breast Surgery (UEA)	東安利亞大學 乳癌整形手術外科碩士	7 June 2023
5.	Bachelor of Science Honours in Underwater Medicine, Stellenbosch University	BSc Hons (Underwater Medicine), SU	斯坦陵布什大學 潛水醫學榮譽理學士	2 August 2023
6.	European Diploma in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, European Respiratory Society	European Dip (PRM), ERS	歐洲呼吸學會 兒童呼吸科歐洲文憑	2 August 2023
7.	Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America	FIDSA	美國感染及傳染病 學會院士	2 August 2023
(Remarks: Only quotable by those who acquired the qualification through the Clinical Track.)				
8.	Fellowship of Faculty of Pathology, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland	FFPath, RCPI	愛爾蘭皇家內科醫學院 病理學院院士	6 December 2023

In addition, the Medical Council, on the EAC's recommendation, has approved the following qualification for inclusion in the QQ List under the specifically approved category:

Title of Qualification		Abbreviation	Chinese Title	Date of Approval by the Medical Council	Reference
1.	Doctor of Philosophy, University of Toronto	PhD (UT)	多倫多大學 哲學博士	1 February 2023	MC/QQ/06/22
2.				12 April 2023	MC/QQ/01/22

For the avoidance of doubt, the qualification under the specifically approved category can only be quoted by those applicants to whom the approvals have been given.

Quotable Appointments

Private healthcare facilities and medical clinics must meet the Medical Council's requirements for their appointment systems to be considered acceptable. Only then can doctors quote these appointments in their medical practice. The Medical Council has so far accepted the appointment systems of 21 institutions, and the approved quotable appointments are listed in "List of Quotable Appointments by Private Healthcare Facilities and Medical Clinics accepted under the Rules on Quotable Appointments" ("QA List").

It is important for doctors to adhere to the revised Rules on Quotable Appointments ("QA Rules"), which took effect from 1 January 2021 in the light of the enactment of the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Cap. 633), when mentioning their appointments for professional practice in Hong Kong. They are encouraged to refer to the QA List on the Medical Council's website to ensure the quotability of appointments made by private healthcare facilities and medical clinics.

For more details, the QA Rules and the QA List can be found on the Medical Council's website at <http://www.mchk.org.hk/english/guideline/appointment.html>.

Statistics on Complaints / Inquiries Handled in 2022

Table 1 - Complaints received by the Medical Council

Number of Complaints Received	2018 639*	2019 3 286*	2020 3 356*	2021 538	2022 729*
(A) Allegations by category					
1. Conviction in Court	55	47	58	57	53
(a) Failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	(2)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(0)
(b) Others	(53)	(47)	(58)	(56)	(53)
2. Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	446	438	243	334	361 [#]
3. Issuing misleading / false medical certificates	29	748	28	29	66
4. Practice promotion	33	9	39	15	21
5. Misleading, unapproved description and announcement	6	6	12	37	10
6. Improper / indecent behaviour to patients	17	17	11	8	7
7. Fitness to practise	-	-	-	2	3
8. Abuse of professional confidence	2	-	1	-	-
9. Depreciation of other medical practitioners	1	-	1	1	1
10. Sharing fee and improper financial transaction	3	5	2	11	2
11. Failure to maintain proper medical records	6	75	22	12	5
12. Mishandling of patient's personal data	1	19	4	6	7
13. Improper delegation of medical duties to unregistered persons	-	2	2	-	-
14. Other issues unrelated to professional responsibility	40	1 920	2 933	26	193
(B) Progress of complaints as at 31 December 2022					
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	20	144	175	23	20
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.	153	2 180	1 633	194	40
3. Under consideration by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the relevant PIC in consultation with a lay member	-	585	1 291	47	452
4. Held in abeyance	2	3	3	2	1
5. Being considered at the PIC meetings	7	21	33	98	162
6. Dismissed by the relevant PIC	361	281	152	111	24
7. Referred to the Medical Council for no disciplinary inquiry	42	37	51	37	24
8. Referred to the Medical Council for no pre-registration inquiry	1	2	1	2	-
9. Referred to the Medical Council for no restoration inquiry	-	-	1	-	-
10. Referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel for disciplinary inquiry	52	31	14	23	5
11. Referred to the Medical Council for restoration inquiry	-	-	1	-	-
12. Referred to the Medical Council for pre-registration inquiry	-	2	-	-	-
13. Referred to the Health Committee for hearing	1	-	1	1	1

Remarks:

- * The net number of complaints received in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022 is as follows:
- 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.
 - Among the 3 286 complaint cases received in 2019, 2 742 cases can be consolidated into 11 groups of same / very similar complaints against 11 doctors. As such, the net number of complaints received in 2019 was 555.
 - Among the 3 356 complaint cases received in 2020, 2 653 cases can be consolidated into 11 groups of same / very similar complaints against 11 doctors. As such, the net number of complaints received in 2020 was 714.
 - The net number of complaints received in 2022 was 568 as there were 162 complaints on the same incident against a registered medical practitioner received in 2022.
- # The breakdown of cases on "Disregard of professional responsibility to patients" in 2022 is as follows:
- Failure / unsatisfactory result of treatment / surgery, failure to properly / timely diagnose illness and disagreement with doctor's medical opinion – 121 cases
 - Conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery – 62 cases
 - Inappropriate prescription of drugs – 56 cases
 - Doctor's unprofessional attitude / doctor-patient communication – 46 cases
 - Failure to give proper medical advice / explanation – 29 cases
 - Other treatment-related issues – 47 cases

Table 2 - Breakdown on the complaints received in 2022 which were dismissed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the PICs of the Medical Council as being frivolous or groundless

<u>Nature of Complaints</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>
1. Practice promotion	6
2. Fees dispute	4
3. Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	2
4. Issuing misleading / false medical certificates	1
5. Misleading, unapproved description and announcement	1
6. Mishandling of patient's personal data	1
7. Other issues unrelated to professional misconduct	5
Total:	20

Table 3 - Work of the PICs of the Medical Council

<u>Nature</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>		<u>2020</u>		<u>2021</u>			<u>2022</u>		
		<u>Deemed PIC</u>	<u>New PIC</u>	<u>Deemed PIC</u>	<u>New PIC</u>	<u>Deemed PIC</u>	<u>PIC(1)</u>	<u>PIC(2)</u>	<u>Deemed PIC</u>	<u>PIC(1)</u>	<u>PIC(2)</u>
1. Total number of cases referred to PIC meetings	242	224	249	105	281	56	221	102	18*	219*	148*
2. Total number of cases referred to the Medical Council for no disciplinary inquiry / restoration inquiry / pre-registration inquiry after PIC meetings	41	28	23	7	49	-	30	31	-	12 [#]	25 [#]
3. Total number of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel for disciplinary inquiry / restoration inquiry / pre-registration inquiry after PIC meetings	39	26	13	21	32	19	39	7	8 [#]	35 [#]	21 [#]
4. Total number of cases referred to the Health Committee for hearing after PIC meetings	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1

Remarks:

* This figure included those cases received before 2022. Cases referred to and considered by the PICs in 2022 fell under the following categories:

	<u>No. of Cases</u>		
	<u>Deemed PIC</u>	<u>PIC(1)</u>	<u>PIC(2)</u>
(a) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	14	165	74
• <i>inappropriate prescription of drugs</i>	2	79	11
• <i>conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery</i>	5	30	23
• <i>failure to properly / timely diagnose illness</i>	4	19	11
• <i>doctor's unprofessional attitude / doctor-patient communication</i>	-	4	11
• <i>failure / unsatisfactory results of treatment / surgery</i>	3	23	11
• <i>failure to give proper medical advice / explanation</i>	-	7	3
• <i>disagreement with doctor's medical opinion</i>	-	3	4
• <i>other treatment-related issues</i>	-	-	-
(b) Conviction in court	-	16	29
(c) Practice promotion / misleading, unapproved description and announcement	1	6	11
(d) Issuing misleading / false medical certificates	3	4	8
(e) Fee dispute	-	5	8
(f) Failure to maintain proper medical records	-	1	3
(g) Depreciation of other medical practitioners	-	-	1
(h) Improper / indecent behaviour to patients	-	3	2
(i) Sharing fee and improper financial transaction	-	2	-
(j) Mishandling of patient's personal data	-	1	1
(k) Miscellaneous	-	16	11
Total:	18	219	148

Cases referred by the PICs to the Medical Council / inquiry panel in 2022 are classified as follows:

		<u>No. of Cases</u>	
	<u>Deemed PIC</u>	<u>PIC(1)</u>	<u>PIC(2)</u>
(A) Recommended for no disciplinary inquiry			
Conviction in court	-	12	25
• <i>dangerous driving</i>			3
• <i>careless driving</i>		10	18
• <i>riding/driving on a footpath</i>		1	1
• <i>learner driver driving outside permitted hour</i>			1
• <i>criminal damage / failure to produce proof of identity</i>			1
• <i>entering part that has been closed within Country Park</i>		1	
• <i>failing to take out insurance policy for employees</i>			1
(B) Recommended for disciplinary inquiry			
(a) Conviction in court	-	3	5
• <i>committing an act outraging public decency</i>			1
• <i>common assault</i>			1
• <i>driving a motor vehicle with alcohol concentration in breath exceeding the prescribed limit</i>			1
• <i>failing to keep a register of dangerous drugs in the form specified in the First Schedule of the Dangerous Drugs Regulation made under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance</i>		1	
• <i>indecent assault</i>			1
• <i>taking part in unlawful assembly</i>		1	
• <i>publishing an obscene article</i>		1	
• <i>using a copy of a false instrument / possessing a false instrument</i>			1
(b) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	5	27	4
• <i>conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment / surgery</i>	3	7	2
• <i>failure to properly / timely diagnose illness</i>	1	6	
• <i>failure / unsatisfactory results of treatment / surgery</i>	1	4	1
• <i>inappropriate prescription of drugs</i>		10	1
(c) Practice promotion / misleading, unapproved description and announcement	1	2	10
(d) Issuing misleading / false medical certificates	2	-	1
(e) Sharing fee and improper financial transaction	-	1	-
(f) Miscellaneous	-	2	1
Total:	8	47	46

Table 4a - Work statistics of the deemed PIC of the Medical Council in 2022

	Quarter				Total
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
No. of PIC Meetings	1	1	2	3	7
No. of cases considered	2	8	2	6	18
No. of cases dismissed (%)	2 (100%)	3 (37.5%)	2 (100%)	3 (50.0%)	10 (55.6%)
No. of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel (%)	0 (0%)	5 (62.5%)	0 (0%)	3 (50.0%)	8 (44.4%)
No. of cases referred to the Health Committee (%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

Table 4b - Work statistics of the PIC(1) of the Medical Council in 2022

	Quarter				Total
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
No. of PIC Meetings	2	3	3	3	11
No. of cases considered	91	54	42	32	219
No. of cases dismissed (%)	90 (98.9%)	31 (57.4%)	30 (71.4%)	19 (59.4%)	170 (77.6%)
No. of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel (%)	1 (1.1%)	22 (40.7%)	12 (28.6%)	12 (37.5%)	47* (21.5%)
No. of cases referred to the Health Committee (%)	0 (0%)	1 (1.9%)	0 (0%)	1 (3.1%)	2 (0.9%)

* Among the 47 cases, 12 cases were of minor nature and the Medical Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no disciplinary inquiry was to be held (Please see details in Table 3).

Table 4c - Work statistics of the PIC(2) of the Medical Council in 2022

	Quarter				Total
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
No. of PIC Meetings	1	4	3	3	10
No. of cases considered	11	38	48	51	148
No. of cases dismissed (%)	8 (72.7%)	28 (73.7%)	29 (60.4%)	36 (70.6%)	101 (68.2%)
No. of cases referred to the Medical Council / inquiry panel (%)	3 (27.3%)	10 (26.3%)	19 (39.6%)	14 (27.4%)	46* (31.1%)
No. of cases referred to the Health Committee (%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (2.0%)	1 (0.7%)

* Among the 46 cases, 25 cases were of minor nature and the Medical Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no disciplinary inquiry was to be held (Please see details in Table 3).

Table 5 - Disciplinary inquiries conducted in 2022

Nature	No. of cases involved	Decision
(A) Conviction in court		
(a) Committing an act outraging public decency	1	Removed for 4 months (suspended for 24 months)
(b) Dangerous Driving / Driving a motor vehicle with alcohol concentration in blood / breath above the prescribed limit	2	Warning Letter (gazetted)
(c) Failing to keep a register of dangerous drugs in the specified form	1	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 6 months)
(d) Indecent Assault	1	Removed for 6 months
(e) Manslaughter by gross negligence	1	Removed for 5 years
	1	Removed Indefinitely
(f) Offence of causing grievous bodily harm by dangerous driving	1	Reprimanded
(g) Using a copy of a false instrument / possessing a false instrument	1	Removed for 12 months
Sub-total:	9	
(B) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	2	Warning Letter (gazetted)
	2	Reprimanded
	1	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 6 months)
	3	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 12 months)
	1	Removed for 2 months (suspended for 12 months)
	1	Removed for 2 months
	1	Removed for 4 months (suspended for 12 months)
	1	Removed for 18 months
	2	Not guilty
	2	Disciplinary inquiries to continue in 2023
Sub-total:	16	
(C) Issue misleading use of restrainers forms / medical examination forms in residential care home for the elderly	1	Removed for 6 months (suspended for 18 months)
Sub-total:	1	
(D) Issue misleading / false medical certificates	1	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 36 months)
Sub-total:	1	

Nature	No. of cases involved	Decision
(E)Practice Promotion / Quotable Qualification	1	Warning Letter (gazetted)
	2	Removed for 2 months (suspended for 24 months)
	3	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 6 months)
	1	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 36 months)
	1	Removed for 4 months (suspended for 12 months)
	2	Disciplinary inquiries to continue in 2023
Sub-total:		10
(F) Others	1	Warning Letter (gazetted)
	1	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 12 months)
	1	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 12 months)
Sub-total:		3
Total:		40

Table 6 - Figures on appeal cases

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
No. of appeals lodged during the year	2	0	3	3	1
No. of appeal cases carried forward from previous years	2	2	0	3	5
Total no. of appeal cases in progress in the year:	4	2	3	6	6

Results of appeal cases concluded in 2022

	<u>No. of cases</u>
(a) Dismissed by Court of Appeal	2
(b) Allowed by Court of Appeal	1
(c) Appeal withdrawn	1
Total:	4



Results of Elections of the Medical Council

The Medical Council held its 28th election of Medical Council Members to fill three vacancies with vote counting conducted on 18 December 2023. Dr CHENG Chi Man and Dr MARCET Marcus Mitchell were re-elected by obtaining 2 198 and 1 938 votes respectively, and Dr CHOW Wing Sun was elected by obtaining 2 074 votes. Their term of office as Members of the Medical Council commenced from 24 January 2024 for a period of three years.

Reminders

Timely completion of CME

All doctors whose names are included in the Specialist Register (“specialists”) are reminded of the importance of fulfilling the Continuing Medical Education (“CME”) requirement. Undertaking CME activities is not only a professional obligation but also a statutory requirement under section 20L of the Medical Registration Ordinance. Failure to comply with the CME requirement puts their status as specialists at risk and may result in removal of name from the Specialist Register.

In the last CME cycle of 2020-22, cases of specialists failing to comply with the CME requirement in a timely manner have been reported to the Medical Council. As a result, some of these specialists were required to participate in the remedial programme organized by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (“the Academy”) in order to make up the deficient CME points. Some others had their names removed from the Specialist Register and could not continue to practise as specialists. The Medical Council noted that in some cases, specialists were found to have failed to comply with the CME requirement because some of the activities they had taken part in could not be recognised as CME activities and the specialists concerned only became aware of it as a late stage.

To ensure compliance with the CME requirements in a timely manner, the Medical Council advises all specialists to make advance planning and closely monitor their progress in accumulating CME points during the 3-year CME cycle through the respective constituent colleges within the Academy. Should there be any enquiries or doubts on whether certain activities could be counted for meeting the CME requirement, they could always approach the respective colleges for advice and assistance.

Ongoing professional development is important in maintaining the high standards of medical practice of individual practitioners. It also has a bearing on the fulfillment of the medical profession’s commitment to providing quality healthcare service to the community.

Reporting of offences punishable with imprisonment

A doctor convicted of any offence punishable with imprisonment is liable to disciplinary proceedings of the Medical Council, regardless of whether he/she is sentenced to imprisonment. Some offences though appear to be minor in nature, are in fact offences punishable with imprisonment. Examples of offences punishable with imprisonment are careless driving, crossing continuous double white lines, driving / using an unregistered / unlicensed vehicle, using vehicle without insurance, riding / driving on a footpath, left-driving expressway: restriction on vehicles using right most lane (by holder of probationary driving licence), riding / possessing bicycle within country park or special area without consent of the Authority, entering part that has been closed within country park, riding as passenger in rear seat of public light bus not securely fastened with seat belt, littering from vehicles (against owner), failing to comply with Buildings Ordinance for not arranging qualified persons to conduct windows inspection/repair, etc.

Members of the profession are reminded that they should report to the Medical Council **within 28 days upon conviction of an offence punishable with imprisonment**, as required under section 29 of the Code of Professional Conduct as follows:

“A doctor who has been convicted in or outside Hong Kong of an offence punishable with imprisonment or has been the subject of adverse findings in disciplinary proceedings by other professional regulatory bodies is required to report the matter to the Council within 28 days from the conviction or the adverse disciplinary finding, even if the matter is under appeal. Failure to report within the specified time will in itself be ground for disciplinary action. In case of doubt the matter should be reported.”

In reporting conviction cases to the Medical Council, the doctor should provide all relevant document(s) such as certificate of trial as far as possible. Provision of sufficient information saves the Medical Council from having to make clarification with the doctor and/or liaise with the adjudicating court for retrieval of the related court document(s) and will facilitate the Medical Council in making an earlier decision on whether a disciplinary inquiry on the conviction should be held.

Timely renewal of practising / retention certificates

A notification letter was issued to individual doctors on 1 September 2023 inviting them to apply for renewal of the annual practising / retention certificates. The Medical Council would like to remind doctors to make timely application for renewal of the certificates every year, and draw doctors' attention to the following:

- (a) According to section 20A of the Medical Registration Ordinance (“MRO”), a doctor who has not renewed the practising certificate by 31 December cannot lawfully practise medicine from 1 January of the following year onwards, until and unless he/she has obtained a valid practising certificate; and
- (b) Section 19(1)(b) of the MRO provides that the Medical Council may order the removal from the General Register of the name of any person who has not, before 30 June of a year, obtained his/her practising / retention certificate for that year. If a doctor's name is removed from the General Register, he/she will cease to be a registered doctor and cannot continue to practise. It is a criminal offence under section 28(2) of the MRO for a person whose name is not on the General Register to practise medicine or surgery.

Change of registered addresses

Under the MRO, any registered medical practitioner is required to provide the Registrar of Medical Practitioners with an address at which notices from the Medical Council may be served on him/her. For this purpose, please notify the Registrar of Medical Practitioners either in writing or by completing a form, which is available from the Medical Council's website and can be obtained from the Central Registration Office at the following address, as soon as there is any change in your registered address:

17/F, Wu Chung House,
213 Queen's Road East,
Wanchai, Hong Kong

(Tel. No.: 2961 8648 / 2961 8758
Fax No.: 2891 7946 / 2573 1000)

The address provided will be used for the purposes associated with registration under the MRO. The registered addresses as well as the names, qualifications and dates of qualifications of all persons whose names appear on the General Register are required to be published annually in the Gazette. Although a registered address may be a practising address, a residential address or a Post Office Box number, the Medical Council advises that **practising address** be provided as registered address. The practising address will be of more meaningful reference for the public in ascertaining who is entitled to practise medicine in Hong Kong, and will also afford privacy to the practitioner's residential address.

While publication of a registered medical practitioner's registered address in the Gazette is a mandatory requirement under the MRO, the Medical Council has decided that a registered medical practitioner may choose whether to have his/her registered address published on the Council's website. The list of registered medical practitioners on the Council's website will be updated on a monthly basis.

Membership Lists (as at 31 December 2023)

The Medical Council of Hong Kong	
Prof. LAU Wan-ye, Joseph, SBS (Chairman) (劉允怡教授)	
Mrs BIRCH LEE Suk-ye, Sandra, GBS, JP (李淑儀女士)	Dr LAM Man-kin, Ronald, JP (林文健醫生)
Dr Pierre CHAN (陳沛然醫生)	Ms LI Siu-hung (李兆紅女士)
Dr CHAN Tin-sang, Augustine (覃天笙醫生)	Prof. LIANG Hin-suen, Raymond, SBS, JP (梁憲孫教授)
Mr CHAN Wing-kai (陳永佳先生)	Dr LING Siu-chi, Tony (凌霄志醫生)
Dr CHAN Yee-shing (陳以誠醫生)	Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny (李偉雄醫生)
Dr CHENG Chi-man (鄭志文醫生)	Ms LIU Lai-yun, Amanda (廖麗茵女士)
Dr CHEUNG Chin-pang (張展鵬醫生)	Dr LUNG David Christopher, MH (龍振邦醫生)
Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel (蔡堅醫生)	Dr MAK Siu-king (麥肇敬醫生)
Dr CHOW Yu-fat (周雨發醫生)	Dr MARCET Marcus Mitchell (馬思特醫生)
Dr CHUNG Kin-lai (鍾健禮醫生)	Dr SO Yui-chi (蘇睿智醫生)
Prof. FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP (霍泰輝教授)	Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP (鄧惠瓊教授)
Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan (何鴻光醫生)	Prof. WONG Chi-sang, Martin (黃至生教授)
Dr HO Pak-leung, JP (何栢良醫生)	Mr WONG Hin-wing, Simon, MH (黃顯榮先生)
Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP (許美嫦女士)	Dr YEUNG Hip-wo, Victor (楊協和醫生)
Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph (孔憲正先生)	Secretary : Ms Catherine WONG (黃慧儀女士)
Dr IP Wing-yuk (葉永玉醫生)	Legal Advisers : Mr Edward SHUM (岑炳生先生)
Mr LAM Chi-yau (林志紉先生)	Mr Stanley NG (吳焯軍先生)

Education and Accreditation Committee

Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP (Chairman)
(鄧惠瓊教授)

Dr CHUNG Kin-lai
(鍾健禮醫生)

Prof. WONG Chi-sang, Martin
(黃至生教授)

Prof. HUNG Chi-tim, JP
(熊志添教授)

Dr WONG Tin-chun, Gordon
(黃田鎮醫生)

Prof. HUNG Ivan Fan-ngai, BBS
(孔繁毅教授)

Prof. WONG Yeung-shan, Samuel
(黃仰山教授)

Dr LEE Wai-hung, Danny
(李偉雄醫生)

Dr WONG Yiu-chung
(王耀忠醫生)

Prof. LI Kam-tao, Philip
(李錦滔教授)

Dr WU Wing-yee, Clara
(胡詠儀醫生)

Dr MAK Siu-king
(麥肇敬醫生)

Secretary : Mr Patrick WONG
(黃旭東先生)

Dr TONG Kai-sing
(唐繼昇醫生)

Legal Adviser : Mr Edward SHUM
(岑炳生先生)

Prof. WING Yun-kwok
(榮潤國教授)

Ethics Committee

Dr YEUNG Hip-wo, Victor (Chairman)
(楊協和醫生)

Dr CHAN Hau-ngai, Kingsley
(陳厚毅醫生)

Mr LAM Chi-yau
(林志紬先生)

Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas
(陳念德醫生)

Dr LING Siu-chi, Tony
(凌霄志醫生)

Dr CHAN Tin-sang, Augustine
(覃天笙醫生)

Mr MA Siu-leung, BBS, MH
(馬紹良先生)

Dr Pierre CHAN
(陳沛然醫生)

Dr TSE Chun-yan, MH
(謝俊仁醫生)

Dr CHOY Chung-ming, Eric
(蔡中銘醫生)

Secretary : Ms Stella AU YEUNG
(歐陽佩英女士)

Dr HO Hung-kwong, Duncan
(何鴻光醫生)

Legal Adviser : Mr Edward SHUM
(岑炳生先生)

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP
(許美嫦女士)

Health Committee

Dr CHOW Yu-fat (Chairman)
(周雨發醫生)

Mr CHAN Wing-kai
(陳永佳先生)

Dr LAI Wing-him
(黎榮謙醫生)

Dr CHAN Yee-shing
(陳以誠醫生)

Dr LEE Siu-yin, Ruby, JP
(李兆妍醫生)

Dr CHAU Wai-ho, Steven
(周偉浩醫生)

Dr LO See-kit, Raymond
(勞思傑醫生)

Prof. CHEUNG Chi-wai
(張志偉教授)

Dr TSANG Kay-yan
(曾祈殷醫生)

Dr CHEUNG Fung-ching
(張豐青醫生)

Secretary : Ms Maria CHOW
(周群英女士)

Dr HO Pak-leung, JP
(何栢良醫生)

Legal Adviser : Mr Edward SHUM
(岑炳生先生)

Mr LAI Kwan-ho, Raymond
(賴君豪先生)

Licentiate Committee

Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel (Chairman)
(蔡堅醫生)

Dr CHONG King-yea
(莊勁怡醫生)

Dr CO Tiong-hong, Michael
(許長峯醫生)

Prof. KONG Pik-shan, Alice
(江碧珊教授)

Dr KONG Wing-ming
(江永明醫生)

Dr LAM Wing-wo
(林永和醫生)

Prof. LEE Ho-fun, Victor
(李浩勳教授)

Dr LEUNG Ching-kan, Jackie
(梁靜勤醫生)

Prof. LEUNG Wai-hong, Thomas
(梁慧康教授)

Dr TANG Yiu-hang, Simon
(鄧耀鏗醫生)

Secretary : Ms Phyllis KO
(高依麗女士)

Legal Adviser : Mr Edward SHUM
(岑炳生先生)

Deemed Preliminary Investigation Committee

Prof. FOK Tai-fai, SBS, JP (Chairman)
(霍泰輝教授)

Dr IP Wing-yuk (Deputy Chairman)
(葉永玉醫生)

Mrs BIRCH LEE Suk-yea, Sandra, GBS, JP *
(李淑儀女士)

Dr FOO Kam-so, Stephen
(傅鑑蘇醫生)

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP *
(許美嫦女士)

Mr HUNG Hin-ching, Joseph *
(孔憲正先生)

Dr NG Kwok-keung
(吳國強醫生)

Dr SUN Tin-fung, David
(孫天峰醫生)

Dr TSO Raymond
(曹忠豪醫生)

Mr WONG Hin-wing, Simon, MH *
(黃顯榮先生)

Secretary : Ms Maria CHOW
(周群英女士)

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

Preliminary Investigation Committee (1)

Dr CHENG Chi-man (Chairman)
(鄭志文醫生)

Dr HAU Kai-ching (Deputy Chairman)
(侯佳禎醫生)

Mr CHAN Wing-kai
(陳永佳先生)

Ms CHUI Hoi-yee, Heidi
(徐凱怡女士)

Dr CHEUNG Chin-pang
(張展鵬醫生)

Mr LAM Ho-yan, Mike
(林浩恩先生)

Dr CHIU Shing-ping, James
(趙承平醫生)

Secretary : Mr Ambrose WONG
(黃兆雄先生)

Preliminary Investigation Committee (2)

Dr LUNG David Christopher, MH (Chairman)
(龍振邦醫生)

Dr BEH Swan-lip (Deputy Chairman)
(馬宣立醫生)

Mr CHAN Hiu-fung, Nicholas, MH, JP
(陳曉峰先生)

Dr SO Yui-chi
(蘇睿智醫生)

Dr CHOW Wing-sun
(周榮新醫生)

Ms WU Ka-lai, Cary
(胡嘉麗女士)

Mr LAM Chi-yau
(林志紉先生)

Secretary : Mr Ambrose WONG
(黃兆雄先生)

Special Registration Committee

Prof. TANG Wai-king, Grace, SBS, JP (Chairperson)
(鄧惠瓊教授)

Prof. CHAN Ka-leung, Francis, SBS, JP
(陳家亮教授)

Dr LI Mun-pik, Teresa, JP
(李敏碧醫生)

Mr CHAN Wing-kai
(陳永佳先生)

Dr TANG Yiu-hang, Simon
(鄧耀鏗醫生)

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, MH, JP
(許美嫦女士)

Prof. WU Ting-yuk, Anthony, GBS, JP
(胡定旭教授)

Prof. LAU Chak-sing, Wallace, BBS, JP
(劉澤星教授)

Secretary : Ms Catherine WONG
(黃慧儀女士)

Prof. LAU Wan-ye, Joseph, SBS
(劉允怡教授)

Legal Adviser : Mr Edward SHUM
(岑炳生先生)

Prof. LEUNG Ka-kit, Gilberto
(梁嘉傑教授)

Assessors

Lay Assessors

Mr CHAN Hiu-fung, Nicholas, MH, JP (陳曉峰先生)	Ms MA Man-chi (馬敏姿女士)
Ms Anna CHOW MW (周敏華女士)	Mr MO Pak-kuen (巫伯權先生)
Ms CHUI Hoi-ye, Heidi (徐凱怡女士)	Ms NG Ka-man, Rendy (吳嘉汶女士)
Ms HO Yuk-wai, Joan (何玉慧女士)	Mr NG Ting-shan (伍庭山先生)
Mr HUI Cheuk-lun, Lawrence (許卓倫先生)	Ms SHARMA Asha Rani (沈慧文女士)
Mr LAI Hing-kwan (黎慶坤先生)	Mr TSANG Kin-ping (曾建平先生)
Mr LAI Kwan-ho, Raymond (賴君豪先生)	Ms WONG HY Careen (黃巧欣女士)
Mr LAM Ho-yan, Mike (林浩恩先生)	Mr WONG Ka-kin, Andy (黃家健先生)
Ms LAU Sze-wan, Serena, MH, JP (劉詩韻女士)	Ms WU Ka-lai, Cary (胡嘉麗女士)
Mr LAW Yu-wing (羅裕榮先生)	Ms Teresa WU (烏佩貞女士)
Miss LEE Suk-ye, Rosalind (李淑儀女士)	Mr YEUNG Chi-wai, Edwin, MH (楊志偉先生)
Mr LUI Wing-cheung, Kenneth (呂永翔先生)	Mr YUEN Hon-lam, Joseph (袁漢林先生)

Medical Assessors

Dr BEH Swan-lip (馬宣立醫生)	Dr LAU Ho-lim (劉浩濂醫生)
Dr CHAN Hung-chiu, Peter (陳洪昭醫生)	Prof. LAU Yu-lung, BBS, JP (劉宇隆教授)
Dr CHAN Nim-tak, Douglas (陳念德醫生)	Dr LEUNG Hon-fai, Henry (梁漢輝醫生)
Dr CHAN Pik-kei, Osburga (陳碧姬醫生)	Dr LEUNG Kit-hung, Anne (梁結雄醫生)
Dr CHEUNG Wan-kit, Raymond (張允傑醫生)	Dr LI Wilson (李威儀醫生)
Dr CHIU Shing-ping, James (趙承平醫生)	Prof. LUI Cho-ze, Joseph (雷操夷教授)
Dr CHOW Wing-sun (周榮新醫生)	Dr MOK Chun-keung, Francis (莫俊強醫生)
Prof. CHOW Yat-ngok, York, GBS, MBE (周一嶽教授)	Dr NG Kwok-keung (吳國強醫生)
Dr CHOY Chung-ming, Eric (蔡中銘醫生)	Dr SO Hing-yu (蘇慶餘醫生)
Dr CHUNG Wai-hung, Thomas (鍾偉雄醫生)	Prof. SZETO Cheuk-chun (司徒卓俊教授)
Dr HAU Kai-ching (侯佳禎醫生)	Dr TAM Sau-man, Barbara (譚秀雯醫生)
Dr HSU Yung-chak (許榕澤醫生)	Prof. TAN Choon-beng, Kathryn (陳俊明教授)
Prof. HUI Mamie (許明媚教授)	Dr TONG Kai-sing (唐繼昇醫生)
Prof. KONG Pik-shan, Alice (江碧珊教授)	Dr WAI Yuk-chun, Veronica (韋玉珍醫生)
Dr KWOK Kam-hung (郭錦洪醫生)	Prof. WONG Kwok-chu, George (黃國柱教授)
Dr KWOK Siu-yin, Janette (郭少燕醫生)	Dr WUN Yiu-chung (尹耀宗醫生)
Dr LAI Wing-him (黎榮謙醫生)	