



Code of Professional Conduct

Section 2.5

In a Coroner's inquest into the death of a patient after surgery, the jury made a recommendation that the relevant authorities (including the Medical Council) should consider issuing guidelines to the effect that:-

- (i) a doctor be required to explain to the patient and set out in the consent form in details the nature, effect, risks and complications of the proposed operation; and
- (ii) the consent form should be signed by the patient, the doctor and the witness all at the same time, and the date of signing should be specified in the form.

At the request of the Coroner's Court and on the recommendation of its Ethics Committee, the Medical Council has decided to revise section 2.5 of the Code of Professional Conduct. The revised section 2.5 is appended below for information of and compliance by members of the medical profession and supersedes the previous version as promulgated in the Newsletter Issue No. 18 of October 2011 with immediate effect:-

2.5 Express and specific consent is required for major treatments, invasive procedures, and any treatment which may have significant risks. Specifically:-

- (i) Consent for major surgical procedures involving general anaesthesia must be given in writing.
- (ii) For written consent, a reasonably clear and succinct record of the explanation given should be made in the consent form. The patient, the doctor and the witness (if any) should sign the consent form at the same time. Each signatory must specify his/her name and the date of signing next to his/her signature.

Advice/ Information for All Registered Medical Practitioners

Notification of dismissed complaints

Under the Medical Registration Ordinance, Cap. 161, Laws of Hong Kong, the Medical Council is responsible for regulating the discipline of registered medical practitioners.

The Preliminary Investigation Committee (“PIC”) of the Medical Council is responsible for investigation of complaints. The Medical Practitioners (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulation provides for processing of complaints in three stages -

- (i) initial screening by the PIC Chairman and Deputy Chairman jointly;
- (ii) consideration by the PIC; and
- (iii) disciplinary inquiry by the Medical Council.

At the initial screening stage, a complaint will be dismissed if it is frivolous or groundless. If a complaint is dismissed during initial screening, the current arrangement is that the doctor concerned will not be notified, and the doctor may never know that there has been a complaint against him/her.

The PIC has recently reviewed the above arrangement. The PIC is of the view that although some matters being complained of (such as poor communication skill and attitude) may not constitute professional misconduct, they may develop into larger problems and deteriorate into misconduct if the doctors concerned continue to behave in the same manner. Such problems can be prevented if the doctors, being alerted to the complaints, take early steps to address those matters.

The Medical Council considers that it will be to the benefit of the doctors concerned to notify them of the complaints, even if the complaints have been dismissed during the initial screening stage. The Medical Council has therefore decided that for complaints received on or after 1 December 2012, the PIC will notify the doctors concerned of the complaints which have been dismissed during initial screening, and a copy of the dismissed complaint will be enclosed.

It must be emphasized that such notification is by no means any indication of the truth of the allegations in the dismissed complaints. They should only consider whether the complaints reveal anything in their professional practice which will need to be improved.

It is hoped that the new measure will improve the medical profession’s service to meet the rising expectation of the public, and maintain public confidence in the profession.

By a letter to all doctors on 23 November 2012, the Medical Council has informed the medical profession of the above new measure.



Doctors associating with beauty centres

In view of the recent alarming incident of 1 woman having died and 3 women becoming seriously ill after receiving questionable treatment arranged by a beauty centre, the Medical Council wishes to draw the attention of all doctors to the ethical rules relevant to doctors associating with beauty centres and accepting patients referred by such centres.

A doctor providing medical services to patients enters into a doctor-patient relationship, irrespective of whether the patients are referred to him/her by organizations including beauty centres. The treating doctor is always personally responsible for acting in the patient's best interest when providing treatment, irrespective of the business mode or practice setting.

A doctor has a professional obligation to assess whether a proposed treatment is medically appropriate for the patient. He/she must properly explain to the patient the nature, effect and risks of the proposed treatment, and seek informed consent for the treatment from the patient. He/she must have the necessary competence before providing treatment. Medicines dispensed to patients must be labeled with the doctor's name.

A doctor is not allowed to share with any person his/her professional fees for medical service. He/she cannot offer to, or accept from, any person or organizations (including beauty centres) any financial or other inducements for referral of patients.

A doctor must scrutinize the medical contracts and schemes of an organization with which he/she is associated to ensure that the contracts and schemes are ethical and in the best interest of the patients. He/she should dissociate from the organization if it provides substandard medical services, infringes patients' rights, or imposes restrictions on the doctor's independent professional judgment.

A doctor who accepts patients referred by an organization or uses its facilities must exercise due diligence (but not merely nominal efforts) to acquaint himself/herself with its advertisements and promotional activities and ensure that they will not contravene the principles and rules applicable to individual doctors. If the advertisements or promotional activities are in contravention of the principles or rules, he/she should dissociate from the organization. Disciplinary action will be taken against him/her where an advertisement or promotional activity in the name of the organization is in effect promotion of his/her practice.

The following provisions of the Code of Professional Conduct are of particular relevance and must be strictly observed:-

- Section 2 on "Consent to medical treatment"
- Section 8 on "Information about medical innovations"
- Section 9 on "Prescription and labelling of dispensed medicines"
- Section 13 on "Financial relationship with health care organizations"
- Section 14 on "Improper financial transactions"
- Section 18 on "Relationship with health care and health products organizations"
- Section 22 on "New medical procedures"
- Section 24 on "Complementary / alternative treatment modalities"

Rules on Quotable Appointments

The Medical Council's policy on quotable appointments promulgated in May 2000 was:-

“Doctors please note that only those appointments falling within the following criteria are quotable in the course of the professional practice:

- *It should be a bona-fide, current, full-time and paid appointment offered by an approved public medical institution or private hospital in Hong Kong; and*
- *Honorary appointment will not be quotable.”*

The Education and Accreditation Committee of the Medical Council has thoroughly reviewed the above-mentioned policy and made recommendations for it to be replaced by a new set of rules. The Medical Council has adopted the recommended “Rules on Quotable Appointments” (“the Rules”) and promulgated the Rules by a letter to all doctors on 27 September 2012. The Rules are as follows:-

The Medical Council of Hong Kong Rules on Quotable Appointments

1. The Medical Council of Hong Kong has a duty to protect members of the public and patients from misleading information.
2. To protect members of the public and patients from misleading information, doctors are required to comply with the following rules in quoting their appointments for the purpose of professional practice in Hong Kong:-
 - (a) Appointments made by the Hospital Authority, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of Hong Kong and the Department of Health are quotable.
 - (b) For appointments by private hospitals registered with the Department of Health under the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance (Chapter 165, Laws of Hong Kong), the private hospital concerned has to satisfy the Medical Council (through its Education and Accreditation Committee) that it has an established and objective system of offering appointments which is acceptable to the Medical Council, before such appointments could be quoted.



- (c) Honorary appointments (e.g. honorary clinical professor, honorary clinical associate professor, honorary professor, honorary associate professor, honorary assistant professor, tutor, clinical research associate etc) by the medical faculties of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Hong Kong made for the purpose of teaching, research or clinical work in Western medicine are quotable. Honorary appointments by the Hospital Authority, the Department of Health or private hospitals (subject to subparagraph (b) being satisfied) are quotable only if they are related to clinical work in Western medicine.
 - (d) Appointments by private institutions other than those stipulated in subparagraph (b) above are not quotable.
 - (e) Appointments by institutions / organizations outside Hong Kong are not quotable.
 - (f) In quoting those appointments which are allowed to be quoted by the Medical Council, doctors must use the actual titles / appointments / honorary professorship they hold. A doctor not actually appointed at the rank of professor (e.g. assistant professor, associate professor, research assistant professor etc) is not allowed to call himself/herself “Professor” and use the prefix “Professor” as if he / she were employed in the rank of “Professor”.
 - (g) Only bona-fide and current appointments can be quoted (i.e. a previously held appointment is not quotable.).
3. The above rules apply to any form of communication with the public and patients in connection with a doctor’s professional practice in Hong Kong, including but not limited to visiting card, stationeries, practice websites, doctors directories, etc.
 4. The above rules do not apply to circumstances unconnected with a doctor’s professional practice.
 5. “Emeritus Professor” satisfies paragraph 2 of the Rules on Quotable Appointment and can therefore be quoted as it is a lifetime appointment and is held by the appointee even after his / her retirement.
 6. The above rules will be reviewed in 12 months’ time after implementation.

To allow sufficient time for doctors to make necessary arrangements to comply with the Rules, the Rules will be implemented 9 months after promulgation (i.e. on 27 June 2013), at which time the above-mentioned policy will cease to have effect. The Rules will be reviewed after having been implemented for 12 months (i.e. in June 2014).

The purpose of the Rules is to ensure that patients and the public will be protected from misleading information which may improperly influence their choice of doctors for consultation. The Rules should be read in conjunction with section 5 “Professional communication and information dissemination” of the Code of Professional Conduct.

Paragraph 2(b) of the Rules provides that a private hospital has to satisfy the Medical Council that its appointment system is acceptable before its appointments can be quoted by doctors in their medical practice. Application for such confirmation by the Medical Council should be made in accordance with the “Guidelines on Quotability of Appointments by Private Hospitals” using the designated application form, which are available at the website of the Medical Council (<http://www.mchk.org.hk/qa.htm>). All private hospitals have been advised to submit such applications as early as possible (preferably by the end of December 2012) to ensure that processing of the applications can be completed before implementation of the Rules on 27 June 2013.

Letters to all doctors and private hospitals are also available at the above website.



Quotable Qualifications

New quotable qualifications

The Medical Council has approved the following qualifications for inclusion in the List of Quotable Qualifications (“List”):-

| | Title of Qualification | Abbreviation | Chinese Title |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Master of Science (Medicine), University of New South Wales | MSc (Med) (UNSW) | 新南威爾斯大學 醫學科學碩士 |
| 2. | Master of Science in Speech and Swallowing Research, University of Newcastle upon Tyne | MSc Speech & Swallowing Res (Ncle) | 紐卡素大學言語及 吞嚥障礙研究學碩士 |
| 3. | Fellow of American College of Cardiology | FACC | 美國心臟科學院院士 |
| (Remarks: Only quotable by those who acquired the qualification through examination or other modes of formal assessment.) | | | |
| 4. | Fellow of the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists | FCCMG | 加拿大醫學遺傳學 專科學院院士 |
| 5. | Postgraduate Diploma in Mental Health, The Chinese University of Hong Kong | PDip Mental Health (CUHK) | 香港中文大學精神 健康醫學學士後文憑 |
| 6. | Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Medicine and Rehabilitation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong | PgD MMR (CUHK) | 香港中文大學 骨關節醫學及 復康學士後文憑 |
| | Master of Science in Musculoskeletal Medicine and Rehabilitation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong | MSc MMR (CUHK) | 香港中文大學 骨關節醫學及 復康理學碩士 |
| (Remarks: A medical practitioner possessing both qualifications can quote only one of them.) | | | |

Qualifications only quotable by doctors with specific approval

The Medical Council has also approved 3 applications for quotability of qualifications under the specifically approved category in the List as follows:-

| | Title of Qualification | Abbreviation | Chinese Title | Date of approval by the Medical Council | Reference |
|----|--|---------------------------------|----------------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Doctor of Philosophy (Medical Science), Tohoku University | PhD (Medical Science) (Tohoku) | 東北大學醫學科學哲學博士 | 4 October 2011 | MC/QQ/02/11 |
| 2. | Doctor of Philosophy in Social Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong | Ph.D. in Social Medicine (CUHK) | 香港中文大學社會醫學哲學博士 | 5 September 2012 | MC/QQ/01/12 |
| 3. | Doctor of Science, University of Cambridge | ScD (Cantab) | 劍橋大學理學博士 | 5 September 2012 | MC/QQ/03/12 |

Change of names of quotable qualifications

The Medical Council at the Policy Meeting on 7 March 2012 agreed to change the name of the quotable qualification “Diplomate, American Board of Family Practice” to “Diplomate, American Board of Family Medicine” upon being informed of the change of name of the “American Board of Family Practice” to “American Board of Family Medicine”. The Medical Council endorsed the following details of the qualification:-

| Title of Qualification | Abbreviation | Chinese Title |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Diplomate, American Board of Family Medicine | DABFM | 美國家庭醫學醫學委員會文憑 |
| (Remarks: The name of “American Board of Family Practice” was changed to “American Board of Family Medicine” on 1 January 2005. “Diplomate, American Board of Family Practice” should now be quoted in the above form.) | | |



The Medical Council at the Policy Meeting on 4 July 2012 agreed to change the name of the quotable qualification “Fellow, Faculty of Accident and Emergency Medicine, United Kingdom” to “Fellow, College of Emergency Medicine” upon being informed of the change of name of the “Faculty of Accident and Emergency Medicine” to “College of Emergency Medicine”. The Medical Council endorsed the following details of the qualification:-

| Title of Qualification | Abbreviation | Chinese Title |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Fellow, College of Emergency Medicine | FCEM | 急症科醫學院院士 |

(Remarks:

- (1) The name of “Faculty of Accident and Emergency Medicine” was changed to “College of Emergency Medicine” on 1 January 2006. “Fellow, Faculty of Accident and Emergency Medicine, United Kingdom” should now be quoted in the above form.
- (2) “College of Emergency Medicine” refers to the one in United Kingdom only.)

Application for quoting research master and doctoral degrees

Doctors are advised that individual approval would be required for quoting the specifically approved qualifications (i.e. research master and doctoral degrees other than “Master of Surgery” and “Doctor of Medicine”) included in the List. Applications for quoting the specifically approved qualifications should be made to the Education and Accreditation Committee of the Medical Council.

Amendments to the Revised Guidelines for Consideration of Quotable Qualifications and application form

The Medical Council at the Policy Meeting on 2 May 2012 decided to amend the Revised Guidelines for Consideration of Quotable Qualifications and the application form to make it clear that an applicant can only make an application for inclusion of a qualification in the List after he has been conferred with that qualification. The Revised Guidelines and the application form is available for downloading at the website of the Medical Council (http://www.mchk.org.hk/revised_guidelines.htm). Any enquiries on this matter should be directed to the Medical Council Secretariat at 2873 4853.

Addition of New Specialties in the Specialist Register

At its meeting on 16 November 2012, the Education and Accreditation Committee of the Medical Council accepted the recommendation of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine to add the following two specialties to the Specialist Register:-

- (i) Pain Medicine (疼痛醫學)
- (ii) Paediatric Immunology & Infectious Diseases (兒童免疫及傳染病科)

Enquiries relating to the application for inclusion of names under the Specialist Register or change of specialty should be directed to the Medical Council Secretariat at 2873 4829.

Results of the 2011 Election of the Medical Council of Hong Kong

The Medical Council held its 16th election of Medical Council Members on 21 December 2011 to fill three vacancies. Dr TSE Hung Hing, Dr LI Chung Ki, Patrick, BBS, JP and Dr CHENG Chi Man were re-elected / elected by obtaining 1,606, 1,284 and 1,166 votes respectively. Their term of office as Members of the Medical Council commenced from 24 January 2012 for a period of three years.



Statistics on Disciplinary Cases Handled by the Medical Council

Complaints received by the Medical Council

| <u>Nature</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
| 1. Disregard of professional responsibility to patients | 320 | 329 | 348 | 349 | 294* |
| 2. Conviction in Court | | | | | |
| (a) Failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs | 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 | - |
| (b) Others | 8 | 8 | 25 | 33 | 61 |
| 3. Issuing misleading/false medical certificates | 55 | 39 | 43 | 29 | 29 |
| 4. Practice promotion | 27 | 25 | 15 | 13 | 19 |
| 5. Misleading, unapproved description & announcement | 4 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 12 |
| 6. Improper, indecent behaviour to patients | 8 | 9 | 5 | 14 | 2 |
| 7. Abuse of professional position to further improper association with patients | - | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| 8. Fitness to practise | 1 | - | 4 | - | 2 |
| 9. Abuse of professional confidence | 3 | 7 | 5 | - | 1 |
| 10. Depreciation of other medical practitioner(s) | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| 11. Drug-related cases (excluding court convictions) | 3 | 6 | 2 | 5 | - |
| 12. Improper delegation of medical duties to unregistered persons | 4 | - | 3 | 1 | - |
| 13. Sharing fee and improper financial transaction | - | - | 2 | 3 | - |
| 14. Miscellaneous | 33 | 29 | 25 | 14 | 38 |
| Total: | 472 | 469 | 493 | 476 | 461 |

Remarks:

- (i) Of the 461 complaints received in 2011:
- 291 cases (63.1%) are being processed or pending additional information
 - 114 cases (24.7%) were dismissed by the PIC Chairman and the PIC Deputy Chairman in consultation with the Lay Member as being frivolous or groundless
 - 46 cases (10%) were referred to the PIC meeting, out of which 3 cases (0.6%) were referred to inquiry
 - 10 cases (2.2%) could not be pursued further because the complainants failed to provide further information or statutory declaration, the complaints were anonymous or withdrawn, etc.
- (ii) *The breakdown of cases on “disregard of professional responsibility to patients” in 2011 is as follows:
- (a) Unsatisfactory result of treatment - 79 cases
 - (b) Inappropriate medical advice/explanation - 74 cases
 - (c) Inappropriate prescription of drugs - 51 cases
 - (d) Improper diagnosis - 20 cases
 - (e) Unnecessary treatment - 7 cases
 - (f) Fees and miscellaneous - 63 cases

Breakdown on the complaints received in 2011 which were dismissed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) of the Medical Council as being frivolous or groundless

| <u>Nature of Complaint</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Doctors' attitude/Doctor-patient communication | 21 |
| 2. Unsatisfactory results of treatment | 18 |
| 3. Fees dispute | 16 |
| 4. Disagreement with doctor's medical opinion | 13 |
| 5. Sick leave and related matters | 12 |
| 6. Practice promotion/descriptions/announcements | 7 |
| 7. Undesirable reactions to drugs prescribed | 4 |
| 8. Misdiagnosis | 2 |
| 9. Alleged indecent behaviour to patients | 1 |
| 10. Miscellaneous | 20 |
| | Total: 114 |

Work of the PIC of the Medical Council

| <u>Nature</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Total no. of cases considered by the PIC | 99 | 151 | 103 | 108 | 99* |
| 2. Total no. of cases referred by the PIC to Council for inquiries, or no inquiry | 34 | 27 | 41 | 49 | 59# |
| 3. Total no. of cases referred by the PIC to Health Committee for hearing | - | 1 | 2 | - | - |

Remarks:

*The major categories of cases considered by the PIC in 2011 include:

| | | | | | |
|---|--|----------|--|------------------|--|
| (a) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients | | | | | |
| - failure/unsatisfactory results of surgery | | 16 | | | |
| - inappropriate prescription of drugs | | 13 | | | |
| - failure to properly/timely diagnose illness | | 9 | | | |
| - failure to give proper advice/explanation | | 3 | | | |
| - conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment/surgery | | 2 | | | |
| - others | | <u>1</u> | | 44 | |
| (b) Conviction in court | | | | 29 | |
| (c) Misleading, unapproved description and announcement | | | | 11 | |
| (d) Issuing misleading/false medical certificates | | | | 4 | |
| (e) Improper, indecent behaviour to patients | | | | 3 | |
| (f) Advertising/canvassing | | | | 2 | |
| (g) Miscellaneous | | | | 6 | |
| | | | | Total: 99 | |



#The major categories of cases referred by the PIC to the Medical Council in 2011 include:

| | <u>No. of Cases</u> | |
|---|---------------------|------------------|
| Recommended for no inquiry | | |
| Conviction in court | | |
| - careless driving | 24 | |
| - causing or permitting another person to use vehicle without insurance | 1 | |
| - failure to comply with Buildings Ordinance order | <u>1</u> | 26 |
| Recommended for inquiry | | |
| (a) Conviction in court | | |
| - failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs | 1 | |
| - indecent assault | 1 | |
| - loitering causing concern | <u>1</u> | 3 |
| (b) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients | | |
| - inappropriate prescription of drugs | 10 | |
| - failure/unsatisfactory results of surgery | 3 | |
| - failure to properly/timely diagnose illness | 2 | |
| - conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment/surgery | 1 | |
| - others | <u>7</u> | 23 |
| (c) Abuse of professional confidence | | 3 |
| (d) Advertising/canvassing | | 2 |
| (e) Issuing misleading/false medical certificates | | 1 |
| (f) Miscellaneous | | <u>1</u> |
| Total: | | <u><u>59</u></u> |

Work statistics of the PIC of the Medical Council in the year of 2011

| | Jan-Mar | Apr-Jun | Jul-Sept | Oct-Dec | Total |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| No. of PIC Meetings | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 11 |
| No. of cases considered | 14 | 16 | 25 | 44 | 99 |
| No. of cases dismissed (%) | 4 (28.6 %) | 10 (62.5 %) | 13 (52.0%) | 13 (29.5 %) | 40 (40.4 %) |
| No. of cases referred to Medical Council (%) | 10 (71.4 %) | 6 (37.5 %) | 12 (48.0 %) | 31 (70.5 %) | 59* (59.6 %) |
| No. of cases referred to Health Committee (%) | -- (0%) | -- (0%) | -- (0%) | -- (0%) | -- (0%) |

* 26 cases were of minor offences and the Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no inquiry was to be held.

Disciplinary inquiries conducted by the Medical Council in 2011

| <u>No. of Cases</u> | <u>Nature</u> | <u>Decision of the Council</u> |
|---------------------|--|--|
| 10 | Disregard of professional responsibility to patients | 2 Warning Letter (not gazetted) 2 Not guilty 1 1 charge: Removed for 15 months 1 charge: Removed for 6 months (removal orders run concurrently) 2 charges: Reprimanded 1 1 doctor: 1 charge: Removed for 12 months 1 doctor: 2 charges: Removed for 11 months 1 charge: Removed for 8 months (removal orders run concurrently) 1 Removed for 12 months 1 Removed for 3 months 1 Removed for 6 months (suspended for 2 years) 1 1 charge: Removed for 3 months (suspended for 2 years) 6 charges: Removed for 1 month (suspended for 2 years) (removal orders run concurrently) |
| 6 | Conviction in court - 1 failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs (overseas) - 4 failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs | 1 1 charge: Removed for 4 years 2 charges: Warning Letter (gazetted) 1 1 charge: Removed for 6 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 charge: Reprimanded 1 1 charge: Removed for 10 months 1 charge: Removed for 4 months (2 months of removal orders run concurrently, making a total of removal for 12 months) 1 1 doctor: Removed for 3 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 doctor: Removed for 2 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 doctor: Reprimanded (suspended for 1 year) 1 Removed for 1 month (suspended for 1 year) 1 Removed for 9 months |
| 4 | Practice promotion/advertising | 2 Removed for 2 months (suspended for 2 years) 1 Removed for 3 months (suspended for 2 years) 1 4 doctors: Removed for 1 month (suspended for 2 years) |
| 1 | Issuing misleading/false medical certificates | 1 2 charges: Warning Letter (gazetted) |
| 21 | [Summary: 19 cases: guilty 2 cases: not guilty All these cases were referred for inquiry by the PIC meetings held in/before 2011] | |



Figures on appeal cases

| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| No. of appeals lodged | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| No. of appeal cases carried forward from previous years | 6 | 7 | 10 | 12 | 13 |
| Total no. of appeal cases in progress in the year: | 10 | 11 | 14 | 18 | 18 |

Results of appeal cases concluded in 2011:

| | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Dismissed by Court of Appeal | 6 |
| (b) Allowed by Court of Appeal | 2 |
| (c) Appeal withdrawn | 4 |
| | 12 |

Reminders

Duty to report

The Medical Council would like to remind members of the profession that they should report the conviction of any offence punishable by imprisonment to the Medical Council within 28 days of the conviction, 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 by 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.”

Your attention is drawn that some offences e.g. careless driving, failing to comply with Building Order, riding as passengers in rear seat not securely fastened with seat belt, driving bicycle in country park without consent of the Authority, etc. may appear to be trivial but they are in fact offences punishable by imprisonment and need to be reported to the Medical Council. As such, you are reminded to check the nature of the conviction and report the matter to the Medical Council in case of doubt.

Change of registered address

Under the Medical Registration Ordinance, 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 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
Wan Chai, Hong Kong**

**Tel. No.: 2961 8648/2961 8655
Fax No.: 2891 7946/2573 1000**

The address provided will be used for the purposes associated with registration under the Medical Registration Ordinance. 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 the registered address may be a practising address, a residential address or a Post Office Box number, the Medical Council advises the applicant that the practising address be provided as the 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 the registered medical practitioner's registered address in the Gazette is a mandatory requirement under the Medical Registration Ordinance, the Medical Council has decided that a registered medical practitioner may choose whether to have his/her registered address published in the Medical Council's website. Any subsequent change in your choice must be notified in writing to the Registrar of Medical Practitioners. Given the size of the updating exercise which involves over 13,000 entries, the list of registered medical practitioners on the website will be updated in April and October each year. Any request for changing the publication of registered address and/or any other information in individual entries on the Medical Council's website will be processed only during the updating exercises.



Membership Lists

| Medical Council of Hong Kong | |
|--|---|
| Prof. LAU Wan-ye, Joseph (Chairman) (劉允怡教授) | |
| Miss CHAN Ching-har, Eliza BBS JP (陳清霞女士) | Prof. LAM Lo-kuen, Cindy JP (林露娟教授) |
| Dr CHAN Hon-ye, Constance JP (陳漢儀醫生) | Dr LAM Tzit-yuen, David (林哲玄醫生) |
| Dr CHAN Yee-shing (陳以誠醫生) | Ms LAU Wai-ye, Monita (劉慧兒女士) |
| Miss CHAU Man-ki, Mabel MH (周敏姬女士) | Dr LEUNG Chi-chiu (梁子超醫生) |
| Dr CHENG Chi-man (鄭志文醫生) | Dr LI Chung-ki, Patrick BBS JP (李頌基醫生) |
| Dr CHEUNG Hon-ming (張漢明醫生) | Dr LI Kwok-tung, Donald SBS JP (李國棟醫生) |
| Dr CHOI Kin, Gabriel (蔡堅醫生) | Prof. Felice LIEH-MAK GBS CBE JP (麥列菲菲教授) |
| Dr CHOW Chun-kwan, John (周振軍醫生) | Dr LO Su-vui (羅思偉醫生) |
| Dr CHOW Pak-chin (周伯展醫生) | Dr SHEA Tat-ming (佘達明醫生) |
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*serve on a rotation basis each for a period of 3 months