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Dr WM KO,
Secretary for Food and Health
18/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

16 March 2015

Dear Dr Ko,

Re: Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities

The Hong Kong College of Community Medicine (the College), would like to submit our comments on the captioned subject.

As a professional organisation consisting of specialist doctors working to improve the health of the community, the College supports the Government's proposal to introduce a new regulatory regime for private healthcare facilities which covers private hospitals, facilities providing high-risk medical procedures in ambulatory setting, and facilities providing medical services under the management of incorporated bodies.

The proposed scope of regulation covers three different types of healthcare institutions. The scope will expand much in terms of scale and the complexity of regulatory aspect as compared with the regulated healthcare institutions under the current regulatory regime.

With the advancement in medical technology, a growing number of medical procedures used to be undergone only in hospitals are now commonly performed in ambulatory settings. The introduction of registration system for facilities performing high-risk procedures and setting standards on management, physical conditions, service delivery and care process, infection control and resuscitation and contingency will safeguard patient safety. The College concurs that the scope of high-risk procedures for facilities that are to be regulated and procedure-specific standards should be regularly updated with the expert input from



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Last but not the least, the College believes that an important enhancement to the existing regulation will be in the aspect of quality and safety. The College agrees that a comprehensive clinical governance system is an important element to promote quality assurance and patient safety in healthcare institutions.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ronald LAM
Honorary Secretary

c.c. Mr Elmer Wan, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine