

# Healthcare

- Earmarked a total provision of \$200 billion in 2016 for the implementation of the 10-year hospital development plan, which will provide more than 5 000 additional beds and 90 additional operating theatres.
- Completed a review of the operation of the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2015. The recommendations of the review, including refining the delineation of cluster boundaries and resource allocation model, etc. are to be implemented by the HA in three years' time.
- Published the report on the first territory-wide Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development in 2017, aiming to ensure a stable supply of healthcare manpower in the long term and set the directions for the development and regulation of healthcare professions.
- Improved the operation of the Medical Council of Hong Kong by introducing administrative measures to facilitate the operation of the Council as far as practicable and proposing legislative amendments to improve the complaint handling mechanism of the Council, increase its lay participation and extend the maximum validity period of limited registration for non-locally trained doctors from one year to three years.
- Released the Consultation Report on the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme in 2017. It summarised the consultation outcomes and set out a non-legislative framework for implementation.
- In 2017, the Private Healthcare Facilities Bill was introduced into the LegCo. The Bill provided for a new regulatory regime with enhanced protection for the rights of patients.
- In 2016, \$10 billion was allocated to HA to set up the HA Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Fund. HA would make use of the investment returns for regularising and enhancing clinical PPP programmes being undertaken on a pilot basis, as well as developing new clinical PPP initiatives.

- Launched the General Outpatient Clinic PPP Programme in 2014. Clinically stable HA patients having hypertension and/or diabetes mellitus are invited for voluntary participation and selection of a participating service provider as their family doctor.
- Launched the Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHRSS) formally in 2016. With patients' consent, healthcare providers in the public and private sectors can share their medical records. The eHRSS is well-received in the community, with more than 500 000 registered users now.
- In March 2017, LegCo approved funding of \$422 million for the development and enhancement work under Stage Two eHRSS.
- Implementing progressively the recommendations of the Chinese Medicine Development Committee, which include:
  - the Government reserving a site for and financing the construction of a Chinese medicine hospital;
  - launching the Integrated Chinese-Western Medicine (ICWM) Pilot Project since 2014 to provide ICWM in-patient treatment in a total of seven public hospitals; and
  - before the establishment of the permanent Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute (GCMTI), setting up a temporary GCMTI in the Science Park to develop internationally-recognised reference standards for Chinese medicines and related products with a view to enhancing quality control of Chinese medicines.
- The Mental Health Review Committee established in 2013 completed the Review on Mental Health in April 2017. An Advisory Committee on Mental Health will be set up to follow up on and implement the recommendations of the Review Committee.
- In August 2013, launched a four-year Pilot Project on Dental Service for Patients with Intellectual Disability to provide subsidised dental service supplemented with special support measures to eligible adults with intellectual disability. As of February 2017, over 1 800 persons had benefited.

- Implemented comprehensive measures to prevent emerging global public health threats including the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, Avian Influenza A (H7N9), Ebola virus disease and Zika virus infection.
- In 2016, introduced a three-year Colorectal Cancer Screening Pilot Programme with an allocation of about \$420 million to subsidise eligible persons to receive colorectal cancer screening. It is estimated that 300 000 persons will be benefited.
- Established the High Level Steering Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance in 2016. In May 2017, the Committee submitted to the Government a five-year community-wide action plan to tackle the threat of antimicrobial resistance.
- Implemented since 2013 the “zero quota” policy for Mainland “doubly non-permanent resident pregnant women” giving birth in Hong Kong.
- In 2015, launched an 18-month Pilot Study of Newborn Screening for Inborn Errors of Metabolism (IEMs) in two public hospitals which covered a total of 24 IEMs. Over 15 000 babies were screened for IEMs under the Pilot Study. The service has been regularised since April 2017 and will be extended to all public hospitals with maternity wards in phases.
- In 2014, set up the Committee on Promotion of Breastfeeding to enhance the effort to promote breastfeeding through multi-pronged strategies. Among others, promulgated in June 2017 the “Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants & Young Children” to protect breastfeeding from being undermined by inappropriate marketing practices of formula milk and related products; and also decided to require that baby care facilities and lactation rooms be provided in suitable new government premises to further increase the provision of facilities to support breastfeeding.
- Increased the tobacco duty by 11.7% in 2014 and designated eight bus interchanges at tunnel portal areas as no-smoking

areas in 2016.

- Proposed to expand the size of health warnings to cover at least 85% of the two largest surfaces of the packets or retail containers of tobacco products in 2017.
- Established the Committee on Promotion of Organ Donation and introduced the Organ Donation Promotion Charter in 2016.
- The registration number of the Centralised Organ Donation Register increased from around 160 000 in 2014 to over 250 000 as at May 2017. The number of new registration in 2016 was nearly two fold of that in 2014.
- From December 2012, trawling activities were banned to conserve fisheries resources.
- In 2013, export control of powdered formulae was imposed to safeguard sufficient and stable local supply.
- From June 2013, an assistance scheme involving \$230 million was launched to assist 4 300 fixed-pitch hawkers to enhance the fire safety, functionality and appearance of their stalls.
- From July 2013, the different fee levels for municipal services in the urban area and the New Territories, covering 93 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) service items, were aligned based on the lower of the two levels.
- The Private Columbaria Bill was introduced into LegCo in 2014 and passed in May 2017.
- District Councils have been consulted on 15 columbarium projects, which will provide about 600 000 new niches in total, accounting for about two-thirds of the total number of planned new niches.
- In 2014, a \$500 million Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund was set up to assist the fisheries trade to develop into a sustainable and high value-added operation mode.
- In 2016, implemented the New Agriculture Policy to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture, including the establishment of an Agricultural Park and exploring the feasibility of designating Agricultural Priority Areas.

- In 2016, set up a \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund to provide funding support to projects that would enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability.
- In 2014, strengthened the regulation on pesticide residues in food.
- In 2015, implemented import control of poultry eggs to reduce avian influenza risk.
- In 2015 and 2016, implemented the statutory requirements by phases to regulate the nutritional composition or labelling of formula products and prepackaged food for infants and young children.
- From July 2015, lowered the threshold of tenants' support for the retrofitting of air-conditioning facilities in public markets from 85% to 80%.
- In 2015, launched the "Keep Clean 2015 @ Hong Kong: Our Home" campaign and a regular meeting mechanism with the relevant committees on environmental hygiene under the 18 District Councils was subsequently put in place.
- In 2017, announced that the Government has initially identified suitable sites in the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area and HSK NDA for building sizable public markets.
- In 2017, legal amendments came into operation to strengthen regulation of animal trading through a new licensing scheme on regulating dog breeding and trading, with a view to protecting animal welfare.
- In 2017, the public consultation on the recommendations of the consultancy study on the live poultry trade in Hong Kong was completed and the way forward for the live poultry trade was mapped out.
- In the past five years, the expenditure on street cleansing has increased by \$410 million. An additional \$119 million will be allocated annually to enhance environmental hygiene and strengthen the related enforcement and prosecution work.
- In the past five years, a total of \$127 million has been allocated to improve public market facilities and increase manpower to enhance market management. Between 2015-16 and

2017-18, a total of \$293 million has been earmarked to replace escalators/lifts which have been in use for more than 20 years.

- In the past five years, mosquito prevention and control work has been vigorously implemented. The number of dengue fever cases recorded in Hong Kong is far lower than those of some neighbouring places. No local cases of Zika virus infection have been recorded in Hong Kong so far.
- In the past five years, a total of 2 750 prosecutions have been initiated against unauthorised display of non-commercial publicity materials and banners.