

**The Sixth Meeting of the Medical Sub-committee on
the Community Care Fund
21 March 2012**

Summary of Discussion

The Medical Sub-committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) held its sixth meeting on 21 March 2012. A summary of discussion is as follows:

1. Members noted the progress of the First Phase Programme of the CCF Medical Assistance Programmes. As at 29 February 2012, the Hospital Authority (HA) approved a total of 171 applications. The total approved amount of subsidy was about \$14.36 million with an average of \$84,000 for each application, and among the beneficiaries, there were more lung cancer and kidney cancer patients. Moreover, the HA had started an established mechanism to conduct a review to identify the self-financed cancer drug that were suitable for inclusion into the First Phase Programme.
2. Members noted the progress of the Second Phase Programme of the CCF Medical Assistance Programmes. As at 29 February 2012, the HA approved a total of 120 applications. The total approved amount of subsidy was about \$2.64 million with an average of \$22,000 for each application. The Government had proposed to inject \$10 billion into the Samaritan Fund (SF) in the 2012-13 Budget. In view of this, the HA was considering the provision of allowances when calculating the total value of disposable assets and simplification of the tiers of patients' contribution ratio for medical expenses, so as to further ease their burden of medical expenses. Such measures could complement assistance programmes under the CCF.
3. The HA would submit the proposal on the expanded self-financed drug items under the SF to the Medical Services Development Committee of the HA Board in May. The proposal would also have impact on the implementation of the CCF Medical Assistance Programmes.
4. Members noted the progress of preparation for the programme to provide subsidy for dental services for the elders. The Hong Kong Dental Association would strengthen the publicity of the programme with a view to soliciting more support from the dentists.

5. Members noted the background information of non-drug items under the SF, and agreed that non-drugs items currently subsidised by the SF needed not be covered under the CCF.
6. Regarding the financial burden arising from medical equipment, medical consumables and caring service faced by the severely disabled persons, the HA and the Social Welfare Department had been working on the details of how to use a case management approach to strengthen the supporting service for them.