



The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing
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< The Chief Executive's 2019 Policy Address >

The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing welcomes CE's 2019 Policy Address to safeguard Hong Kong citizens' healthcare, particularly on (1) primary health care (2) regulation of nursing specialties and (3) ban on e-cigarettes and related products.

The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing, composed of 14 Specialty Colleges, would like to make the following recommendations based on the above 3 points:

1. Primary health care

We welcome the Government in establishing the first Kwai Tsing District Health Centre (DHC) in strengthening primary health care, and promised to introduce DHC / DHC Express in the remaining 17 districts within the term of the current government. We recommend the Government to strengthen policy and resource support to equip nurses with required competence in primary health care so as to facilitate the Government in promoting district-based primary healthcare.

2. Regulation of nursing specialties

We welcome the Government, with the ultimate aim of setting up a statutory registration system, to launch in early 2020 a voluntary registration scheme for the development of nursing specialties. In order to maintain the excellent health care services in Hong Kong, retention and cultivation of talents as well as managing the contemporary complex health care delivery services, the regulation of advanced practising nurses in specialty areas is necessary and is in alignment with international development. This is also for the protection of public safety. The HKAN and the 14 Academy Colleges have set clear competence framework, education standards and assessment criteria for certifying nurses who are performing at the advanced practice level in specified specialty areas. The HKAN and Academy Colleges have been working closely with the universities that provide Master programs and the Hospital Authority and private hospitals to facilitate theoretical education and clinical training. The HKAN has done the ground work in setting standards and building mechanisms for advanced nursing practice with the involvement of nurse leaders and clinical experts in both the public and private sectors, with standards on par with international counterparts. We ask the Government and the Nursing Council to appoint the HKAN based on the expertise and assets built over the years to help expedite the policy directives of the government.

3. E-cigarette and related products bill

We support the Government's proposed Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019 to prohibit the import, manufacture, sale, distribution and advertisement of alternative smoking products, including e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn products and herbal cigarettes for the health of the public, particularly the health of youths and adolescents.

Media enquiry:

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