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Health Services

(formerly under the then Health and Welfare Bureau)

Detailed Progress

1 Advocate the development of a living environment conducive to health and ensure the availability of a lifelong preventive programme promoting health, wellness and self-responsibility

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past year. Details are set out below —

Initiative *	Target #	Present Position †
To strengthen preventive services to provide lifelong holistic care	• To implement a territory-wide parenting programme in 2002-2003	• (Action in Progress : On Schedule)
(Department of Health (DH))	• To fully launch an adolescent health programme in 2001-2002	• (Action in Progress : On Schedule)
	• To set up 18 outreaching teams by 2003-2004 to cover all secondary schools to equip students with skills on adolescent development and challenges	• (Action in Progress : On Schedule)
	• To launch a pilot men' shealth programme in 2002	• (Action in Progress : On Schedule)

* the bracketed information denotes the agency with lead responsibility for the initiative

the bracketed information denotes the year in which the target was set

† the bracketed information denotes the status of the target

Initiative	Target	Present Position
	• To launch a cervical screening programme for women in collaboration with other health care providers in 2003-2004	• (Action in Progress : On Schedule)
	• To implement universal ante-natal HIV screening from September 2001	• (Action Completed)
	• To develop a plan for re-organisation of the Central Health Education Unit	• (Action Completed)
	(2001)	
To strengthen smoking cessation services (DH/Hospital Authority)	• To establish ten hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres beginning 2002	(Action Completed)
	• To introduce a nicotine replacement therapy in General Out-patients Clinics in 2002	
	(2001)	

2 Ensure the development of an appropriately balanced health care system with capacity and capability to deliver lifelong, holistic and seamless services to the general public

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past year. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To increase the number of public hospital beds (Hospital Authority (HA))	To provide 366 additional public hospital beds in 2002-2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To increase the number of day places (<i>HA</i>)	To provide 80 additional day places in 2002-2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To facilitate the integration of the primary and secondary levels of care in the public sector (HA/Department of Health (DH))	To develop in 2002 an implementation plan for transferring the General Out-patient Clinics from DH to HA (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To promote family medicine practice by providing relevant training opportunities (HA)	To recruit 75 family medicine trainees in 2002-2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To provide Chinese medicine services in the public sector (<i>HA</i>)	To provide Chinese medicine out-patient services in 18 clinics by 2005 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To implement a pilot <u>EX</u> tended-care patients Intensive <u>T</u> reatment, Early diversion and <u>R</u> ehabilitation <u>S</u> tepping-stone (EXITERS) Project to provide a one-year intensive rehabilitation and treatment programme for psychiatric patients with a view to facilitating their early integration with the community (HA)	 To implement the pilot EXITERS Project in 2002-2003 To discharge in 2003-2004 100 psychiatric patients who participated in the EXITERS Project into the community, and to increase the number of patients discharged to 125 in 2004-2005, and to 150 patients per year for the years 2005-2006 to 2007-2008 (2001) 	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To extend Women Health Service (DH)	To extend Women Health Service to five Maternal and Child Health Centres (MCHCs) in 2001-2002 and five more MCHCs in 2002-2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To explore with the dental profession on introducing an oral health scheme for secondary school students (DH)	To initiate discussion with the dental profession in 2002 with a view to introducing the scheme for secondary students (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To commence dialogue with the private sector with a view to exploring scope for closer collaboration (the then Health and Welfare Bureau)	To establish the Working Group on Public/Private Interface and conduct regular meetings beginning 2001-2002 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To contain antibiotic resistance in the community (DH)	To set up a working group with representatives from the public and private sectors in 2002 to establish a territory-wide Antibiotics Resistance Surveillance System (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To provide adequate professional manpower through training of doctors in various clinical specialties (HA)	To recruit 270 doctors in 2002-2003 for training in various clinical specialties (including 75 family medicine trainees) (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To strengthen the provision of extended care services in public hospitals (HA)	To employ 1 000 care assistants in 2002-2003 to strengthen the provision of extended care services in public hospitals (2001)	(Action Completed)

Ensure the development and maintenance of a framework of quality assurance to support the consistent delivery of quality health services based on knowledge and centred on patients

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past year. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To enhance the professional knowledge and skills of health care professionals through Hospital Authority's e-Knowledge Gateway (eKG), an electronic access gateway to clinical practice guidelines and research evidence of clinical effectiveness (Hospital Authority (HA))	 To enrich the contents of the existing eKG on eight specialties and to cover seven additional specialties by 2003 To make the enhanced eKG accessible to health care professionals in Hong Kong by 2003 (2001) 	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To promote the adoption of accreditation by private hospitals (<i>Department of Health</i> (<i>DH</i>))	 To complete the second round of accreditation in 2003-2004 To develop a Code of Practice for private hospitals on standards of good practice in 2002-2003 and implement the Code of Practice in 2003-2004 (2001) 	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To promulgate information on the prevention and control of tuberculosis (DH/HA)	To jointly develop a tuberculosis and chest website and produce a CD-ROM for distribution to all doctors in 2001-2002 (2001)	(Action Completed)
To enhance the capability of community nurses in rehabilitation and home hospice services (HA)	To conduct training programmes on hospice and rehabilitation nursing for 150 community nurses by 2002 (2001)	(Action Completed)
To upgrade basic nursing education to tertiary level to improve the quality of care (HA)	To sponsor 200 nurses to take up conversion courses in tertiary education institutions in 2002-2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To disseminate guidelines on HIV Management and Sexually Transmitted Disease Case Management (DH)	To promulgate updated guidelines to all doctors in 2002 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To expand the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme to cover clinical pathology laboratories in Hong Kong (Innovation and Technology Commission)	To introduce the new service in 2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

4 Ensure the development of health-sensitive, healthprotecting and health-promoting public policies, infrastructure and legislative framework to support the long-term sustainability of the health care system

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past year. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To develop the Hong Kong Chinese Medicinal Herbs Standards (Department of Health)	To develop regulatory standards for some commonly used Chinese medicinal herbs in 2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To monitor the safety of Chinese medicines (Government Laboratory)	 To introduce a new service for the analysis of organochlorine and organophosphorous pesticides residues in 2002-2003 To increase the number of samples analysed for heavy metals and western drugs by 75% and 50% respectively from 2002-2003 (2001) 	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To amend the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance to further control the use and promotion of tobacco products (the then Health and Welfare Bureau (HWB))	 To complete the analysis of the written submissions in response to the consultation document, and set out the Government's final recommendations in 2002 To prepare the Drafting Instructions for the legislative amendments to the Ordinance in 2002 (2001) 	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To promote the advancement of knowledge in areas of human health and health services (<i>HWB</i>)	To set up a Health and Health Services Research Fund by 2002-2003 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To further develop health care financing option in the form of Health Protection Account (HPA) (HWB)	To complete studies on the HPA by 2003-2004 (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To strengthen the evidence-base of health policy formulation (<i>HWB</i>)	To commission new research studies in 2002-2003 to support policy initiatives (2001)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

5 Ensure that a supportive legislative and policy framework is in place for the protection of public health and the delivery of quality health services

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below -

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To introduce subsidiary legislation to facilitate controls over the trading and manufacture of Chinese medicines (the then Health and Welfare Bureau (HWB))	To complete the legislative process in 2001 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To develop and set standards for Chinese medicines in partnership with the Chinese medicine and relevant professions	To formulate the registration criteria and standards for the registration of proprietary Chinese medicines in 2001	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
(Department of Health (DH))	(2000)	
To develop a statutory framework to monitor and regulate the health claims advertised in the market (HWB /DH)	To study the feasibility of developing such a regulatory framework in 2001 (2000)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To replace the existing drug-related ordinances by new legislation (<i>HWB</i>)	To prepare the necessary legislation in 2000 (1999)	The present regulatory framework over the sale of drugs is being re-examined in the context of developments in control arrangements. (Action in Progress : Under Review)
To organise the Tenth International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities in Hong Kong in 2001 in collaboration with World Health Organisation (WHO) (DH)	To work with WHO representatives in preparation for the conference which aims at exchanging drug information, fostering consensus on contemporaneous issues, and harmonisation of standards of drug approval (1999)	(Action Completed)
To put in place statutory measures to ensure that human reproductive technology will be safely practised (<i>HWB</i>)	To issue in early 1999 to all relevant parties a voluntary code of practice, which will provide detailed guidelines for service providers on reproductive technology and embryo research (1998)	(Action Completed)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To put in place a statutory framework for regulation and control of Chinese medicine (<i>HWB</i>)	To commence the registration of Chinese medicine practitioners and to phase in controls over the use, trading and manufacture of Chinese medicines in 2000 (1998 and 1997)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

6 Ensure the availability of qualified, competent and committed health care professionals to deliver quality health services

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To set up and implement the registration system for Chinese medicine practitioners (Department of Health (DH))	To process the registration applications received and set up the Register for Chinese medicine practitioners in early-2001 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To promote the development of family medicine practice by providing more training opportunities (<i>Hospital Authority</i> (<i>HA</i>))	To increase the number of family medicine trainees in the HA from 210 to 316 by 2001-2002 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To upgrade basic nursing education to tertiary level to improve the quality of care (HA)	To facilitate 200 nurses to take up conversion courses in tertiary education institutions in 2001-2002 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To promote clinical audit practice which helps to identify mistakes and improve the overall quality of health care service <i>(HA)</i>	To set up a web-based learning forum in 2001-2002 for sharing experience and knowledge in clinical audit practice (2000)	(Action Completed)

7 Ensure the availability of a comprehensive and holistic preventive programme which promotes health and lifelong wellness

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below -

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To restructure and enhance the existing preventive services	• To initiate a pilot adolescent health programme	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
(Department of Health (DH))	• To develop a cervical screening programme for women	
	• To develop a programme for men's health	
	• To promote healthy ageing, with focus on proper diet and exercise	
	(2000)	
To enhance health promotion and disease prevention campaigns (DH)	To deploy additional staff in 2001-2003 to enhance the level of public awareness and participation in health campaigns	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
	(2000)	
To conduct a territory-wide oral health survey to assess the community's oral health status and needs	To complete the survey and assessment in 2001-2002 (2000)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
(DH)		

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To enhance anti-smoking efforts through education and enforcement measures (DH)	To implement a package of publicity and educational programmes in 2001-2003 to discourage smoking (2000)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To establish a Cancer Co-ordinating Committee to review the collation of relevant data and devise preventive strategies (DH/Hospital Authority)	To set up the Committee in 2001 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To strengthen further the ability of the Government to conduct disease surveillance and enhance control and prevention of infectious diseases (DH)	To set up a new Public Health Laboratory Centre in Shek Kip Mei by 2002 (1998)	(Action Completed)
To enhance the government's information base by establishing and maintaining a Public Health Information System, which sets out the community's health status and disease patterns (DH)	To establish a Public Health Information System by 2003 (1998)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)

8 Ensure the availability of adequate health care facilities and services to meet the needs of the community

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below -

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To increase the number of public hospital beds (<i>Hospital Authority</i> (<i>HA</i>))	To provide 409 additional public hospital beds in 2001-2002, increasing the total number to about 29 400 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To introduce family medicine practice in general out-patient services (HA)	To implement a pilot scheme in five general out-patient clinics by 2002 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To strengthen the out-patient and outreach support for discharged mental patients (<i>HA</i>)	To provide an additional 2 500 patients new psychiatric drugs which improve the quality of life of the mentally ill (2000)	(Action Completed)
To carry out a pilot programme for early detection and treatment of young people with psychotic illnesses (HA)	To assess 1 400 persons aged under 25 in 2001-2002 to identify for early treatment those suffering from psychotic problems (2000)	(Action Completed)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To introduce a Patient Transport Service to facilitate easy access by frail elderly patients living in the community to receive out-patient services in hospitals and clinics (HA)	To implement the pilot scheme in 2001-2002 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To provide out-patient Chinese medicine services in the public sector (Department of Health/ HA)	To finalise options on modes of provision, with a view to introducing pilot services in 2001-2002 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To construct a Trauma and Emergency Centre at the Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department of the Prince of Wales Hospital (HA)	To complete the project by 2001 (2000)	(Action Completed)
To re-model Tsan Yuk Hospital into an ambulatory centre (<i>HA</i>)	To commence the re-modelling of Tsan Yuk Hospital in 2001-2002 after the relocation of its obstetric in-patient services to the Queen Mary Hospital (2000)	(Action Completed)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To re-model the Tang Shiu Kin Hospital into an ambulatory care centre after the removal of its A&E services to the Ruttonjee Hospital (HA)	To commence planning for the re-modelling project, with a view to completion in 2004 (2000)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To improve the general physical conditions in public hospitals (HA)	To implement a special two-year minor works programme to enhance the repairs and maintenance of the hospitals (2000)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To develop an electronic health information database for storage of medical records and exchange of knowledge within the health sector (<i>the then Health and</i> <i>Welfare Bureau/HA</i>)	To conduct a project definition study in 2001 (2000)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To rationalise obstetric services to achieve optimal utilisation of delivery service and to re-deploy resources for the enhancement of other services (HA)	To relocate in-patient obstetric services from Tsan Yuk Hospital to Queen Mary Hospital by 2001 (1999)	(Action Completed)

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To rationalise the services provided at Tang Shiu Kin Hospital, Ruttonjee Hospital and Tang Chi Ngong Specialist Clinic (HA)	To complete the rationalisation by 2003 (1999)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To redevelop and expand Pok Oi Hospital to meet the rising demand for services in Northern New Territories (HA)	To complete the redevelopment and increase the number of beds in Pok Oi Hospital by 272 to 742 by 2006 (1998)	(Action in Progress : On Schedule)
To establish a radiotherapy centre with 68 in-patient beds and out-patient facilities at Princess Margaret Hospital (HA)	To open the centre by 2003 (1998)	The project has been combined with another project on improvement works for the Accident & Emergency Department of the Hospital. The combined project is scheduled for completion by 2005. (Action in Progress : Under Review)