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Service Fee Increase for Private Doctors under GOPC Public-Private Partnership Programme

The Hospital Authority (HA) has launched the General Outpatient Clinic Public-Private Partnership (GOPC PPP) Programme on a pilot basis in Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Tuen Mun districts since mid-2014. Following the smooth implementation for one year, HA has decided to increase the service fee for the participating private doctors from \$2,708 to \$2,872 per patient per year at the maximum with retrospective effect from 1 July 2015.

Calculation of the adjustment was based on the commonly use Composite Consumer Price Index (Medical Services) (CCPI) (Med), published in the Monthly Report on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) by the Census and Statistics Department of the HKSAR, for the period from August 2013, when the HA-commissioned independent agency completed the fee survey on service providers, to June 2015.

The HA Director (Cluster Services) Dr Cheung Wai-lun said, “The HA has been closely monitoring the implementation of the GOPC PPP Programme and communicating with private doctors, patients, the community and other concerned parties. Their views and opinions are all valuable for future development of the Programme.”

“After a year of operation, HA has recently endorsed the increase in Service Fee for private doctors under the Programme. The maximum total payment to participating private doctors per patient per year, covering up to 10 consultations, will be adjusted from \$2,708 to \$2,872 (i.e. +6.1%). Participating patients, however, will continue to pay the unchanged HA GOPC fee of \$45.”

“The Programme has been smoothly implemented for one year and encouraging response has been garnered. I would like to express my gratitude to all private doctors and patients for their participation and support to the Programme,” said Dr Cheung.

“As at mid-July this year, there are 90 private doctors and over 4,600 patients participating in the Programme. The number of participating private doctors has already exceeded the initial planning target of 60. The number of participating patients also far exceeded the first-year planned provision of 3,000.”

The HA will continue to monitor closely the implementation of the GOPC PPP Programme and is also undertaking an interim review to look into the key implementation issues and operating experiences, focusing on the Programme's scope, operations, and support. Taking into account the responses from private doctors and patients as well as initial directions from the interim review, it is anticipated that, by end 2015, HA will map out an initial roll-out plan for extending the GOPC PPP Programme, including the scope of chronic diseases, number of patients, and the implementation timeframe for individual districts.

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