

香港中醫藥管理委員會

CHINESE MEDICINE COUNCIL OF HONG KONG

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Dear all registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners,

Amendments to “Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners in Hong Kong”

The Chinese Medicine Ordinance enacted in July 1999 has accorded the professional status to Chinese Medicine Practitioners (CMPs). To uphold professional standards of CMPs, the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (CMPB) has compiled “Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners in Hong Kong” (the Code) to regulate the practice conduct in respect of professional responsibilities, professional ethics, practicing rules, medical practice and practice advertising.

In 2008 and 2010, the CMPB revised the Code relating to practice advertising and academic titles and practicing qualifications allowed by the CMPB to be exhibited, and were included into the Code reprinted in 2011.

With reference to the past experience in handling disciplinary cases of CMPs, the CMPB has recently revised the deadline for reporting conviction of offence to the CMPB, and required that if a registered CMP has been convicted of an offence punishable with imprisonment (irrespective of whether a prison term is imposed or not), or found guilty of misconduct in practice of Chinese medicine or any other professional respect in Hong Kong or elsewhere, he must report the matter to the CMPB within 28 days from the date of the conviction or the professional misconduct finding, even if the matter is under appeal.

The aforementioned revision gives a clear and precise ruling for the CMPs concerned to follow and at the same time allows the CMPB to have an objective standard to judge when considering relevant disciplinary case. In addition, this can also speed up the process of disciplinary inquiry and punishment against those CMPs whom have committed serious crime and avoid damaging confidence of the public towards Chinese medicine profession.

Furthermore, in view of the social development and popularity of the use of internet, uploading passport type photo of CMPs would not have the effect of practice advertising in general, and may enable patient to recognize the CMP from the uploaded photo when necessary, after balancing the interests of CMPs and patients, the CMPB has decided to permit CMPs to upload their passport type recent photo on the internet.

The two aforementioned revisions to the Code will take effect on 1st July 2015. All registered CMPs must comply with “Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners in Hong Kong” as conditions on practice of Chinese medicine. Any breach of the Code may be regarded as committing professional misconduct.

The CMPB has set out the aforementioned revisions of the Code to all CMPs in Issue no. 39 of PB Newsletter which was published in late April this year. A copy of “Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners in Hong Kong” (1st July 2015) is now enclosed for your perusal. For any enquiry, please contact the Secretariat of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong at 2121 1888.

(Dennis CHIU)
Secretary of
Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board,
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