

Chapter 5 Future Work and Direction of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong

Renewal of Practising Certificates

The usual validity period of a practising certificate is three years. The practising certificates of about 794 registered CMPs will expire in 2013. The Practitioners Board will issue letters to notify the registered CMPs concerned of the arrangements for the renewal of their practising certificates about three months in advance of the expiry dates.

2013 CMPs Licensing Examination

The Written Examination of the 2013 CMPs Licensing Examination will be conducted in June, and the Clinical Examination will be conducted from early August to mid-August 2013. The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority will continue to assist the Practitioners Board to conduct these examinations.

Disciplinary Issues of CMPs

The Practitioners Board and its Disciplinary Committee will continue to process any disciplinary cases of CMPs.

Codes of Practice of CMPs

The Practitioners Board and its Ethics Committee will review the professional codes of CMP as needed.

Work on Licensing of Chinese Medicines Traders

The Chinese Medicines Traders Committee has completed the conversion of all transitional certificates into trader licences by end of 2011. It will continue processing new applications for Chinese medicines trader licences and renewal of licences. To be qualified for licence, the Chinese medicines traders must fulfill all of the licensing requirements. Since the relevant legislative provisions of the licensing requirements of Chinese medicines traders and the penalties have come into operation, any Chinese medicines trader who is not issued with licence is not permitted to operate business in Chinese medicines.

Work on Implementation of Mandatory Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for Hong Kong Proprietary Chinese Medicine Manufacturing Business

The Medicines Board and the Department of Health will continue to organise sharing and briefing sessions to collect opinions from the trade on the GMP implementation timetable and details.

Chinese Medicines Traders conducting Business of Chinese Medicines at Domestic Premises

The Medicines Board has decided not to accept any new application for Chinese medicines trader licences of which a domestic premises being the address of operation of Chinese medicines business. The Medicines Board has allowed sufficient time for the licensed Chinese medicines traders who are

currently operating at domestic premises to relocate to suitable premises. The grace period will end on 31 December 2013.

Regulatory Work on Chinese Medicines Traders

The Medicines Board and the Regulatory Committee of Chinese Medicines Traders will continue to handle cases related to complaints against licensed Chinese medicines traders in 2013.

Work on Registration of Proprietary Chinese Medicines (pCms)

With the commencement of the legislative provisions related to the mandatory registration of proprietary Chinese medicines (pCm) and the requirements of label and package inserts on December 2010 and December 2011 respectively, the Medicines Board and the Chinese Medicines Committee under the Board will continue to process applications for registration of pCm. The legislative provisions related to label and package inserts have commenced for over one year. With due consideration to the compliance of provisions of the trade, the enforcement policy upon legislative provisions regarding the requirements of label and package inserts for all registered pCm will be reviewed in 2013.