

## Chapter 5

# Future Work and Direction of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong

### Implementation of System of Continuing Education in Chinese Medicine (CME) for Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners

The fourth review on the implementation of the CME system is scheduled to be conducted in 2012.

### Renewal of Practising Certificates

The usual validity period of a practising certificate is three years. The practising certificates of about 2,571 registered CMPs will expire in 2012. 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.

### 2012 CMPs Licensing Examination

The Written Examination of the 2012 CMPs Licensing Examination will be conducted in June, and the Clinical Examination will be conducted from early August to mid-August 2012. 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 Conduct of CMPs

The revised Codes of Conduct have been released to all CMPs in January 2011, 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 and the penalties under the Chinese Medicine Ordinance have come into operation, any Chinese medicines traders who are not issued with licences are not permitted to operate their business in Chinese medicines.

### Work on Implementation of Mandatory Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for manufacture of Proprietary Chinese Medicines (pCms)

The Medicines Board and the Department of Health will continue to conduct sharing and briefing sessions to collect opinions from the trade on the timetable for mandatory compliance with GMP for manufacture of pCms.

### Chinese Medicines Traders conducting Business of Chinese Medicines at Domestic Premises

The Medicines Board has decided not to accept any new applications for Chinese medicines trader licences operating in domestic premises. The Medicines Board has allowed a grace period for the licensed Chinese medicines traders who are currently operating in 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 handling cases related to complaints against licensed Chinese medicines traders in 2012.

### Work on Registration of Proprietary Chinese Medicines (pCms)

With the commencement of the legislative provisions related to the mandatory registration of pCm and the requirements of label and package inserts, the Medicines Board and its Chinese Medicines Committee will continue processing applications for registration of pCms. The enforcement arrangement against non-compliance of label and package inserts for all registered pCm will be reviewed in one year, i.e. December 2012.