

SFH welcomes appointment of HA Chief Executive

The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, welcomed the appointment of Dr Tony Ko Pat-sing as Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority (HA) today (November 1). Dr Ko's appointment will take effect from August 1, 2019.

Congratulating Dr Ko on his appointment, Professor Chan said, "Dr Ko has rich experience in clinical services and public hospital management, as well as proven leadership and management skills. I am confident that Dr Ko will be able to rise to the challenges and lead the Authority to scale new heights.

"We will work hand in hand with the HA Chairman and the newly appointed HA Chief Executive to continue to provide quality medical services to the community amidst the challenge of an ageing population.

"We are sure that we will continue our close partnership with the HA in serving the community under the leadership of Dr Ko.

"I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Dr Leung Pak-yin for his invaluable contribution to HA over the past years. May I wish him all the best in his future endeavours."

Labour Department to hold occupational health public talks

The Labour Department (LD) will hold a public talk entitled "Prevention of lower limb disorders" at 3pm on November 8 (Thursday). The talk will introduce the symptoms, treatment and preventive measures of common lower limb disorders including plantar fasciitis, varicose veins and osteoarthritis of the knee.

The LD will hold another talk entitled "Occupational health for workers in pre-primary education services" at 6.30pm on November 13 (Tuesday). To enhance workers' awareness of occupational health, the talk will elaborate on occupational health hazards and their preventive measures for workers in pre-primary education services.

Both talks will be held in Activity Room 1, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay. Given by the LD's occupational health nurse

in Cantonese, the talks will include demonstration and practice of workplace exercise. Admission is free. For enquiries or registration, please call 2852 4040.

Hospital Authority announces appointment of Chief Executive (with photo)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) Chairman, Professor John Leong, today (November 1) announced the appointment of Dr Tony Ko as the Chief Executive of the Authority with effect from August 1, 2019 for a term of three years, succeeding Dr Leung Pak-yin.

Dr Ko's appointment has been endorsed by the HA Board and approved by the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, after several rounds of global searching and a thorough deliberation by the Selection Board chaired by the HA Chairman and appointed by the HA Board.

In making the announcement today, Professor Leong said, "With the unfailing support of all HA staff members, Dr Ko will be able to take the HA to new heights on the solid foundation built under the leadership of Dr Leung Pak-yin.

"The HA Board is confident that Dr Ko's wealth of experience, both in the clinical and management arenas, as well as his proven leadership and management capability, will continue to lead the HA to serve the community with quality services and achieve our vision of 'Healthy People, Happy Staff, Trusted by the Community'. Dr Ko demonstrates clear vision and passion for HA's future development with a solid grasp of the key challenges facing the organisation as well as in-depth knowledge of hospital operations," Professor Leong added.

In accepting the appointment, Dr Ko said that he was honoured to be appointed to lead a dedicated and professional team of staff in the HA. "With the pool of experienced and committed staff in the HA, the staunch support from the Government and the HA Board, and the close collaboration with the healthcare sector and community partners, I am confident that the HA will be able to attain a higher level of achievement."

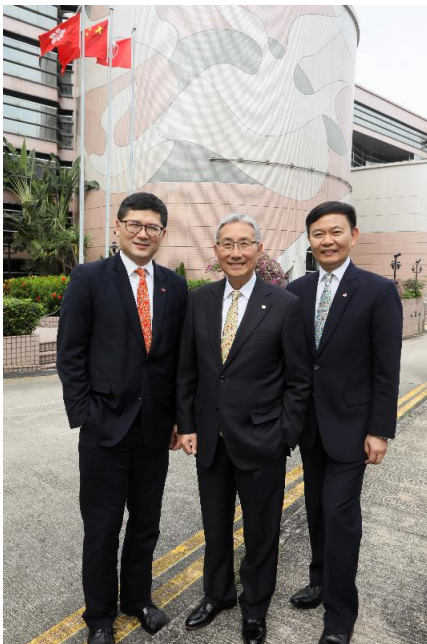
Adding that he would not underestimate the challenges ahead for the HA, Dr Ko said, "Amid the rapidly ageing population and escalating service demand, we will need to keep recruiting more healthcare staff, as well as

redeveloping and expanding our hospitals to improve the facilities and augment service capacity."

Dr Leung said that Dr Ko has proven his outstanding leadership and rapport with frontline colleagues while serving as the Cluster Chief Executive at New Territories West. "In his current role as Director of Cluster Services, Dr Ko also demonstrated his excellent skills in the prudent deployment of public resources while addressing the needs of different stakeholders."

Dr Ko is a physician by background and is currently the Director of Cluster Services at the HA Head Office. Prior to his current role, he served as the Cluster Chief Executive of New Territories West for three years and a number of senior executive positions in the Head Office, including Chief Manager (Strategy, Service Planning and Knowledge Management) and Chief Manager (Patient Safety and Risk Management). In his current role as Director (Cluster Services), he is in charge of cluster performance, clinical grade management (manpower, career progression and training), public-private partnership, pharmaceutical services, development and management of integrated care programmes such as cancer and clinical oncology, diabetes, renal, stroke and mental health.

Dr Leung will continue to perform his duty in the HA until the end of July 2019 upon completion of his current contract. Professor Leong extended his appreciation to Dr Leung for his dedication and the great job he has accomplished as the Chief Executive in the past years, and said he looked forward to his continuing contribution in the coming months to ensure a smooth transition.



Appointment to Family Council

The Government today (November 1) announced the appointment of Dr Lam Chi-yan as a member of the Family Council with immediate effect until March 31, 2019, to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Miss Phoebe Tang.

Dr Lam is a researcher in the Hong Kong Policy Research Institute and her research experience will help advance the work of the Council.

Since its establishment in 2007, the Council has been serving as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for examining family-related policies and promoting a culture of loving families in the community.

The membership list and terms of reference of the Family Council are available at the webpage of the Family Council (www.familycouncil.gov.hk/english/home/home_intro.htm).

Classes of kindergartens, schools for children with physical disability and schools for children with intellectual disability suspended

Please broadcast the following special announcement immediately and repeat it at suitable intervals:

Here is an Education Bureau special announcement concerning schools:

As the Hong Kong Observatory will consider issuing the Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal no. 3 between noon and 2 p.m., classes of kindergartens, schools for children with physical disability and schools for children with intellectual disability are suspended today. These schools, however, should keep their premises open and implement contingency measures to look after arriving students. They should ensure that conditions are safe before allowing students to return home. Parents need not pick up their children from schools immediately.