

The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong Bill gazetted

â€œTo facilitate the preparation for the operation of The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong (CMHHK), the Government published The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong Bill in the Gazette today (February 14) to make technical amendments to multiple existing legal provisions, such that those applicable to public hospitals or private healthcare facilities (PHFs) will also apply to CMHHK under the same circumstances, thereby ensuring the smooth commencement of services of CMHHK.

CMHHK, developed by the Government and currently under construction, is directly under the Health Bureau. CMHHK is neither a public hospital managed by the Hospital Authority under the Hospital Authority Ordinance (Cap. 113) nor a PHF specified under the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Cap. 633). References to "hospitals" in some of the existing legal provisions only include public hospitals or PHFs, and therefore are not applicable to CMHHK. In this connection, the Government will introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council to make technical amendments to 17 existing legal provisions relating to the operation of CMHHK, so that the provisions will also apply to CMHHK to meet its operational needs.

The Bill will also specify and offer protection for the Chinese title é!™æ,`ä,ét«ét«é™¢ and the English title "The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong" of CMHHK located at 1 Pak Shing Kok Road, Tseung Kwan O in the New Territories, with the names intended for exclusive use by CMHHK. Anyone involved in the unauthorised use of or unauthorised association with those names will be liable to a fine at level 3 (\$10,000) upon conviction.

The Bill will be introduced into the Legislative Council for first reading on February 19.

CMHHK is scheduled to commence services in phases starting from the end of this year, signifying an important milestone in the development of Chinese medicine (CM) in Hong Kong. As a flagship CM institution in Hong Kong, CMHHK will undertake five key missions of development, including provision of government-subsidised and market-oriented healthcare services, training and education, research, collaboration and creation of health values. CMHHK will also serve as a change-driver in close collaboration with the CM industry and stakeholders to drive the overall development of CM in Hong Kong, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the international community.

With its construction funded by the Government, CMHHK will adopt a public-private partnership model for its operation. In 2021, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) was selected through tendering procedures as the Contractor. The Contractor subsequently incorporated the HKBU Chinese Medicine Hospital Company Limited in accordance with the service deed to manage, operate and maintain CMHHK as the Operator.