

On strengthening co-operation in talent exchanges, the current-term HKSAR Government has launched a series of more proactive measures to attract talents. The HKSAR Government will continue to enhance and strengthen Hong Kong's dual roles as an international talent hub and the country's gateway for talent, and discuss with the Guangdong Provincial Government to strengthen co-operation in various aspects to expedite the building of a talent hub in the GBA and promote high-quality development of the GBA and the country.

Guangdong and Hong Kong signed a framework agreement on promoting talent co-operation in January this year and set up a co-ordination mechanism on Guangdong-Hong Kong talent co-operation to further promote the flow of diverse talents in the GBA. This turns over a new chapter for the GBA to attract diverse talents. The HKSAR Government successfully organised the Global Talent Summit • Hong Kong in May this year to promote globally Hong Kong's dual roles as an international talent hub and the country's gateway for talents. The "9+2" cities in the GBA signed a memorandum of understanding on promoting collaboration on talent services in the GBA to strengthen co-operation in talent attraction, nurturing and exchanges.

Healthcare

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The HKSAR Government announced on February 19 this year that seven medical institutions in the Mainland cities of the GBA have been included in the Elderly Health Care Voucher Greater Bay Area Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme), offering eligible Hong Kong elderly persons additional options of services points for using the Elderly Health Care Vouchers (EHCVs) in the GBA. Among the medical institutions included in the Pilot Scheme, five of them provide integrated services (including dental services) which are located in Guangzhou, Nansha, Zhongshan, Dongguan and Shenzhen, while the other two are dental institutions located in Shenzhen, enabling eligible Hong Kong elderly persons to use EHCVs to pay for services received. It is estimated that some 1.7 million eligible Hong Kong elderly persons will benefit from the Pilot Scheme. The coverage of EHCVs extended to include the First Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University (FAH-SYSU) in Guangzhou from June 28, offering another service point where eligible Hong Kong elderly persons can use EHCVs for outpatient healthcare services in the GBA. Starting from July 18, the coverage of EHCVs will be further extended to include ZhongshanChenxinghai Hospital of Integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine in Zhongshan. The remaining pilot medical institutions will launch the relevant arrangements from the third quarter of this year.

As regards health and medical innovation, the HKSAR Government will establish the Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trial Institute (GBAICTI) in the Hetao area by the end of 2024. The GBAICTI will provide one-stop clinical trial support services to further enhance the capacity and efficiency of clinical trials in Hong Kong. The HKSAR Government is actively discussing with the Shenzhen Municipal Government to jointly establish a clinical trial collaboration platform in the Hong Kong Park and Shenzhen Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone under the "one zone, two parks" model for the co-ordinated

