

Health Bureau and Shenzhen Municipal Health Commission sign Framework Agreement on Medical Collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong (with photos)

The Secretary for Health, Professor Lo Chung-mau, and the Director General of the Shenzhen Municipal Health Commission, Ms Wu Hongyan, leading delegations of the governments of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and Shenzhen respectively, held in Shenzhen today (September 26) a meeting of the Task Force for Medical Collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. The two parties signed the Framework Agreement on Medical Collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong at the meeting.

The Agreement covers areas such as healthcare services, nurturing of talent, clinical medical research, hospital quality accreditation on an international level and collaboration on Chinese medicine. The signing of the Framework Agreement paves the way for the further deepening of cross-boundary healthcare service development in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and facilitates the flow of talent, drugs and medical devices as well as healthcare services between Shenzhen and Hong Kong.

Professor Lo said, "Under the principle of complementarity and mutual benefits, and on the premise of benefitting the healthcare development of both the Mainland and Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government has all along been working together with various Mainland provinces and cities in reinforcing co-operation on healthcare service development for levelling up healthcare quality. The Framework Agreement signed between the Health Bureau and the Shenzhen Municipal Health Commission would inject new impetus to our joint efforts in pressing ahead the co-ordinated development of the GBA.

"In fact, the HKSAR Government and the Shenzhen Municipal Government have been maintaining close communication with strong co-operation on the healthcare front. During the fifth wave of the COVID-19 epidemic, the two places had seamless collaboration in the monitoring, prevention and control of the epidemic. Upon the full resumption of normal travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong earlier this year, we have been engaging in in-depth interactions with the Shenzhen Municipal Health Commission. We had a constructive discussion during the Task Force meeting today in areas including healthcare innovation, hospital management and service quality advancement.

"Looking ahead, we will remain committed to fostering co-operation within the GBA, so as to propel the important national strategy of 'Healthy China' through concerted contributions."

The Director of Health, Dr Ronald Lam; Deputy Secretary for Health Mr Sam Hui; the Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority, Dr Tony Ko; and other officials of the Health Bureau also attended the signing ceremony.

