

Health Bureau appoints Commissioner for Chinese Medicine Development (with photo)

The Health Bureau (HHB) announced today (April 10) the appointment of Dr Vincent Chung Chi-ho as the Commissioner for Chinese Medicine Development (C for CMD) for a three-year term with effect from May 20, 2024, subsequent to an open recruitment exercise.

Dr Chung is a registered Chinese medicine practitioner of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong (CMCHK), and currently holds the position of Associate Professor at the Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care within the Faculty of Medicine at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He obtained Bachelor's degrees in Chinese Medicine and Biomedical Science from the Hong Kong Baptist University, a Master's degree in Evidence-Based Health Care from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom as well as a PhD in Public Health from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. His research focuses on interdisciplinary studies in healthcare service, public health, and policies pertaining to the delivery of integrated Chinese-Western medicine services, with a publication record of over 170 articles in international peer-reviewed academic journals. Additionally, he has served as a member of advisory bodies such as the Chinese Medicine Development Committee and the CMCHK, providing recommendations to the Government on strategies and regulatory matters for promoting the development of Chinese medicine (CM) in Hong Kong.

A spokesman for the HHB said, "Dr Chung is familiar with the development of CM and public health policies, and at the same time possesses rich experience in areas such as promotion of CM, clinical research on integrated Chinese-Western medicine as well as research on public healthcare and services. Dr Chung will lead the Chinese Medicine Unit (CMU) of the HHB to strenuously engage and maintain close connection with stakeholders of the CM sector to jointly formulate the CM Development Blueprint, which will map out the visions and strategies for the way forward with a view to optimising the top-tier design at the policy level. He will also oversee policy issues relating to the development of the Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong and the Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute as well as aspects including CM services, profession, industry, education, research and public education to drive the all-round high-quality development of CM in Hong Kong.

"Meanwhile, the Government will continue to hold on to the unique advantages of the CM in Hong Kong and leverage the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's distinctive strengths of having strong support of the motherland and close connectivity to the world under 'one country, two systems'. The Government will work hand in hand with the CM sector to enable Hong Kong to play a more significant role under the construction of the Chinese medicine highlands in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area,

thereby contributing to the overall development of CM in the country and assisting the national drive for CM to go global."

Established in 2018, the CMU takes forward the overall planning and co-ordination work for the development of CM in Hong Kong at the policy level. To further push forward the CM development in Hong Kong on all fronts, the Government has been enhancing the functions of the CMU starting from 2023-24, including the creation of a dedicated post of the C for CMD and the recruitment of additional non-directorate supporting manpower with CM professional background.

