

Hospital Authority Welcomes Internship Exemption Arrangement

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) welcomes the decision of the Medical Council of Hong Kong (MCHK) to exempt the internship arrangement of non-locally trained specialist doctors today (May 8). The exemption should be conducive to attracting more non-locally trained doctors to join the local healthcare system.

"There are currently 12 non-locally trained doctors working in public hospitals to relieve the manpower pressure in the specialties of Anaesthesia, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Radiology. HA will also submit limited registration applications to MCHK later this week for another five non-locally trained doctors and for two renewal applications," the spokesperson said.

The overseas recruitment of non-locally trained doctor has been progressing well so far and will be continued. At the moment, there are 14 non-locally trained doctors who have been assessed to be eligible for the recruitment exercise considered suitable for appointment after interviews by user departments. All the applicants have fulfilled related qualification requirements recognised by the constituent Colleges of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, and they all have license to practise in their respective countries. HA will submit limited registration applications for non-locally trained doctors by batches according to their intended date of reporting duty.

Since April this year, HA has expanded the scope of limited registration recruitment scheme to all specialties at the rank of Service Resident, and to recruit non-locally trained specialists at the rank of Associate Consultant in eight specialties (Anaesthesia, Anatomical Pathology, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Otorhinolaryngology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Radiology and Nuclear Medicine) which face significant shortage of specialists.

HA will continue to recruit non-locally trained doctors through limited registration and will liaise with related stakeholders to discuss and enhance the recruit scheme in order to attract dedicated non-locally trained doctors to serve public hospital relieving manpower shortage in public health sector.