



香港醫務委員會
The Medical Council of Hong Kong

行公義
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7 October 2013

Dr Donald LI, SBS, JP
President
Hong Kong Academy of Medicine
10/F, HKAM Jockey Club Building
99 Wong Chuk Hang Road
Aberdeen
Hong Kong

Dear Dr LI,

Timely Application for Renewal of Practising Certificate

The annual practising certificates of doctors for the year 2013 will expire on 31 December 2013. On behalf of the Medical Council of Hong Kong (“the Council”), I am writing to enlist the support of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (“HKAM”) in reminding your members to make timely application for renewal of their annual practising certificates for the year 2014 if they will be practising beyond the said expiry date.

At the recent Policy Meeting, the Council raised concern about doctors practising without valid practising certificates. To draw members of the profession to the relevant statutory requirement, the Council, on the recommendation of its Ethics Committee, decided that the Code of Professional Conduct should be amended by adding the following paragraph in Part I A “Introduction” of the Code, immediately preceding the final paragraph:-

A doctor must comply with the law governing the practice of medicine. Section 20A(1) of the Medical Registration Ordinance provides that “a registered medical practitioner shall not practise medicine, surgery or midwifery in Hong Kong, or any branch of medicine or surgery in Hong Kong, unless he is the holder of a practising certificate which is then in force”.

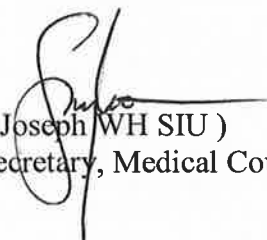
By a notification letter of 25 September 2013 to all individual doctors, the Council has reminded doctors to make timely application for renewal of the practising certificates, and announced that for applications made by 15 November 2013, the practising certificates would be

issued by 31 December 2013 as far as possible. Besides, the Council has advised doctors that under section 19(1)(b) of the Medical Registration Ordinance, the Council may order the removal from the General Register of the name of any person who has not, before 30 June of a year, obtained his practising certificate for that year. The Council will issue a postal reminder to all doctors again in November 2013.

On top of the above effort, the Council would like to enlist the support of HKAM, being a major medical institution, in reminding your members of the importance of timely application for renewal of practising certificates.

We believe that your kind assistance will surely enhance the awareness of your members towards their professional obligation in this area.

Yours sincerely,



(Joseph WH SIU)
Acting Secretary, Medical Council

c.c. MC 4/4/A