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Press Release

Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Announces the Survey Results on the Nomination and Election Mechanisms of its Two Additional Seats in the MCHK

(Hong Kong, 24 January 2018) The Government has submitted the Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill 2017 to the Legislative Council earlier and proposed to add two seats from the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (the “Academy”) in the Medical Council of Hong Kong (“MCHK”). The Academy conducted a survey among all Fellows in December last year in order to better understand their views on the subject. Results revealed a majority of respondents agreed that no prerequisite requirements or conditions would be needed for the two new seats from the Academy and that the two candidates should be nominated and elected by all Fellows.

The Government has made a revised proposal on the composition of MCHK in October 2017. Under that latest proposal, there will be an addition of two seats who are Fellows nominated and elected by Fellows in accordance with the regulations or procedures of the Academy¹. The Academy attaches great importance to Fellows’ views and thus organised a consultation forum on 30 November 2017 to collect their opinions on the nomination and election mechanism of these two additional seats in the MCHK. A survey on this issue was conducted during 12 December 2017 – 5 January 2018.

A total of 7,572 questionnaires were sent out. 1,906 replies were received², giving a response rate of around 25%. The purpose of the survey was to collect views from Fellows on three aspects: 1) eligibility to stand for election; 2) nomination mechanism; and 3) means of election. The survey findings were as below:

1) Eligibility to stand for Election

According to the Government’s proposal, the two additional seats will be taken up by Fellows of the Academy. Under this plan, as the survey findings indicated, a majority of Fellows (75%) agreed that no prerequisite requirements or conditions would be needed for the two seats.

¹ For details of the relevant proposed amendments, please refer to: <https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr16-17/english/bc/bc55/papers/bc5520171103cb2-152-1-e.pdf>

² The HKAM counted the replies on 9 January 2018, witnessed by an independent auditor.



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2) Nomination mechanism

According to the survey results, the majority (83%) considered that the candidates should be nominated by all Fellows directly, not via the Colleges nor by other means.

3) Means of Election

Most of the respondents (93%) agreed that the two additional seats should be elected by all Fellows, but not via the Academy Council nor by other means.

The Academy respects Fellows' opinions. In a recent Council meeting, the Academy Council discussed the survey results and resolved to accept the views reflected by most of the respondents in the survey. Prof. C.S. Lau, President of the Academy, said, "In the future, all our Fellows will be eligible to stand for election of the two additional seats and there will be no prerequisite requirements or conditions. These two additional seats from the Academy in the MCHK will be nominated and elected directly by all our Fellows."

The Academy will ensure the fairness and transparency of the election. Fellows will be engaged in various stages of the nomination and election process. Relevant information of the candidates will be provided to Fellows, so that they can make the right choices to elect the most appropriate Fellows to take up the additional seats in the MCHK.

In the meantime, we will keep a close watch on the legislative process of the Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill 2017, follow up on the issue and communicate with our Fellows in a timely manner.

The Academy would like to take this opportunity to express thanks to all Fellows who have participated in the consultation process and contributed their views, as well as other stakeholders who have supported and provided advice to us. Taking a unique role in the MCHK, the Academy will continue to implement its statutory functions to safeguard the high standards of medical specialist training in Hong Kong.

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About Hong Kong Academy of Medicine

Established in 1993, the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (the “Academy”) is an independent institution with statutory power to organise, monitor, assess and accredit all medical and dental specialist training and oversee the provision of continuing medical education (CME) and continuous professional development (CPD) in the territory. Within 15 constituent Colleges, there are now 67 specialties and subspecialties, with more than 7,500 Academy Fellows who are eligible for registration in the Specialist Register of the Medical Council of Hong Kong or Dental Council of Hong Kong.

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(This press release is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine by Intelligent Consulting Company)