



"Kenneth Chung"

11/06/2008 02:22

To <bestrong@fhb.gov.hk>
cc
bcc
Subject opinion of healthcare financing

Urgent Return receipt Sign Encrypt

Dear Director of Health,

Having experience working in the public hospitals in HK, UK & Canada, mainly serving the grass-root population, I believe the "cheapest" way to pay for the healthcare system is to raise tax. The reason being whatever extra money you are asking the general public to pay, no matter how you are naming it (like MPF), is unlikely to be welcomed. Most important of all, any financing for the healthcare involving insurance companies would inevitably make the overall cost more expensive. In order to avoid any third party charging the unnecessary administration fee, it would be better off for the government to collect the tax & allocate the necessary budget to the public healthcare system. Of course, the government needs to have an effective administration and a reasonable budget for the healthcare system, aiming at a healthy development in advances in medical technology as well as maintaining the quality of patient care. Therefore, a well thought out policy for reforming or restructuring the healthcare system, paying special attention to the aging population, should be decided first. I oppose any scheme involving insurance companies paying for the public health sector. Let the insurance companies serve those who can afford and willing to pay for better private service.

Best regards,
Dr Kenneth Yiu Kwan CHUNG
Specialist in Rehabilitation Medicine
B Med Sci, MBBS, MRCP (UK); FHKCP, FHKCP