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11/06/2008 13:46

To <beStrong@fhb.gov.hk>

cc

bcc

Subject Health Reform

Urgent

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""

Dear Sir / Madam,

Regarding the various financing models proposed, I support the existing 'Government Funding' model.

This provides a safety net to EVERYBODY, poor or rich and nobody would need to worry about being denied the medical treatment(s) needed because they could not afford it financially or do not have enough insurance coverage.

However, except for the low-income and under-privileged, I think most people could afford a higher fee chargeable, I personally think up to HK\$200/night is reasonable. While increasing the medical charges, the Government should at the same set up a system of helping those low-income and under-privileged to pay for their health care if they could not pay for it themselves (of course with proof).

One way of easing the Government's burden in health care is to make the medical treatment from the private sector more affordable, say through training more doctors and by making the charges of the private sector more transparent, the operation charges (especially for critical illness or more complicated kind of operation) in the private hospitals are scarily high and you basically are at the mercy of the doctors as to how much they would charge you after the operation. Currently, the private hospitals are more or less providing a platform for the private doctors to do operations in the hospital and the operation charges by these doctors are extremely high. Can the private hospitals hire doctors on their pay roll like the Government hospitals so as to reduce the operation costs? I understand this might not be up to the Government to decide, but any way of helping to reduce the cost of the private hospital will help diverting people to the private sector and ease the demand on Public Health Care.

You could publish the content of my views if you wish but I would like to remain anonymous.

Best regards,