



香港急症科醫學院
HONG KONG COLLEGE OF
EMERGENCY MEDICINE



ROOM 809, 8/F, 99 WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, ABERDEEN, HONG KONG
TEL: (852) 2871 8877 FAX: (852) 2554 2913 <http://www.hkcem.org>
香港仔黃竹坑道99號8樓809室

For Immediate Release

Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine Urges Government to Resolve A&Es' Manpower Shortage Problem in Order to Ensure Quality of Training of A&E Doctor

(25th July, 2017) - Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine' (HKCEM) announces its public statement today, indicating that the recent seasonal Flu peak causes overload on A&E service usage, seriously impeding specialist A&E doctors training progress. HKCEM urges Government & Hospital Authority to seriously attend to A&Es' manpower shortage problem, lest the quality of training will be jeopardized and eventually lead to deterioration in Hong Kong 's medical service standard.

Dr. Ho Hiu Fai, President of HKCEM, noted that there are evidence indicating some A&E training units cancelling routine training activities in response to the pressure and disruption brought along by the seasonal flu peak. Furthermore, we have also learnt that, in order to cope with the manpower needs for surge in A&E activities, one professional examination candidate was advised by department head to withdraw examination application last month.

Lately, the number of A&E first attendances surged to 5,000 to 6,000 daily, adding excessive workload to A&E medical doctors. Massive number of patients (some of whom are in serious conditions) are jammed inside the A&E Departments, together with some acute patients waiting for admission, making the congestion worsening to its worst. Such environment adversely affects A&E specialist doctors and A&E trainee doctors to provide appropriate medical services as well as to deliver suitable training, which in turn will severely threaten the training quality and standard of A&E doctors.

For many years, the seasonal Flu peaks and Winter admission peaks see recurrent worsening conditions at the A&E Departments. In 2008 HKCEM had made suggestions to Hospital Authority to improve A&E manpower allocation which, in College's opinion, would have improved working condition and therefore more conducive to training. The A&E manpower proposal was submitted to the Hospital Authority and updated in 2014. HKCEM calls for attention of the Hong Kong Government & Hospital Authority to properly attend to A&Es' manpower shortage issue and stipulate long-term planning for medical manpower and acute patient beds. Otherwise, A&E service and training standard of Hong Kong will be adversely affected. HKCEM is looking forward to having more in-depth discussion with the government and Hospital Authority.

Internet link: <http://www.hkcem.com> for Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine

Press Enquiries:

Allyson Tam (Intelligent Consulting Company: Tel: 9169-3479; Email: seniortamalison@gmail.com)