

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB478

(Question Serial No. 5221)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Prison Management

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (YAU Chi-chiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

As Chinese medicine has become popular, will the Department provide Chinese medicine services to persons in custody as an option in correctional institutions? If yes, when will the services be provided? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 297)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) ensures that necessary and appropriate medical services are provided to all persons in custody in accordance with the Prison Rules (Cap 234A). Every correctional institution has a hospital or sick bay where 24-hour basic medical services are provided by Medical Officers from the Department of Health (DH) and correctional staff with nursing qualifications. If necessary, persons in custody will be referred by resident Medical Officers to public hospitals for further treatment. Moreover, medical specialists from the Hospital Authority and DH visit the relevant CSD's institutions on a regular basis to provide consultation and treatment to persons in custody. If a person in custody requests for medical treatments beyond the scope of existing medical services, CSD will consider the request on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the advice of the resident Medical Officers. The resident Medical Officers will also seek the advice of medical specialists or other medical professionals as and when required.

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