



The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing
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Response to The Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address

The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing (HKAN) fully supports the HKSAR government in combating the COVID 19 Pandemic through actions aiming to achieve "Zero Infection" in HK. To **conduct the virus testing to all high risk groups** (e.g. drivers of public transport, healthcare professionals, school teachers etc.) is supported as it would break the transmission chain in the HK community.

In order to facilitate high risk individuals to take the test, HKAN suggests increasing the number of "dispatching & collecting" sites. The ideal sites are:

- 1) All GOPCs and SOPCs under Hospital Authority
- 2) All Elderly Centers under Department of Health
- 3) District Health Centers (DHC)

For most HK citizens, it would be convenient to get the test kits outside office hour, Accident and Emergency Department (AED) of hospitals, Post office, Convenience store such as 7-11, Circle K and more MTR stations etc. Thus, those extra suggested sites may also be considered.

HKAN also welcomes the government to provide subsidized medical consultation services to DHC members who are newly diagnosed with diabetes or hypertension to release the pressure on the existing public healthcare system.

Enhancing Public Private Partnership (PPP) by implementing PPP program in DHC is highly supported. DHC plays a critical role in primary healthcare services in HK to delay disease process and/or to reduce severity of illness so that the burden in hospital services in long run could be reduced.

With Advanced Practice Nurses' (APN) advanced competence and experience in primary health care settings, HKAN suggests that DHC services led by APN would:

1. Enhance the better operation of DHC in delivering primary care, especially health education and promotion;
2. Facilitate members of DHC in seeking nursing care on community basis;
3. Contribute to further development of DHC in relieving hospital pressure.
4. Build a new model of care in the existing healthcare system.

In addition, **Nurse-Led Clinic** in hospital or community settings is evidenced for promoting health of clients with chronic medical problems. On top of providing advanced specialized patient-centered nursing intervention, out-patient medical consultation load can also be eased and unnecessary hospitalization can be reduced. HKAN sincerely urges HKSAR Government to further support the implementation of the Nurse-Led Clinic that run by trained advanced practice nurses with specialty expertise, such as Diabetes, cardiac, wound, stoma and respiratory nurse clinic etc.

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