



The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing 香港護理專科學院

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Response to The Chief Executive's 2021 Policy Address

The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing (HKAN) fully supports the HKSAR Government to legislate to make continuing professional education a mandatory requirement for healthcare professionals. This is an important step forward and we appreciate the Government for taking up the courage to make this decision as the topic has been debated for decades. Continuing professional education is essential for safe and efficient healthcare. All healthcare professionals are expected by the public to be proficient and competent in their services. Nurses, especially Advanced Practice Nurses, are working in a rapidly changing healthcare environment, and keeping our knowledge and skills up-to-date will ensure not only high standard of care but also professional self-improvement and greater job-roles commitment. To meet the Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) requirement, HKAN has been committed to providing specialty related courses and workshops regularly. In addition, CNE in various specialties as well as general nursing through self-study is also available on the HKAN website for public access.

To concur with the government's strategy on primary healthcare, HKAN had made our contribution in the Universal Community Testing Programme, collaborated with the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine to offer the 'Online Training for COVID Vaccination Programme' and operates three Community Vaccination Centres. In addition, HKAN will render full support and assistance to the Food and Health Bureau in formulating a blueprint for the sustainable development of primary healthcare in Hong Kong. To equip nurses with appropriate competence, HKAN will continue to provide professional nursing education at an advanced level to prepare nurses working in community and primary healthcare settings.

As a world-class city, Hong Kong is obligated to ensure the professional standard and competence of all healthcare professionals as a measure to protect the public. HKAN also gives full support to the Government in setting up the statutory registration regime for healthcare professionals who are currently not subject to any statutory registration requirements. Through professional registration, not only the quality of services can be ensured but also the positive attitudes of individuals and gaining public recognition can be promoted. All these will bring a greater sense of achievement and work commitment in return.

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