

Annual Departmental Report

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年報

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FOREWORD



I am delighted to introduce this report which offers a snapshot of the vast array of activities conducted by the Department in the year 2005-06.

With cultural, socioeconomic and environmental changes in Hong Kong over the recent years, our spectrum of diseases is also changing. We are faced with the threats of both emerging and re-emerging diseases. Particularly since the establishment of our Centre for Health Protection in 2004, we have been concentrating our efforts in enhancing our capacity to prevent and control infectious diseases and to prepare for public health emergencies. The Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic is one example. We have also strengthened our ties with other relevant agencies, both in the region and internationally.

We have also commenced work on the review of our Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance (Cap.141) to ensure that our legal framework for the prevention and control of infectious diseases is up-to-date — on a par with the World Health Organization's newly revised International Health Regulations. It is expected to provide the legal basis for effecting the prevention and control of non-infectious diseases of public health importance besides infectious ones.

On non-infectious diseases, we are keenly aware of their impact on our community. Thus, we are putting our focus on promoting healthy lifestyles and prevention of chronic diseases. As a key step in this process, we are placing emphasis on identifying and modifying health risk factors. During the year, we have conducted a series of activities to raise community awareness on healthy diet and promoting adequate consumption of fruits and vegetables. We have also established a mechanism to monitor the trend of major behavioural risk factors in Hong Kong's population. In addition, with a view to further strengthening our tobacco control framework, the Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill was introduced to Legislative Council in 2005.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank my colleagues for all of their hard work. I must also address the unfailing support rendered to us by the many other Government departments and bureaux, statutory and public bodies, academic institutes, professional organizations, non-governmental agencies and the media, without which we would be very lonely in our fight to safeguard Hong Kong's public health. I look forward to their continuous generosity so that the Department can continue to serve the community with quality service in the challenging years ahead.

Dr. P. Y. LAM
Director of Health

序言

我很高興向大家介紹這份概述本署二零零五至零六年多項工作的報告。

隨着近年香港文化、社會經濟和環境的變化，疾病的領域亦起變化。我們要面對新發現及再度出現的傳染病的威脅。繼二零零四年成立衛生防護中心後，我們一直致力加強對傳染病的防控，以及對公共衛生緊急事故的應變能力。其中一個例子是政府制定的流感大流行應變計劃。我們亦加強了與其他本地及國際相關機構的聯繫。

我們亦開展了《檢疫及防疫條例》(第141章)的檢討工作，以確保防控傳染病的法律架構是與時並進的，不但可配合世界衛生組織最新修訂的《國際衛生條例》，又能提供法律依據，以實施對公共衛生有影響的傳染病和非傳染病的防控措施。

在非傳染病方面，我們殷切地關注到其對社會的影響，故此我們將工作重點放在推廣健康生活模式和預防慢性疾病。其中一個重要的步驟，就是識別及改進健康風險因素。過去一年，我們舉辦了一系列活動，以提高社會對健康飲食的認識及推廣進食充足的蔬果。我們亦設立了機制，監察本港人口的主要行為風險因素的趨勢。此外，為著進一步加強我們的控煙框架，《吸煙（公眾衛生）（修訂）條例草案》已在二零零五年提交立法會。

我想藉此機會多謝各位同事辛勤工作，並感謝政府各局和部門、法定和公共機構、學術機構、專業團體、非政府組織及傳媒給予本署的鼎力支持，否則，本署保障香港市民健康的工作便會孤立無援。我盼望大家繼續支持衛生署，好使我們在未來充滿挑戰的歲月，能繼續為社會提供優質的服務。

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