



# *Hong Kong College of Paediatricians*

## **Open Forum on Accreditation of the Subspecialties of Developmental Behavioural Paediatrics (DBP) and Paediatric Neurology (PN) Programme Proposals**

**Dr CW Chan**

**11 May 2011, Wednesday**

**at James Kung Meeting Room, HKAM Building**

# Agenda of the Forum

- 1) **Opening remarks by President**  
Professor Pak C. Ng
- 2) **Introduction and background of Joint Forum**  
Dr. SN Wong
- 3) **Criteria of consensus building**  
Dr. CW Chan
- 4) **Presentation by coordinator of the Developmental Behavioural Paediatrics Programme**
- 5) **Presentation by coordinator of the Paediatric Neurology Programme**
- 6) **Open discussion**
- 7) **Consensus building**

# Principles of the College

- 1. Legal responsibility to maintain standard of practice**
  - Training programmes
  - Running examinations
  - CMECPD programmes
- 2. Subspecialty development is the trend**
- 3. Subspecialty accreditation is a stringent process**
  - Open and fair to College Fellows
- 4. Specialist Registry is indicative and not restrictive**
- 5. Satisfy the Guidelines for Specialty and Subspecialty of the HKAM (last endorsed 20 Nov 1997)**

# Extract of the Guidelines

## *Definition for Subspecialty*

3.1 A subspecialty may exist only within an established specialty.

3.2 A subspecialty shares with its parent specialty a significant part of training and assessment, including basic training and entry assessment.

(last endorsed 20 Nov 1997)

# Extract of the Guidelines

## *Criteria for Recognition of a Subspecialty*

3.3 On application from one or more Colleges, the Academy may recognize a subspecialty if it is satisfied that enough of the following criteria are fulfilled:

- a) that the subspecialty is needed in Hong Kong;
- b) that the subspecialty is new and different to existing subspecialties;

(last endorsed 20 Nov 1997)

# Extract of the Guidelines

## *Criteria for Recognition of a Subspecialty*

- c) that the knowledge base and practice involved are identifiably distinct, and is appropriate and compatible with its parent main specialty;
- d) that such a subspecialty exists in another country;

(last endorsed 20 Nov 1997)

# Extract of the Guidelines

## *Criteria for Recognition of a Subspecialty*

- e) that the subspecialty is recognized at the institutional level; with the appointment of academic staff for that subspecialty at the Senior Lecturer or Associate Professor level in at least one of the universities in Hong Kong, or the appointment of a Consultant for that subspecialty in one of the Hospital Authority Hospitals or the Department of Health;

(last endorsed 20 Nov 1997)

# Extract of the Guidelines

## *Criteria for Recognition of a Subspecialty*

- f) that the subspecialty has the administrative support of one or more constituent Colleges of the Academy.

3.4 The subspecialty is supervised by a separate Board and represented via its parent College.

(last endorsed 20 Nov 1997)



# Proposed ways to solve 'difficult' scenarios

## *Scenario 1:*

*One group claims to have higher expertise in an area, though others (GP) can still practise in that area.*

E.g.

GP can manage nephrotic syndrome, but steroid resistant nephrotic are referred to nephrologists.

College's response:

College agrees a duty to promote the standard of practice. It implies the subspecialists have higher expertise in their Area than GP.

## Proposed ways to solve 'difficult' scenarios

*Scenario 2:*

*Group X claims expertise in the areas of ABCD; while another Group Y claims expertise in areas CDEF.*

E.g.

Both oncologists and immunologists can do bone marrow transplant but for different indications.

College's response:

College allows some overlap in subspecialty practice – though the extent of overlap needs to be decided.

# Proposed ways to solve 'difficult' scenarios

## *Scenario 3:*

*Two groups manage the same area ABCD but claims different foci in management.*

E.g.

In managing ADHD, one group uses drugs; one group uses behavioural therapy.

College's response:

College considers there is no overlap in practice, and recognizes both Groups at the same subspecialty level.

# Proposed ways to solve 'difficult' scenarios

*Scenario 4:*

*Two groups claim the same area, but disagree on the training programme.*

College's response:

College accepts only one application for a subspecialty programme.

# General Polling by Postal Ballot

According to the College's Honorary Legal Advisor, a general polling by postal ballot for all College Fellows vote for or against any disagreement related to the establishment of Subspecialites.



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**Thank You!**