

Table 1

Complaints Received by the Medical Council

Nature	No. of Cases				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1. Conviction in Court					
(a) Failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	1	5	6	2	1
(b) Others	6	8	8	25	33
2. Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	297	320	329	348	349*
3. Drug-related cases (excluding court convictions)	2	3	6	2	5
4. Abuse of professional position to further improper association with patients	-	-	-	1	-
5. Improper, indecent behaviour to patients	6	8	9	5	14
6. Abuse of professional confidence	5	3	7	5	-
7. Practice promotion	50	27	25	15	13
8. Sharing fee and improper financial transaction	1	-	-	2	3
9. Depreciation of other medical practitioner(s)	2	1	-	1	-
10. Misleading, unapproved description & announcement	11	4	11	12	14
11. Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	54	55	39	43	29
12. Improper delegation of medical duties to unregistered persons	-	4	-	3	1
13. Fitness to practise	-	1	-	4	-
14. Miscellaneous	30	33	29	25	14
Total :	465	472	469	493	476

Remarks:

- (i) Of the 476 complaints received in 2010:
- 21 cases (4.4%) were inactionable because the complainants failed to provide further information or statutory declaration, the complaints were anonymous or withdrawn, etc.
 - 130 cases (27.3%) were dismissed by the PIC Chairman and the PIC Deputy Chairman in consultation with the Lay Member as being frivolous or groundless
 - 69 cases (14.5%) were referred to the PIC meeting
 - 4 cases (0.8%) were referred to inquiry
 - 252 cases (52.9%) are being processed or pending additional information
- (ii) * The breakdown of cases on "disregard of professional responsibility to patients" in 2010 is as follows:
- (1) Inappropriate prescription of drugs – 37 cases
 - (2) Improper diagnosis – 57 cases
 - (3) Inappropriate medical advice/explanation – 42 cases
 - (4) Unnecessary treatment – 16 cases
 - (5) Unsatisfactory result of treatment – 91 cases
 - (6) Fees and miscellaneous – 106 cases

Table 2

Breakdown on the complaints received in 2010 which were dismissed by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Preliminary Investigation Committee of the Medical Council as being frivolous or groundless

Nature of Complaint	No. of Cases
1. Doctors' attitude/Doctor-patient communication	29
2. Disagreement with doctor's medical opinion	32
3. Unsatisfactory results of treatment	12
4. Complications of treatment	1
5. Undesirable reactions to drugs prescribed	3
6. Misdiagnosis	5
7. Sick leave and related matters	12
8. Fees dispute	16
9. Alleged indecent behaviour to patients	4
10. Practice promotion/descriptions/announcements	5
11. Miscellaneous	11
Total :	130

Table 3

Work of the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) of the Medical Council

Nature	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1. Total cases considered by the PIC	118	99	151	103	108*
2. Total cases referred by the PIC to Council for inquiries, or no inquiry	33	34	27	41	49#
3. Total cases referred by the PIC to Health Committee for hearing	-	-	1	2	-

Remarks:

*The major categories of cases considered by the PIC in 2010 include:

	No. of Cases
(a) Conviction in court	34
(b) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	
• inappropriate prescription of drugs	10
• failure to properly/timely diagnose illness	11
• failure to give proper advice/explanation	8
• conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment/surgery	3
• failure/unsatisfactory result of surgery	12
• others	1
(c) Drug-related cases (excluding court convictions)	
• failure to properly label drugs dispensed	0
(d) Improper, indecent behaviour to patients	1
(e) Advertising/canvassing	2
(f) Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	12
(g) Misleading, unapproved description and announcement	4
(h) Abuse of professional confidence	0
(i) Miscellaneous	10
Total :	108

#The major categories of cases referred by the PIC to the Medical Council for inquiries or no inquiry in 2010 include:

	No. of cases	
(a) Conviction in court		
• careless driving	26	<i>(26 cases of careless driving were of minor offences and the Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no inquiry was to be held)</i>
• failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	3	
• others	3	
(b) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients		
• inappropriate prescription of drugs	3	
• failure to properly/timely diagnose illness	1	
• failure to give proper advice/explanation	0	
• conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment/surgery	2	
• failure/unsatisfactory results of surgery	3	
• others	1	
(c) Advertising/canvassing	2	
(d) Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	3	
(e) Abuse of professional confidence	0	
(f) Miscellaneous	2	
Total :	49	

Table 4

Work Statistics of the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) of the Medical Council in the Year of 2010

	Quarter				Total
	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	
No. of PIC Meetings	3	3	3	3	12
No. of cases considered	24	29	31	24	108
No. of cases dismissed (%)	16 (66.7%)	16 (55.2%)	15 (48.4%)	12 (50%)	59 (54.6%)
No. of cases referred to Council (%)	8 (33.3%)	13 (44.8%)	16 (51.6%)	12 (50%)	49* (45.4%)
No. of cases referred to Health Committee (%)	-- (0%)	-- (0%)	-- (0%)	-- (0%)	-- (0%)

* 26 cases of careless driving were of minor offences and the Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no inquiry was to be held.

Table 5

Disciplinary Inquiries Conducted by the Medical Council in 2010

No. of Cases	Nature	Decision of the Council
15	Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	1 1 doctor 4 charges : Removed for 10 months 1 charge : Removed for 4 months (removal orders run consecutively and take effect upon publication in the Gazette) 1 charge : Warning Letter (gazetted) 1 doctor: Removed for 2 months 1 Removed for 3 months (suspended for 2 years) 2 Removed for 3 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 Removed for 2 months 3 Removed for 1 month (suspended for 1 year) 1 Reprimanded 1 Warning Letter (gazetted) 1 Warning Letter (not gazetted) 2 Not guilty 2 To be continued 1 Removed for 1 year
1	Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	1 Removed for 1 year
10	Practice promotion/advertising	1 Removed for 2 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 Removed for 1 month (suspended for 2 years) 1 Removed for 1 month (suspended for 1 year) 1 2 doctors : Reprimanded 1 doctor : Warning Letter 2 doctors : Dismissed 1 Reprimanded 1 1 doctor : Warning Letter (not gazetted) 1 doctor : Not guilty 2 Warning Letter 2 Warning Letter (not gazetted)
6	Conviction in court	
	- 5 failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	1 Removed for 6 months 1 1 charge: Removed for 3 months 1 charge: Reprimanded 1 Removed for 3 months 1 1 charge: Removed for 2 months 1 charge: Reprimanded 1 Removed for 1 month (suspended for 1 year)
	- 1 driving whilst disqualified	1 2 charges : Removed for 2 months (suspended for 18 months) 2 charges : Warning Letter (gazetted)
1	Breach of Council's condition previously imposed after due inquiry	1 Removed for 3 months
33	[Summary : 29 cases : guilty 2 cases : not guilty 2 cases : to be continued All these cases were referred for inquiry by the PIC meetings held in/before 2009]	

Table 6

Figures on Appeal Cases

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
No. of appeals lodged	5	4	4	4	6
No. of appeal cases carried forward from previous years	2	6	7	10	12
Total no. of appeal cases in progress in the year:	7	10	11	14	18

Results of Appeal Cases concluded in 2010:

(a) Dismissed by Court of Appeal	3
(b) Allowed by Court of Appeal	1
(c) Appeal withdrawn	5

Total : 9

Table 7

Results of the Licentiate Examination from 1977 to 1996

Year	Part I			Part II (March)			Part II (May)			Part III			Lic. Issued
	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	
1977	1129	171	15	170	145	85				142	112	79	
1978	722	74	10	95	78	82				106	40	38	
1979	422	91	22	106	85	80				138	70	51	106
1980	498	82	16	105	81	77				135	50	37	43
1981	402	51	13	74	64	86				131	82	63	64
1982	464	54	12	64	54	84				102	59	58	54
1983	347	84	24	67	63	94	33	29	88	126	107	85	79
1984	351	127	36	108	82	76	47	30	64	129	73	57	62
1985	479	121	25	98	75	77	44	34	77	167	85	51	106
1986	391	96	25	88	56	64	44	37	84	179	65	36	74
1987	334	45	13	40	31	78	18	7	39	141	42	30	84
1988	225	21	9	25	14	56	12	8	67	83	30	36	64
1989	138	19	14	17	17	100	7	4	57	76	31	41	41
1990	132	45	34	33	27	82	11	5	45	86	26	30	31
1991	190	21	11	25	18	72	5	3	60	68	37	54	29
1992	201	52	26	49	41	84	8	5	63	84	35	42	27
1993	216	28	13	22	15	68	12	8	67	72	25	35	36
1994	197	10	5	12	9	75	4	2	50	54	22	41	35
1995	241	52	22	35	28	80	17	14	82	75	25	33	26
1996	260	13	5	12	10	83	2	1	50	58	22	38	22

Total No. of LMCHK granted : 983

Table 8

Results of the Licensing Examination since 1996

Year	Examination in Professional Knowledge			Proficiency Test in Medical English (March)			Proficiency Test in Medical English (September)			Clinical Examination			Lic. Issued
	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	
1996	154	11	7.14	-	-	-	140	88	62.86	40	12	30.00	
1997	178	13	7.30	15	12	80.00	90	48	53.33	27	9	33.33	11
1998	165	43	26.06	7	7	100.00	51	43	84.31	49	17	34.69	6
1999	165	20	12.12	5	4	80.00	57	39	68.42	49	9	18.37	16
2000	132	13	9.85	1	0	0	48	28	58.33	42	10	23.80	10
2001	124	13	10.48	*	-	-	50	37	74.00	35	9	25.71	10
2002	104	11	10.58	*	-	-	31	13	41.94	33	13	39.39	7
2003	76	11	14.47	*	-	-	30	26	86.67	27	7	25.93	9
2004	77	7	9.09	*	-	-	20	13	65.00	21	9	42.86	7
2005	81	11	13.58	*	-	-	29	22	75.86	22	5	22.73	10
2006	105	21	20.00	*	-	-	36	29	80.56	26	9	34.62	5
2007	117	22	18.80	*	-	-	34	33	97.06	37	18	48.65	8
2008	138	12	8.70	*	-	-	38	25	65.79	23	8	34.78	9
2009	158	41	25.95	*	-	-	39	22	56.41	48	15	31.25	12
2010	168	43	25.60	*	-	-	65	64	98.46	72	21	29.17	11

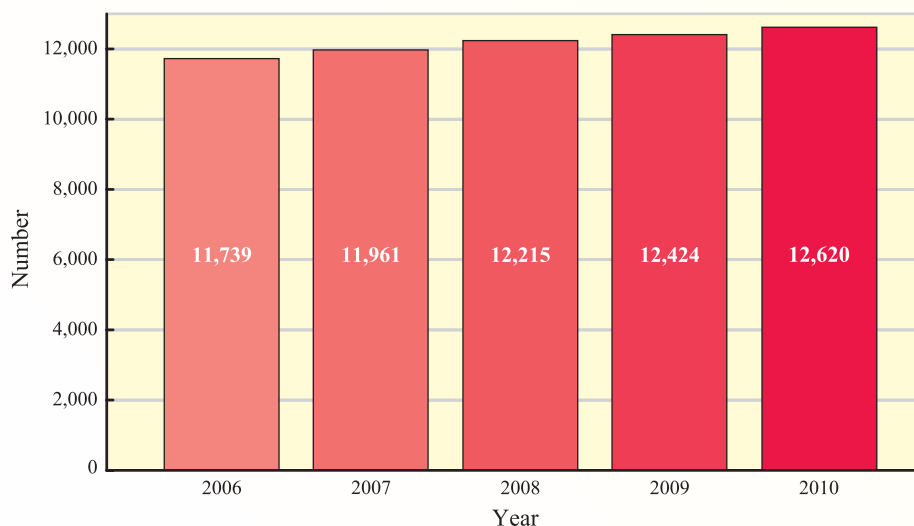
*suspended since March 2001

Table 9

Total Number of Registered Medical Practitioners in Part I of the General Register of Hong Kong (Full Registration)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (as at 31 Dec 2010)
On the Resident List	10,704	10,962	11,251	11,496	11,715
On the Non-resident List	1,035	999	964	928	905
Total:	11,739	11,961	12,215	12,424	12,620

No. of registered medical practitioners (Full Registration)



Total Number of Registered Medical Practitioners in Part III of the General Register of Hong Kong (Limited Registration)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (as at 31 Dec 2010)
Promulgation No. 1	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 2	98	114	121	105	106
University of Hong Kong					
The Chinese University of Hong Kong					
Hospital Authority					
Department of Health					
Promulgation No. 3	68	65	58	50	48
Promulgation No. 4	19	17	18	15	17
Promulgation No. 5	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 6	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 7	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 8	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	185	196	197	170	171

Table 10

Breakdown of Registrations and Restoration to the General Register

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (as at 31 Dec 2010)
Registration in Part I of the Register (Full registration)	404	424	427	351	327	322	313	329	293	280
Registration in Part II of the Register (Provisional registration for interns)	361	315	318	326	322	312	334	293	280	272
Registration in Part III of the Register (Limited registration)	234	238	196	196	207	202	218	197	170	174
Registration in Part IV of the Register (Temporary registration)	69	88	76	93	125	85	86	93	94	101
Restoration to the Register	23	31	21	23*	31	20	24	41	31	23
Total:	1,091	1,096	1,038	989	1,012	941	975	953	868	850

* An application from a doctor, whose name had been removed from the Register after disciplinary proceedings, was refused after inquiry into his conduct following his removal.

Table 11

Number of Registered Medical Practitioners in the Specialist Register (Position as at 31 December 2010)

	No.
1. Anaesthesiology	325
2. Intensive Care	16
3. Community Medicine	29
4. Emergency Medicine	227
5. Family Medicine	215
6. Obstetrics and Gynaecology	367
7. Ophthalmology	217
8. Orthopaedics & Traumatology	330
9. Otorhinolaryngology	131
10. Paediatrics	482
11. Pathology	135
12. Internal Medicine	101
13. Cardiology	178
14. Critical Care Medicine	43
15. Dermatology and Venereology	81
16. Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism	77
17. Gastroenterology and Hepatology	123
18. Geriatric Medicine	100
19. Haematology and Haematological Oncology	38
20. Nephrology	99
21. Neurology	79
22. Respiratory Medicine	136
23. Rheumatology	47
24. Psychiatry	252
25. Radiology	239
26. Clinical Oncology	92
27. Nuclear Medicine	17
28. General Surgery	404
29. Urology	93
30. Neurosurgery	55
31. Cardio-thoracic Surgery	31
32. Plastic Surgery	47
33. Paediatric Surgery	26
34. Immunology and Allergy	3
35. Infectious Disease	18
36. Medical Oncology	25
37. Administrative Medicine	5
38. Public Health Medicine	37
39. Occupational Medicine	11
40. Anatomical Pathology	5
41. Chemical Pathology	7
42. Forensic Pathology	7
43. Haematology	6
44. Immunology	2
45. Clinical Microbiology & Infection	21
46. Palliative Medicine	10
47. Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics	0
48. Rehabilitation	20
49. Gynaecological Oncology	2
50. Urogynaecology	2
51. Reproductive Medicine	6
52. Maternal and Fetal Medicine	0
Total:	5,019