

Table 1

Complaints Received by the Medical Council

Nature	No. of Cases				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1. Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	320	329	348	349	294*
2. Conviction in Court					
(a) Failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	5	6	2	1	-
(b) Others	8	8	25	33	61
3. Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	55	39	43	29	29
4. Practice promotion	27	25	15	13	19
5. Misleading, unapproved description & announcement	4	11	12	14	12
6. Improper, indecent behaviour to patients	8	9	5	14	2
7. Abuse of professional position to further improper association with patients	-	-	1	-	2
8. Fitness to practise	1	-	4	-	2
9. Abuse of professional confidence	3	7	5	-	1
10. Depreciation of other medical practitioner(s)	1	-	1	-	1
11. Drug-related cases (excluding court convictions)	3	6	2	5	-
12. Improper delegation of medical duties to unregistered persons	4	-	3	1	-
13. Sharing fee and improper financial transaction	-	-	2	3	-
14. Miscellaneous	33	29	25	14	38
Total :	472	469	493	476	461

Remarks:

- (i) Of the 461 complaints received in 2011:
- 291 cases (63.1%) are being processed or pending additional information
 - 114 cases (24.7%) were dismissed by the PIC Chairman and the PIC Deputy Chairman in consultation with the Lay Member as being frivolous or groundless
 - 46 cases (10%) were referred to the PIC meeting, out of which 3 cases (0.6%) were referred to inquiry
 - 10 cases (2.2%) could not be pursued further because the complainants failed to provide further information or statutory declaration, the complaints were anonymous or withdrawn, etc.
- (ii) * The breakdown of cases on “disregard of professional responsibility to patients” in 2011 is as follows:
- (a) Unsatisfactory result of treatment – 79 cases
 - (b) Inappropriate medical advice/explanation – 74 cases
 - (c) Inappropriate prescription of drugs – 51 cases
 - (d) Improper diagnosis – 20 cases
 - (e) Unnecessary treatment – 7 cases
 - (f) Fees and miscellaneous – 63 cases

Table 2 Breakdown on the complaints received in 2011 which were dismissed by the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Preliminary Investigation Committee of the Medical Council as being frivolous or groundless

Nature	No. of Cases
1. Doctors' attitude/Doctor-patient communication	21
2. Unsatisfactory results of treatment	18
3. Fees dispute	16
4. Disagreement with doctor's medical opinion	13
5. Sick leave and related matters	12
6. Practice promotion/descriptions/announcements	7
7. Undesirable reactions to drugs prescribed	4
8. Misdiagnosis	2
9. Alleged indecent behaviour to patients	1
10. Miscellaneous	20
Total :	114

Table 3 Work of the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) of the Medical Council

Nature	No. of Cases				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1. Total cases considered by the PIC	99	151	103	108	99*
2. Total cases referred by the PIC to Council for inquiries, or no inquiry	34	27	41	49	59 [#]
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 2011 include:

	No. of Cases
(a) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	
• failure/unsatisfactory results of surgery	16
• inappropriate prescription of drugs	13
• failure to properly/timely diagnose illness	9
• failure to give proper advice/explanation	3
• conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment/surgery	2
• others	1
	44
(b) Conviction in court	29
(c) Misleading, unapproved description and announcement	11
(d) Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	4
(e) Improper, indecent behaviour to patients	3
(f) Advertising/canvassing	2
(g) Miscellaneous	6
Total:	<u>99</u>

[#]The major categories of cases referred by the PIC to the Medical Council in 2011 include:

	No. of Cases
Recommended for no inquiry	
Conviction in court	
• careless driving	24
• causing or permitting another person to use vehicle without insurance	1
• failure to comply with Buildings Ordinance order	1
	26
Recommended for inquiry	
(a) Conviction in court	
• failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	1
• indecent assault	1
• loitering causing concern	1
	3
(b) Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	
• inappropriate prescription of drugs	10
• failure/unsatisfactory results of surgery	3
• failure to properly/timely diagnose illness	2
• conducting unnecessary or inappropriate treatment/surgery	1
• others	7
	23
(c) Abuse of professional confidence	3
(d) Advertising/canvassing	2
(e) Issuing misleading/false medical certificates	1
(f) Miscellaneous	1
Total:	<u>59</u>

Table 4

Work Statistics of the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) of the Medical Council in the Year of 2011

	Quarter				Total
	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	
No. of PIC Meetings	3	2	3	3	11
No. of cases considered	14	16	25	44	99
No. of cases dismissed (%)	4 (28.6%)	10 (62.5%)	13 (52.0%)	13 (29.5%)	40 (40.4%)
No. of cases referred to Council (%)	10 (71.4%)	6 (37.5%)	12 (48.0%)	31 (70.5%)	59* (59.6%)
No. of cases referred to Health Committee (%)	- (0%)	- (0%)	- (0%)	- (0%)	- (0%)

* 26 cases were of minor offences and the Council accepted the PIC's recommendation that no inquiry was to be held (details at Table 3).

Table 5

Disciplinary Inquiries conducted by the Medical Council in 2011

No. of Cases	Nature	Decision of the Council	
10	Disregard of professional responsibility to patients	2	Warning Letter (no gazette required)
		2	Not guilty
		1	1 charge : Removed for 15 months 1 charge : Removed for 6 months (removal orders run concurrently) 2 charges : Reprimanded
		1	1 doctor : 1 charge : Removed for 12 months 1 doctor : 2 charges : Removed for 11 months 1 charge : Removed for 8 months (removal orders run concurrently)
		1	Removed for 12 months
		1	Removed for 3 months
		1	Removed for 6 months (suspended for 2 years)
		1	1 charge : Removed for 3 months (suspended for 2 years) 6 charges : Removed for 1 month (suspended for 2 years) (removal orders run concurrently)
6	Conviction in court		
	- 1 failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs (overseas)	1	1 charge : Removed for 4 years 2 charges : Warning Letter (gazetted)
	- 4 failure to keep proper record of dangerous drugs	1	1 charge : Removed for 6 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 charge : Reprimanded
		1	1 charge : Removed for 10 months 1 charge : Removed for 4 months (2 months of removal orders run concurrently, making a total of removal for 12 months)
		1	1 doctor : Removed for 3 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 doctor : Removed for 2 months (suspended for 1 year) 1 doctor : Reprimanded (suspended for 1 year)
	1	Removed for 1 month (suspended for 1 year)	
- 1 misconduct in public office	1	Removed for 9 months	
4	Practice promotion/ advertising	2	Removed for 2 months (suspended for 2 years)
		1	Removed for 3 months (suspended for 2 years)
		1	4 doctors : Removed for 1 month (suspended for 2 years)
1	Issuing misleading/ false medical certificates	1	2 charges : Warning Letter (gazetted)
21	[Summary : 19 cases : guilty 2 cases : not guilty All these cases were referred for inquiry by the PIC meetings held in/before 2011]		

Table 6

Figures on Appeal Cases

Nature	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
No. of appeals lodged	4	4	4	6	5
No. of appeal cases carried forward from previous years	6	7	10	12	13
Total no. of appeal cases in progress in the year:	10	11	14	18	18

Results of appeal cases concluded in 2011:

	No. of Cases
(a) Dismissed by Court of Appeal	6
(b) Allowed by Court of Appeal	2
(c) Appeal withdrawn	4
Total:	<u>12</u>

Table 7 Results of the Licentiate Examination from 1977 to 1996

Year	Part I			Part II (March)			Part II (May)			Part III			Completed Externship
	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

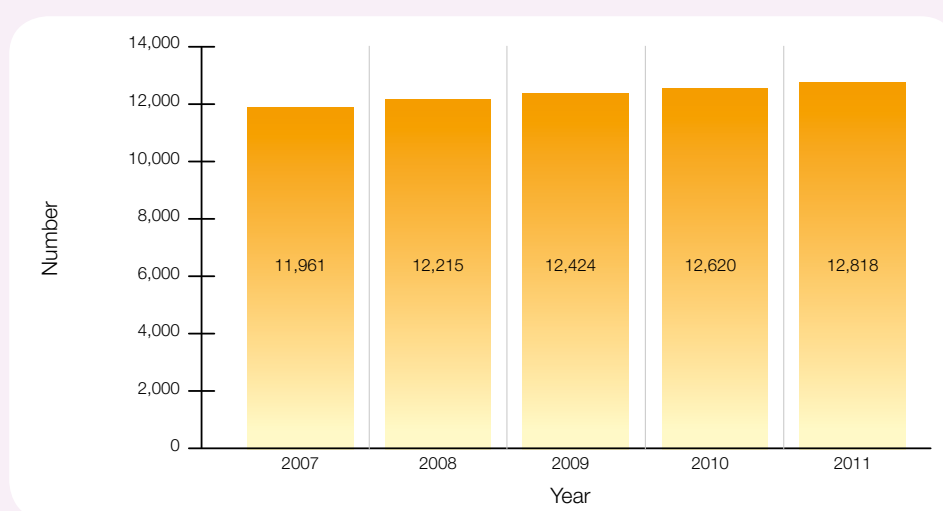
Year	Examination in Professional Knowledge			Proficiency Test in Medical English (March)			Proficiency Test in Medical English (September)			Clinical Examination			Completed Internship
	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	
1996	154	11	7	-	-	-	140	88	63	40	12	30	
1997	178	13	7	15	12	80	90	48	53	27	9	33	11
1998	165	43	26	7	7	100	51	43	84	49	17	35	6
1999	165	20	12	5	4	80	57	39	68	49	9	18	16
2000	132	13	10	1	0	0	48	28	58	42	10	24	10
2001	124	13	10	*	-	-	50	37	74	35	9	26	10
2002	104	11	11	*	-	-	31	13	42	33	13	39	7
2003	76	11	14	*	-	-	30	26	87	27	7	26	9
2004	77	7	9	*	-	-	20	13	65	21	9	43	7
2005	81	11	14	*	-	-	29	22	76	22	5	23	10
2006	105	21	20	*	-	-	36	29	81	26	9	35	5
2007	117	22	19	*	-	-	34	33	97	37	18	49	8
2008	138	12	9	*	-	-	38	25	66	23	8	35	9
2009	158	41	26	*	-	-	39	22	56	48	15	31	12
2010	168	43	26	*	-	-	65	64	98	72	21	29	11
2011	221	51	23	*	-	-	54	50	93	76	21	28	15

* suspended since March 2001

Table 9 Total Number of Registered Medical Practitioners in the General Register of Hong Kong

Part I of Register (Full Registration)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 (as at 31 Dec 2011)
On the Resident List	10,962	11,251	11,496	11,715	11,959
On the Non-resident List	999	964	928	905	859
Total:	11,961	12,215	12,424	12,620	12,818



Part III of Register (Limited Registration)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 (as at 31 Dec 2011)
Promulgation No. 1	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 2	114	121	105	106	101
University of Hong Kong					
The Chinese University of Hong Kong					
Hospital Authority					
Department of Health					
Promulgation No. 3	65	58	50	48	44
Promulgation No. 4	17	18	15	17	16
Promulgation No. 5	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 6	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 7	-	-	-	-	-
Promulgation No. 8	-	-	-	-	1
Total:	196	197	170	171	162

Table 10 Breakdown of Registrations and Restoration to the General Register

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 (as at 31 Dec 2011)
Registration in Part I of the Register (Full registration)	424	427	351	327	322	313	329	293	280	281
Registration in Part II of the Register (Provisional registration for interns)	315	318	326	322	312	334	293	280	272	261
Registration in Part III of the Register (Limited registration)	238	196	196	207	202	218	197	170	174	195
Registration in Part IV of the Register (Temporary registration)	88	76	93	125	85	86	93	94	101	135
Restoration to the Register	31	21	23*	31	20	24	41	31	23	26
Total	1,096	1,038	989	1,012	941	975	953	868	850	898

* An application from a doctor, whose name had been removed from the General 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 2011)

	No.
1. Anaesthesiology	352
2. Intensive Care	17
3. Community Medicine	29
4. Emergency Medicine	240
5. Family Medicine	260
6. Obstetrics and Gynaecology	367
7. Ophthalmology	225
8. Orthopaedics & Traumatology	340
9. Otorhinolaryngology	132
10. Paediatrics	494
11. Pathology	138
12. Internal Medicine	102
13. Cardiology	189
14. Critical Care Medicine	44
15. Dermatology and Venereology	83
16. Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism	81
17. Gastroenterology and Hepatology	143
18. Geriatric Medicine	117
19. Haematology and Haematological Oncology	41
20. Nephrology	102
21. Neurology	85
22. Respiratory Medicine	144
23. Rheumatology	52
24. Psychiatry	270
25. Radiology	253
26. Clinical Oncology	93
27. Nuclear Medicine	17
28. General Surgery	404
29. Urology	94
30. Neurosurgery	60
31. Cardio-thoracic Surgery	38
32. Plastic Surgery	50
33. Paediatric Surgery	26
34. Immunology and Allergy	3
35. Infectious Disease	21
36. Medical Oncology	29
37. Administrative Medicine	5
38. Public Health Medicine	39
39. Occupational Medicine	10
40. Anatomical Pathology	5
41. Chemical Pathology	8
42. Forensic Pathology	7
43. Haematology	6
44. Immunology	2
45. Clinical Microbiology & Infection	25
46. Palliative Medicine	11
47. Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics	0
48. Rehabilitation	25
49. Gynaecological Oncology	2
50. Urogynaecology	3
51. Reproductive Medicine	6
52. Maternal and Fetal Medicine	0
TOTAL :	5,289