



本署檔號 Our Ref.: (165) in DH/ORPHF/18/25/22 Pt.2

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

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***By post***

4 February 2021

Dear Doctor / Dentist,

**Commencement of the First Batch of Licences  
under the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance**

The Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Cap. 633) (“the Ordinance”), passed in November 2018, provides for a new regulatory regime for private healthcare facilities. Under the Ordinance, operators of all premises where registered medical practitioners and/or registered dentists practise, including (1) hospitals; (2) day procedure centres (“DPCs”); and (3) clinics, are required to obtain either a licence or a letter of exemption from the Department of Health (“DH”). The Ordinance is being implemented by phases.

We would like to inform you that the first batch of licences under the Ordinance, including the licences for all private hospitals and the first batch of licences for DPCs, already took effect on 1 January 2021. DPCs are ambulatory facilities that are used, or intended to be used, for carrying out scheduled medical procedures (as stipulated in Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance – please refer to the first QR code below) on patients without lodging.

Operators of **all licensed facilities** are required to comply with the requirements under the Ordinance, including the relevant Code of Practice and establishment of a complaints handling mechanism, to safeguard the rights of patients. Non-compliance with the requirements may result in regulatory actions by the DH.

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The *Codes of Practice, Guidance Notes for Assessing Fitness and Properness of Applicants / Chief Medical Executives for Licence Application*, and other important documents promulgated under the Ordinance can be accessed via the second QR code below. In addition, the Framework for Regulatory Actions can be accessed via the third QR code below.

**All DPCs are required to be licensed and there is no exemption arrangement for DPCs under the Ordinance. Operators of DPCs who have yet to apply for a DPC licence are reminded to do so as soon as practicable. On commencement of the relevant provision of the Ordinance, a person operating a DPC without a licence will be liable to a fine and imprisonment.** You may apply for a DPC licence through our online platform. The application involves the submission of an application form, relevant documents and payment. Details of the licence application procedures can be accessed via the fourth QR code below.

For **operators of clinics**, please note that we will keep you posted of any updated information on commencement of licence application. Details on application for clinic licences and request for letters of exemption for small practice clinics will be announced in due course.

For enquiries, please contact us at 3107 8451 or visit our website at [www.orphf.gov.hk](http://www.orphf.gov.hk) .

Yours faithfully,



( Dr Jeff LEE )  
for Director of Health



QR code 1  
Scheduled medical procedures  
(Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the  
Ordinance)



QR code 2  
Codes of Practice and  
other important  
documents



QR code 3  
Framework for  
Regulatory Actions



QR code 4  
Licence application