



Our Ref.: HA820/187/1/5

29 June 2009

Dr. Hilton CHEONG-LEEN, CBE, JP
President
Hong Kong Civic Association
503 Yip Fung Building
2D' Aguilar Street
Hong Kong

Dear Dr Cheong-Leen,

Cataract Surgeries Programme (耀眼行動 - 白內障手術計劃)

Thank you very much for your letter dated 19 June 2009.

The Cataract Surgeries Programme is one of the first public-private partnership healthcare programmes launched by the Hospital Authority (HA). It aimed at increasing choice for cataract patients in the HA to undertake cataract surgery in the private sector. However, please be assured that the programme also takes care of the low income group and the underprivileged, including Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients and holders of Waiver Certificate. These patients can choose to have the surgery done in HA or by private ophthalmologists who provide the surgery on a charitable basis without any co-payment by the underprivileged patients.

As at the end of May 2009, more than 6,300 patients have enrolled in the programme and around one-third of these patients are CSSA recipients or holders of Waiver Certificate. Besides, patients who do not participate in the programme can also benefit indirectly as their waiting time for cataract surgery at HA hospitals can be shortened.

This programme is a 2-year pilot with a target of providing 7,000 additional cataract surgeries. We have planned to conduct a thorough review to evaluate the results and effectiveness of the programme after the programme has completed.

If you have any questions about the details of arrangement, please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleague Ms Angela Li, Manager (Transformation Projects) (Tel. no. : 2300 7412)

Kin Lyne,

Wainierp
(Dr CHOY Khai-meng)
for Chief Executive
Hospital Authority

c.c. Dr York Chow, Secretary for Food and Health, Food and Health Bureau
Mr Anthony Wu, Chairman, Hospital Authority
Dr W L Cheung, Director (Cluster Services), Hospital Authority