



COLLEGE OF NURSING, HONG KONG 香港護理學院

President
Ms KU Wai Yin, Ellen
顧慧賢

28 February 2013

Vice-President
Ms LUI Wing Mui, June
呂詠梅

Dr Shirley Leung

1st Secretary
Ms CHOW Fung Kwan
周鳳群

For Director of Health

Department of Health

2nd Secretary
Ms LEE Ming Pui, Mavis
李明佩

Room 1308, 13th Floor, Guardian House

32 Oi Kwan Road, Wanchai

Hong Kong

1st Treasurer
Ms HUNG Tao Ying, Gloria
熊桃英

Dear Dr. Leung,

2nd Treasurer
Ms CHUI Suk Ping, Stephanie
徐淑萍

Re: Consultation on “Hong Kong Code of Marketing and Quality of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants & Young Children” (“The HK Code”)

Council Members
Ms CHAN Cheung Lung, Sharon
陳章瓏

Ms CHAN Nim Chi, Cecilia
陳念芝

Ms CHAN Suk Wan, Amy
陳淑雲

Ms CHAN Toi Lan
陳黛蘭

Ms CHEUNG Hor Wan, Annemarie
張可耘

Ms HUIE-ROSE Chi Kwan, Cynthia
許智群

Dr KAM Ah Lay, Kylie
金亞莉

Ms LEUNG Wai Fong, Celina
梁蕙芳

Dr LI Fung Yee, Teresa
李鳳儀

Mr LIU Tai Wa
廖泰華

Ms NG Chi Hong, Peggy
吳志航

Ms NG Kwai Ha, Bekey
伍桂霞

Dr WONG Yee Hing, Esther
黃綺馨

Thanks you for your letter dated Dec 31, 2012. College of Nursing Hong Kong considers that breast milk is the food of choice for infant¹. We support efforts to promote adoption of the Baby Friendly Initiative (BHI) to ensure that the promotion of breastfeeding².

The World Health Organization adopted and published the International code of Marketing of Breast-milk substitutes in 1981. As a member of the health care professional, we have to pay attention to the health of our future generation, our children. College of Nursing Hong Kong support the formulation of “Hong Kong Code of Marketing and Quality of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants & Young Children” (“The HK Code”).

The code is voluntary in nature and the sales of products for infant-and young-child feeding is monitored on its own marketing practices according to the principles and aims of the code. Public education and promotion of the Code will be an essential focus after the publishing of the Code.

There are two suggestions from College of Nursing Hong Kong, the government may consider to review the policies and practice in supporting working mothers and their infants at work place, example of such policies are *Article 10 of Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183) (2012)*³ and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of USA⁴.

College of Nursing Hong Kong supports the consultation document. We shall continue to work with our members and other health care professional organizations in promoting the health of mother and children. We shall be happy to support the government in public education and health promotion regarding the implementation of the Code.

Yours Sincerely,



Ellen Ku
President,
College of Nursing Hong Kong

¹ World Health Organization, Nutrition: Exclusive Breastfeeding. Accessed at www.who.int/nutrition/topics/exclusive_breastfeeding/en/index.html in Jan 2013.

² United Nations Children's Fund, The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative. Accessed at www.unicef.org.uk/BabyFriendly/Health-Professionals/Going-Baby-Friendly/Maternity/Ten-Steps-to-Successful-Breastfeeding/ in Jan 2013.

³ International Labour Organization, Convention 183. Convention Concerning the Revision of the Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952, Adopted by the Conference at its Eighty-Eighth Session, Geneva, 2000. Accessed at http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO:12100:P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312328:NO in Feb. 2013

⁴ Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of USA (1993). Accessed at <http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/index.htm> in Feb 2013