



香港營養師協會有限公司

HONG KONG DIETITIANS ASSOCIATION LTD.

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Dietitian

Dr. Shirley Leung,  
Secretariat Office,  
Taskforce on HK Code of Marketing of Breast milk Substitutes  
Family Health Service,  
Department of Health,  
Room 1308, 13 Gardian House,  
32 Oi Kwan Road,  
Wan Chai

28<sup>th</sup> January, 2013

Dear Dr. Leung,

Re: HKDA response to public consultation on the HK Code of Marketing and Quality of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infant and Young Children

HKDA supports in principle the proposed Code and any actions that may contribute to the protection of breastfeeding and provision of appropriate nutrition to infants and young children. HKDA however, holds the view that there are some aspects of the proposed Code that warrant further consideration.

To maximize effectiveness, we recommend that the Code should be implemented alongside other Government initiatives which help to encourage and support breast feeding. These include provision of adequate paid leave and breaks for breast feeding mothers, adequate facilities e.g. feeding rooms, education and promotion of the benefits of breast feeding to the public ( posters, leaflets, talks, seminars, workshops) in hospitals, clinics etc. Parents should have access to factual information in order to make informed choices.

The Code proposes to prohibit M&Ds to fund CME activities and offer research grants. CME is essential for professional practice and research is required to ensure that practice is evidenced based. The Government should therefore be committed to

fund CME activities which aim to strengthen healthcare workers knowledge and skills relating to breast feeding and support research by offering grants.

Dietitians are healthcare workers who are obliged to comply with guidelines for professional and ethical practice. We are also well qualified to evaluate materials and information provided by M&Ds and we are of the opinion that there should be no need to restrict attendance by dietitians of CME activities sponsored by M&Ds or speak at CME activities sponsored by M&Ds.

We sincerely hope that the Government will seriously consider the above comments.

Yours Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Ma', written in a cursive style.

Mrs. Wendy Ma  
Vice Chairperson,  
Hong Kong Dietitians Association