

Our Ref: (95) DH SEB NCD/15/15/1/14 II

20 July 2017

Dear Doctor,

**Undeclared Western drug detected in cream prescribed by
another registered Chinese Medicine Practitioner**

Further to the letter dated 28 June 2017 to you, the Department of Health (DH) would like to alert you of another incident recorded recently of undeclared Western drug detected in cream prescribed by a registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners (CMP).

In a submitted sample of unlabelled cream prescribed by CMP Chow Chiu-hoi, **clobetasol propionate** was detected. At present, there is no evidence showing epidemiological linkage between this incident and the previous cases associated with the other two CMPs Pang Wai-ming and Ip Kai-yam.

Press release has been issued on 19 July 2017 to alert the public on this incident and can be accessed from the following link:

<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201707/19/P2017071900828.htm>

The DH has set up a hotline (2125 1133) operating from 9 am to 5 pm to answer public enquiries related to this incident. We advise patients who developed signs and symptoms after use of the cream prescribed by the named CMP should seek medical advice for prompt diagnosis and treatment, especially for chronic users regarding suspension of use of the cream. Members of the public who possess these creams or their remnants should submit them to the DH's Chinese Medicine Division at 16/F, AIA Kowloon Tower, Landmark East, 100 How Ming Street, Kwun Tong during office hours for possible follow-up.



I would like to appeal to your vigilance when encountering patients with signs and symptoms of possible side-effects after use of cream prescribed by the named CMP. Should you encounter suspected poisoning cases such as patients presenting with Cushingoid features after prolonged use of these creams, please notify the DH. Details on case notification are available from the following website: <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/notification/13/33.html>

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



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衛生防護中心乃衛生署
轄下執行疾病預防
及控制的专业架構
*The Centre for Health
Protection is a
professional arm of the
Department of Health for
disease prevention and
control*