

services, a “Code of Practice for Private Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes” was promulgated in 2003, and has been implemented since 2004. The Code sets out minimum standards for registration including general requirements on organisation and administration, policies and procedures, management of staff, equipment and accommodation, as well as specific types of clinical and support services. The Code enables healthcare institutions to understand the requirements and standards of good practice in a more explicit manner.

Special Health Services

Narcotics and Drug Administration Unit

The Department of Health operates an out-patient methadone maintenance as well as detoxification scheme for opiate drug abusers. There are 20 methadone clinics in Hong Kong operating daily including Sundays and public holidays. The total number of patients registered with the scheme was 8 202 as at 31 December 2007 and the average daily attendance in 2007 was 6 216.

Counselling services at methadone clinics are provided by social workers of the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers. Methadone clinics are also the contact point for referring patients to other treatment and rehabilitation agencies when necessary.

As drug addicts constitutes a high risk group for AIDS and other blood borne diseases, health education and counselling for patients is always a priority. Concomitant activities include broadcasting of health educational video and cassette programmes in methadone clinics, free distribution of condoms, provision of blood testing and urine testing for HIV and blood testing for

三年制定《私家醫院、護養院及留產院實務守則》，並於二零零四年起開始推行。該守則列明註冊的最低標準，當中包括對有關架構及行政、政策及程序、人手、儀器及處所管理，以及個別臨床及支援服務的一般要求。此守則使各醫療服務機構更明確了解優質服務的要求及標準。

特別衛生服務

毒品管理部

衛生署為吸毒者提供美沙酮代用治療及戒毒計劃的門診服務。全港共有20間美沙酮診所，每天（包括星期日及公眾假期）開放。截至二零零七年十二月三十一日為止，登記參與計劃的總人數為8 202人，而二零零七年的平均每日求診人次則為6 216人次。

美沙酮診所內駐有香港戒毒會的社會工作者，提供輔導服務。這些診所亦為聯絡點，在有需要時將病人轉介往其他治療或康復機構。

由於吸毒者是感染愛滋病及其他透過血液傳播疾病的高危群，因此為病人提供健康教育及輔導工作是首要工作。有關的活動包括在美沙酮診所播放健康教育錄影帶及錄音帶、免費派發安全套，並為參與美沙酮治療計劃的人士提供愛滋病病毒血液和尿液測試，以及乙型及丙型肝炎血液測試服務。

hepatitis B and hepatitis C infections for patients of Methadone Treatment Programme.

Pharmaceutical Service

The Pharmaceutical Service ensures the safety, quality and efficacy of medicines used in Hong Kong. Acting on the authority of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, the Pharmaceutical Service registers and approves the marketing of pharmaceutical products, issues licences to drug manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers, and joins hands with the Police against illegal sale of controlled medicines. It comprises four sections.

The Inspection and Licensing Section is responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance (Cap. 138), the Antibiotics Ordinance (Cap. 137), and the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap. 134). Enforcement is effected through inspection and licensing of drug manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers; investigation by way of test purchases; sampling of products for analysis; and initiation of prosecutions against offenders. In 2007, the number of inspections and prosecutions conducted by the Inspection and Licensing Section of the Pharmaceutical Service were 10 253 and 137 respectively (Figure 13). Pharmacist inspectors participate in joint operations with the Police against illegal activities involving controlled medicines and act as expert witnesses in the law courts. Traditional Chinese medicines are also tested for the presence of western medicines and whether the level of heavy metals exceeds the permissible limit.

藥劑事務部

藥劑事務部的工作是確保本港市面上出售的藥物是安全、具品質及有成效。該部獲藥劑業及毒藥管理局授權，審批藥劑製品的註冊及銷售申請，向製藥商、進口商、批發商和零售商簽發牌照，並聯同警方打擊非法售賣受管制藥物。藥劑事務部設有四個工作組別。

督察及牌照組的職責是執行《藥劑業及毒藥條例》（第138章）、《抗生素條例》（第137章）及《危險藥物條例》（第134章）。執法是透過巡查及發牌予製藥商、進口商、批發商及零售商；以試行購買受管制藥物的方式進行調查；從市面抽取藥物樣本化驗；並對違法者提出檢控。二零零七年，藥劑事務部督察及牌照組巡查及檢控的個案數目分別為10 253宗及137宗（圖13）。督察及牌照組調查員聯同警方打擊涉及受管制藥物的違法活動，並以專家證人身分出庭作證。此外，該組亦會化驗傳統中藥，分析是否含有西藥成分和所含的重金屬是否超出許可限量。