

Implementation of Pre-Hospital Poisoning Consultation and Activated Charcoal Treatment Service

With effect from 1st November, 2010, Hong Kong Fire Services Department (FSD) and The Hong Kong Poison Information Centre (HKPIC) of Hospital Authority has fully implemented a “Pre-Hospital Poisoning Consultation and Activated Charcoal Treatment Service” to ensure appropriate treatment is given to poisoned patients at earliest time.

Whilst treating poisoned patients, FSD paramedics will conduct a comprehensive assessment, take vital signs and collect information on the ingested substances e.g. name, characteristics and amount ingested. HKPIC doctor will be contacted via hotline immediately by paramedic on site for preliminary assessment of poisoned patient. Activated charcoal will be given to poisoned patient as a preliminary treatment before conveying the patient to the Accident and Emergency Department of hospital for follow up treatment.