



香港社會醫學學院

HONG KONG COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE

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香港社會醫學學院歡迎財政司司長於 2024 至 25 年度財政預算案中增加煙草稅的決定

香港社會醫學學院歡迎政府於財政預算案中增加煙草稅的決定，並建議政府參考世界衛生組織所建議水平，持續檢視及增加煙草稅。

學院認同提高煙草稅是最有效的控煙措施，而提高煙草價格和實施煙草稅是減少吸煙的優先措施。香港面對人口老化及慢性病患者數目上升等問題，醫療系統面對嚴峻挑戰，而吸煙是導致死亡和多種慢性疾病中最重要但可預防的風險因素。大幅增加煙草稅令吸煙者有更大誘因戒煙，從而重獲健康並減少醫療開支。我們期望政府能盡快落實《活力健康 無煙香港》公眾諮詢文件中的各項控煙措施，包括持續增加煙草稅、擴大禁煙範圍及加強戒煙服務等，以保障公眾健康。

Hong Kong College of Community Medicine welcomes the Government's decision to raise tobacco duty in 2024-25 Budget

The Hong Kong College of Community Medicine welcomes the Government's decision to raise tobacco duty in the Budget and appeals to the government to continuously review and increase tobacco duty, taking into consideration the level recommended by the World Health Organization.

The College recognises that raising tobacco tax is the most effective tobacco control measure, with increasing tobacco price and implementing tobacco tax being prioritised measures to reduce smoking. In Hong Kong, the healthcare system is facing a tremendous challenge due to the aging population and a rising number of patients with chronic diseases. Smoking stands as one of the most significant yet preventable risk factors for death and various chronic diseases. The substantial increase in tobacco duty provides smokers with stronger incentives to quit smoking, leading to improved health and reduced healthcare expenditure. We hope the Government would expeditiously implement the various measures proposed in the latest public consultation on tobacco control strategies, including the regular increase of tobacco tax, expansion of smokefree areas and enhancement of smoking cessation services, with a view to building a vibrant, healthy and tobacco-free Hong Kong.