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To: Authorized Sellers of Poisons  
Licensed Wholesale Dealers  
Licensed Pharmaceutical Manufacturers

### **Launch of the Computerised Transaction Record for Antimicrobials**

Following the letter issued by the Drug Office of the Department of Health ("the DH") on 27 June 2024<sup>1</sup>, regarding the development of the Computerised Transaction Record System for antimicrobials ("CTR"), we hereby notify all authorized sellers of poisons, licensed wholesale dealers and licensed pharmaceutical manufacturers (collectively referred to as "licensed traders") that the section of the CTR pertaining to licensed traders will be launched on 19 June 2025 to provide a convenient electronic recording system for licensed traders to record and view transactions related to antimicrobials.

The Government has all long been attached great importance to the necessity of tackling the issue of antimicrobial resistance ("AMR"). The High-Level Steering Committee on Antimicrobial ("Steering Committee") was set up in May 2016 to encourage collaboration, synergy and cross-fertilisation of all professional sectors under the "One Health" framework. The Government launched the second Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (2023-2027) ("Action Plan") in 2022 to map out strategies against the threat of AMR from 2023 to 2027. According to the Action Plan, one of the recommendations is to strengthen regulation on over-the-counter purchase of prescription-only antimicrobials, which includes amending relevant Ordinance(s) to mandate recording of antimicrobial prescription and dispensing data systematically through electronic means and ensure proper record keeping of antimicrobials along the supply chain, from wholesale to supply to end users, so as to combat the sales of antimicrobials without prescription.

<sup>1</sup> Letter to Trade (Chinese only) "抗菌素電子交易紀錄系統平台" -  
([https://www.drugoffice.gov.hk/eps/upload/eps\\_news/53700/EN/1/27%20June%202024%20Letter%20to%20Trade.pdf](https://www.drugoffice.gov.hk/eps/upload/eps_news/53700/EN/1/27%20June%202024%20Letter%20to%20Trade.pdf))

CTR is designed to provide licensed traders with a convenient electronic platform for recording and viewing transactions related to antimicrobial products. A dedicated portal has been developed to enhance accessibility, the CTR operates around the clock and is accessible on various electronic devices, including mobile devices, allowing users to manage their transaction records anytime and anywhere which enable licensed traders to effectively monitor their antimicrobial inventory in real-time. Through its track and trace function, the CTR supports the monitoring of antimicrobial inventory and facilitates efficient product recall when necessary. The DH can utilize the CTR to monitor antimicrobial records throughout the local supply chain, from wholesale to supply to end users, including prescription and dispensing information, so as to combat the sales of antimicrobials without prescription. CTR will facilitate the industry and relevant stakeholders while promoting the rational use and effective monitoring of antimicrobials.

Currently, submission of transactions records of antimicrobial through the CTR is voluntary. The DH hereby urges all licensed traders to begin using the CTR, to become familiarized with the data input requirements and related operation of the system as soon as possible so as to ensure full compliance with the relevant requirements once the legislation which mandate the submission of the transaction records takes via the CTR effect in the near future.

For enquiries, please send email to [ctr\\_info@dh.gov.hk](mailto:ctr_info@dh.gov.hk).

Yours faithfully,



(John M. T. LAU)  
for Director of Health