

# Transition of Hospital Acute-Centric to Long Term Care in an Ageing Population in Hong Kong - Is it an Issue of Policy, Governance or Service Gap?

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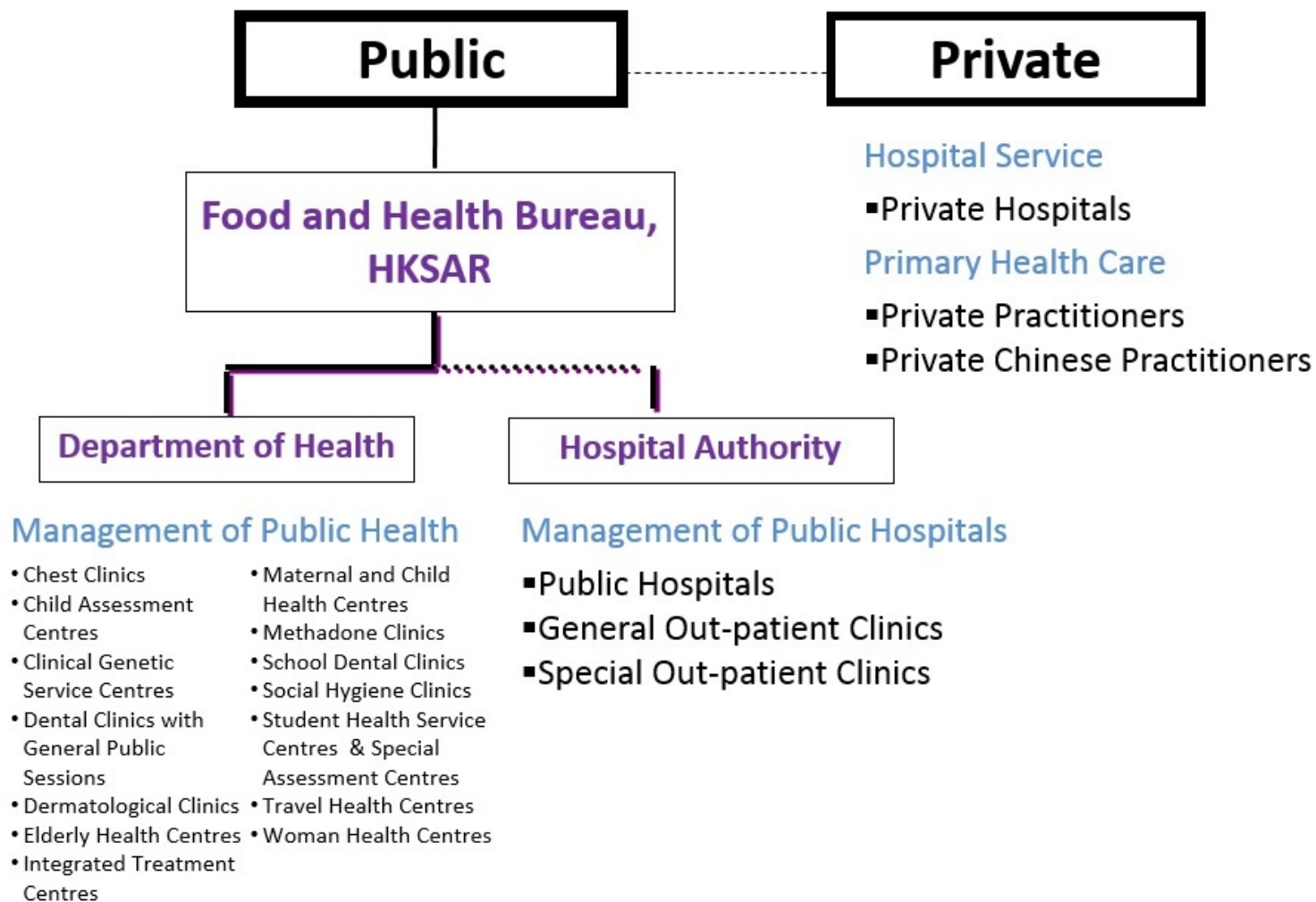
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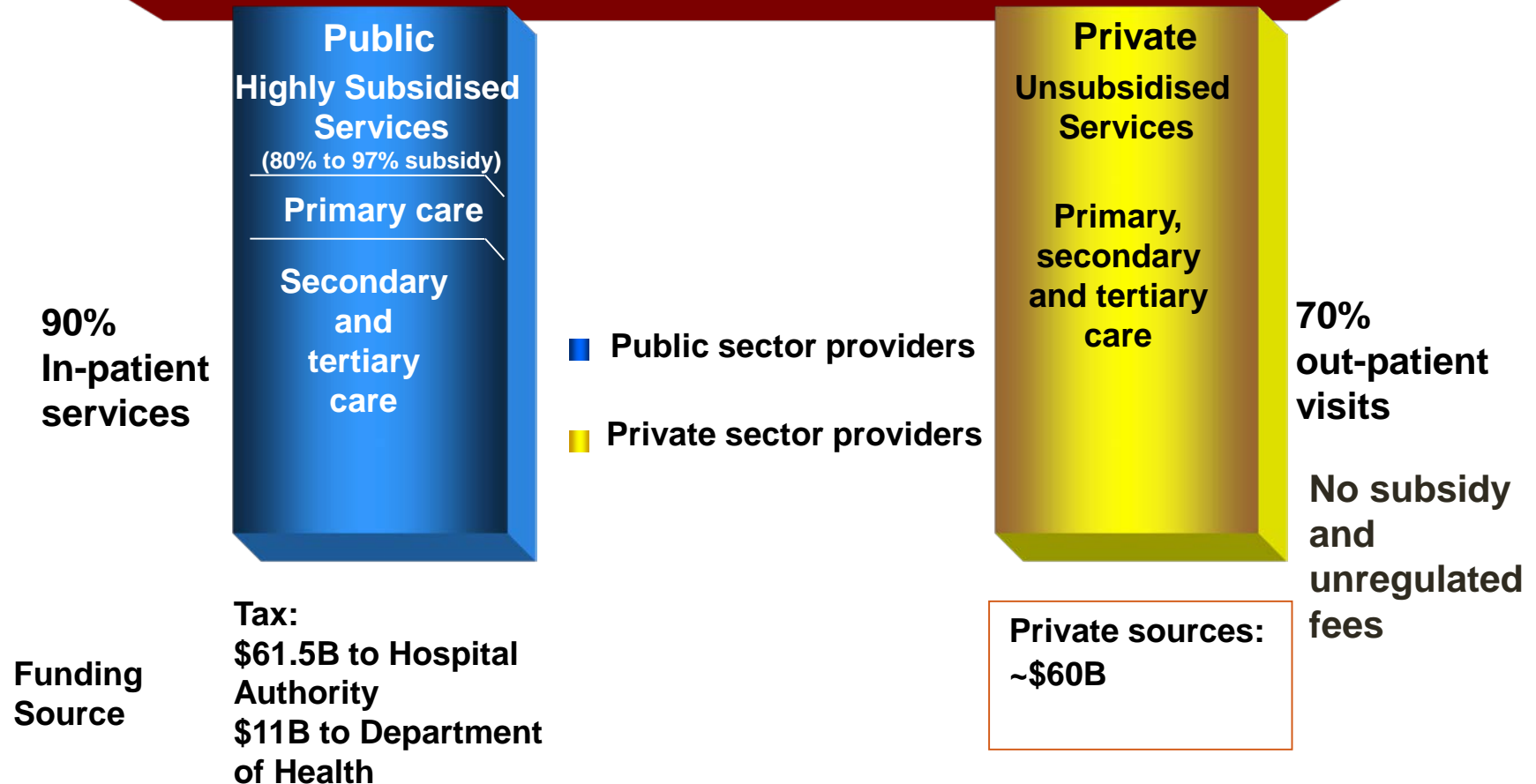


# Hong Kong Health Care System



# The Hong Kong Health Care System

## Current System: Two Pillars



# The Hong Kong Health Care System

- SAFETY NET

- low-incomes, economic hardship, chronically ill, mentally handicapped and those receiving psychiatric services

- *“that no one is denied adequate medical treatment due to lack of means”*

- 確保市民不會因經濟困難而無法獲得適當的醫療服務

# The Hong Kong Health Care System

- Dual track system
  - Public sector - almost entirely funded by the government
  - Private sector - mostly paid by the consumers out of own pockets
- Total Expenditure on Health (2016-17)
  - **5.9% of the GDP**, more or less equally shared between the two sectors, is low for a developed society like Hong Kong
  - HK\$157,248M = 21,433 per person
  - has been fairly steady over the last three decades, apparently not affected at all by a major change in the Government in 1997

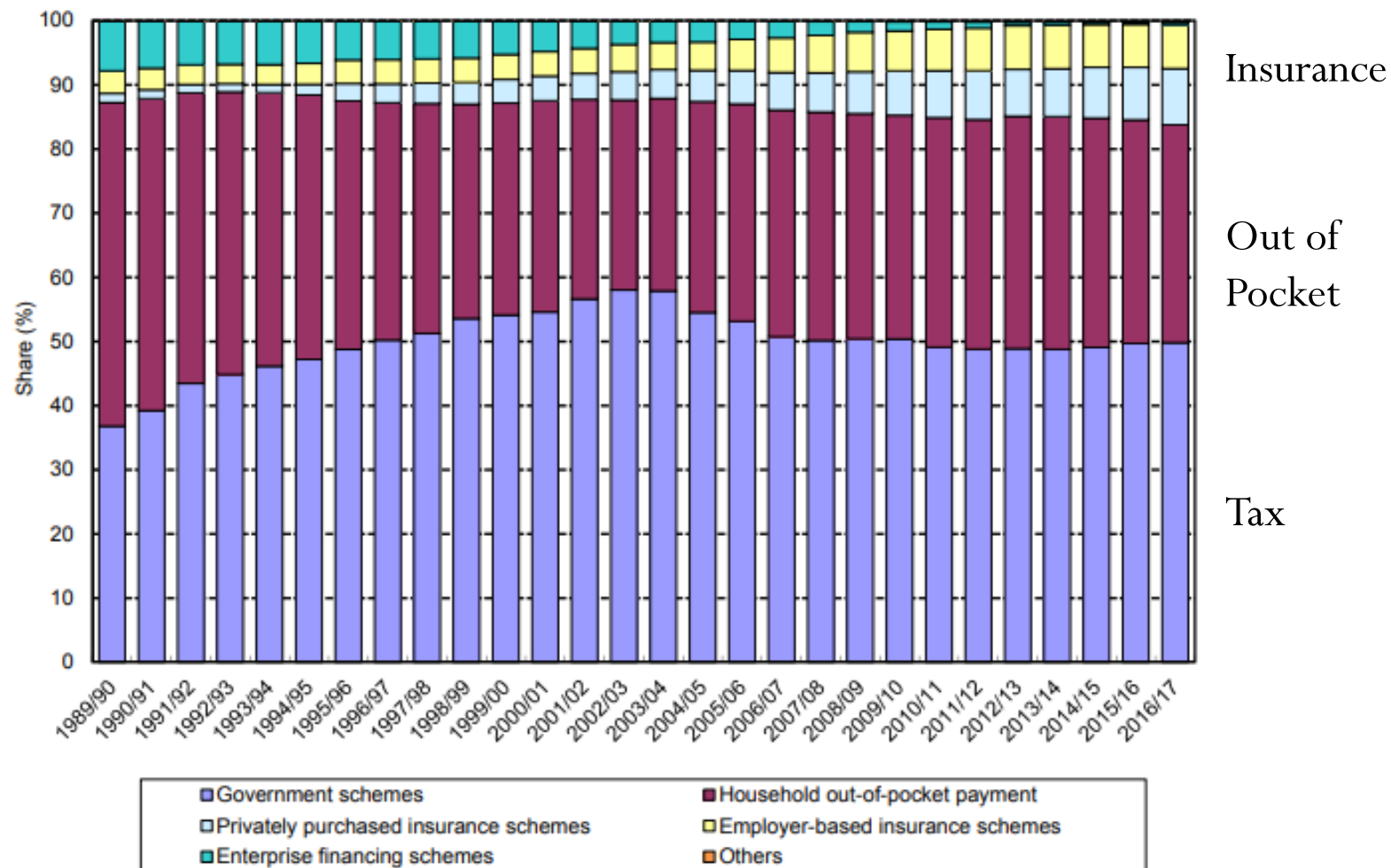
# The Hong Kong Health Care System

- The Government spends about HK\$74,624M a year in health services = **17%** of recurrent expenses (2016-17)
- 10,137 dollars per person per year
- Bulk of the public resources in **acute care**
- Hospital Authority (public hospitals) Budget \$61.5B (2018-19)
- Department of Health Budget \$11B (2018-19)

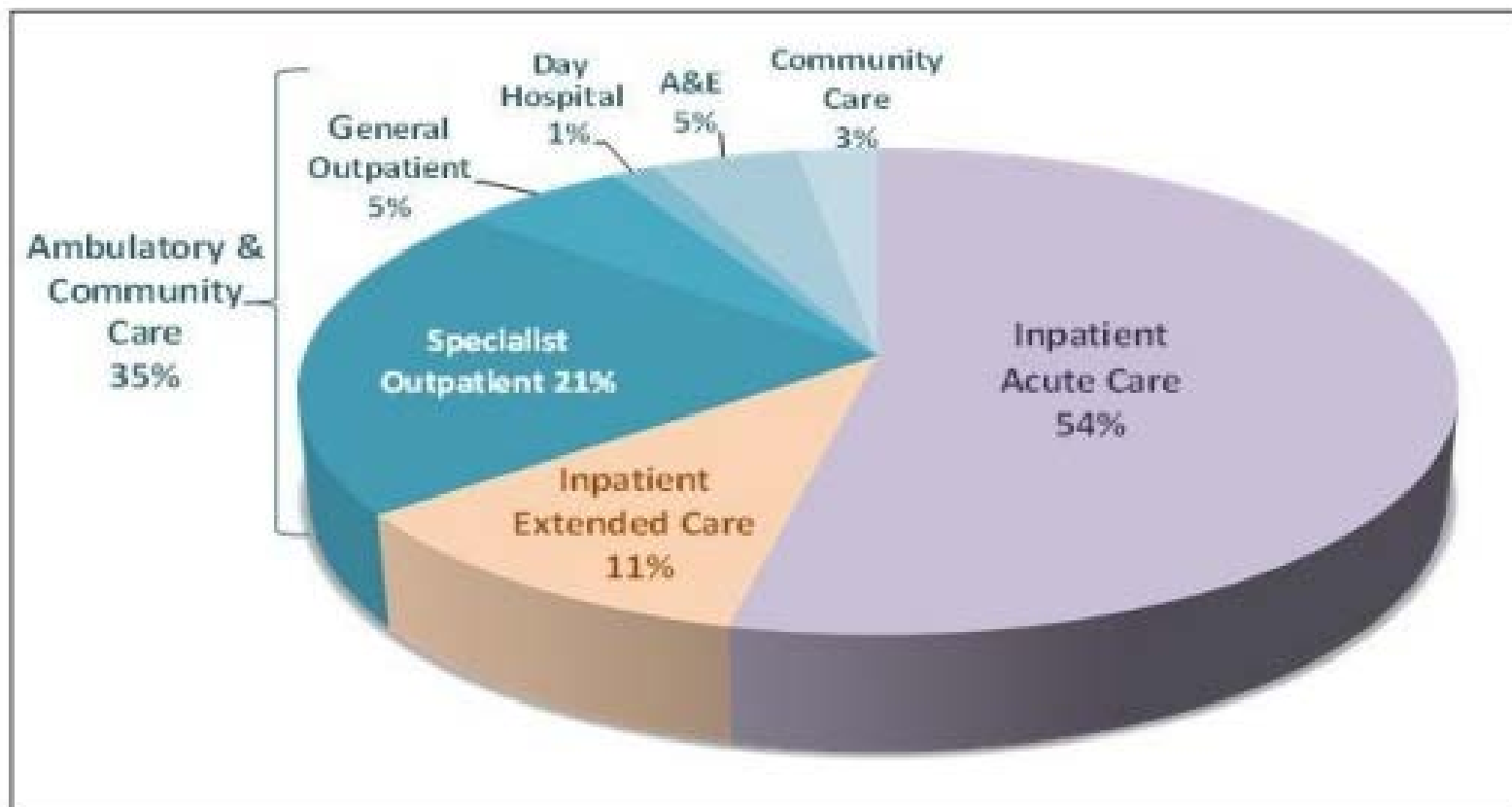


# The Hong Kong Health Care System

Figure 2.4 Share of current health expenditure by financing scheme (at current market prices), 1989/90 – 2016/17

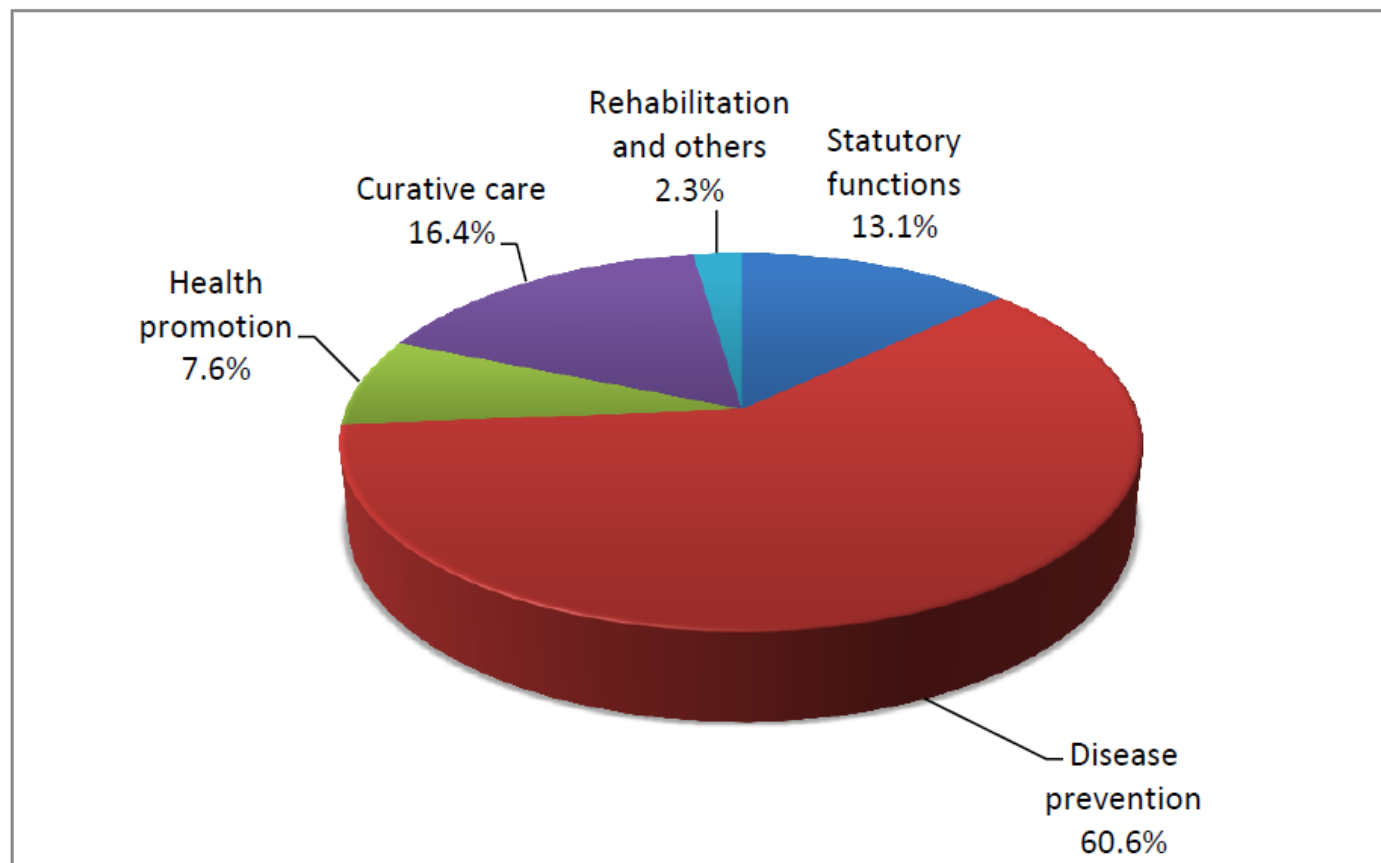


# Hospital Authority's Resource Utilisation Profile in 2012-13





# Department of Health's Planned Resource Utilisation Profile in 2014-15



# Hospital beds in Hong Kong

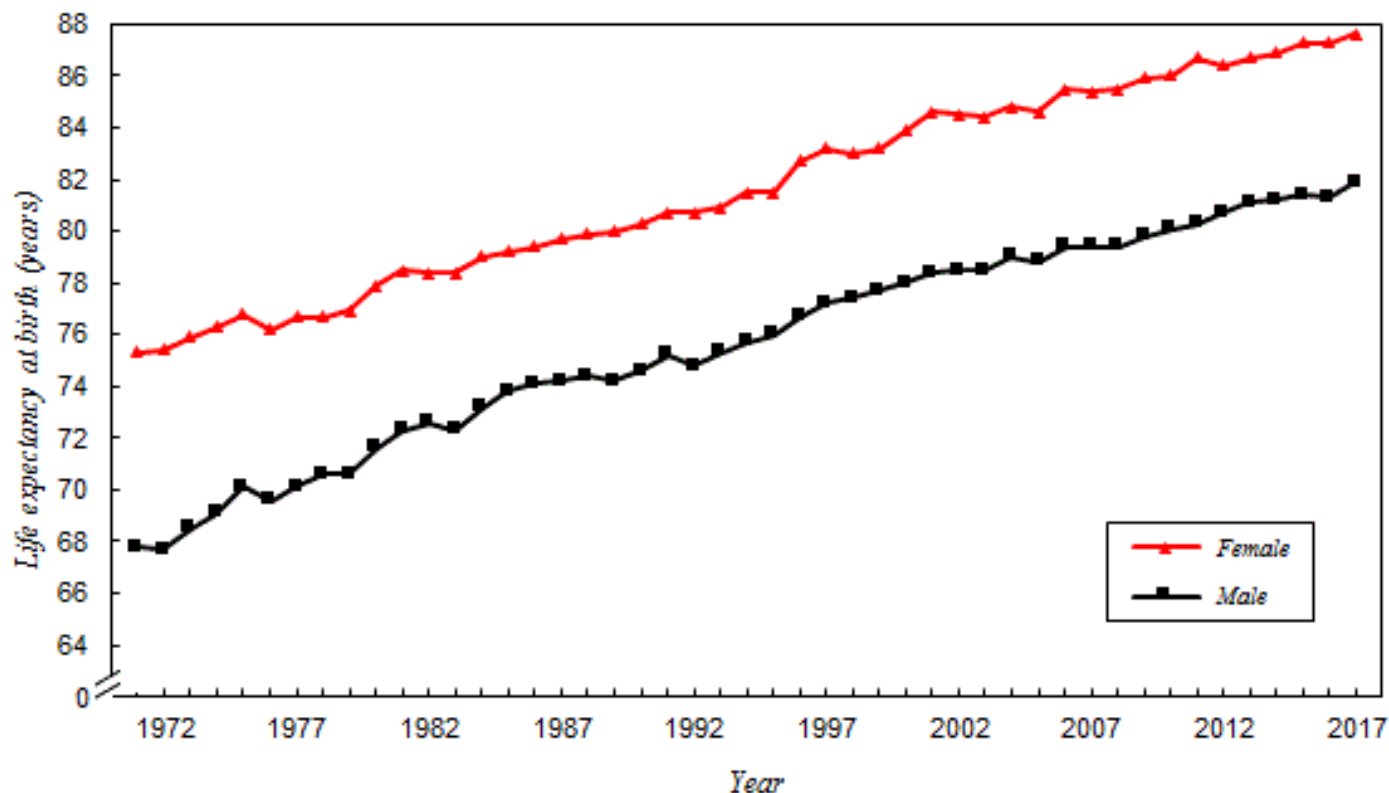
- There are total 32,352 hospital beds, and 5,858 in nursing homes at the end of 2016, ie a total of 38,210
- Among the hospital beds, 28,126 are in 42 public hospital and institution under Hospital Authority, while 4,226 are in private hospitals
- The ratio of bed population was about **5.2** beds per thousand populations

	2000	2006	2010
Hong Kong	5.2	5.0	5.0
Singapore	3.6	3.3	3.1
Sweden	3.6	2.9	2.7
UK	4.1	3.6	3.0
Canada	3.8	3.4	3.2
USA	3.5	3.2	3.1

# Hong Kong People

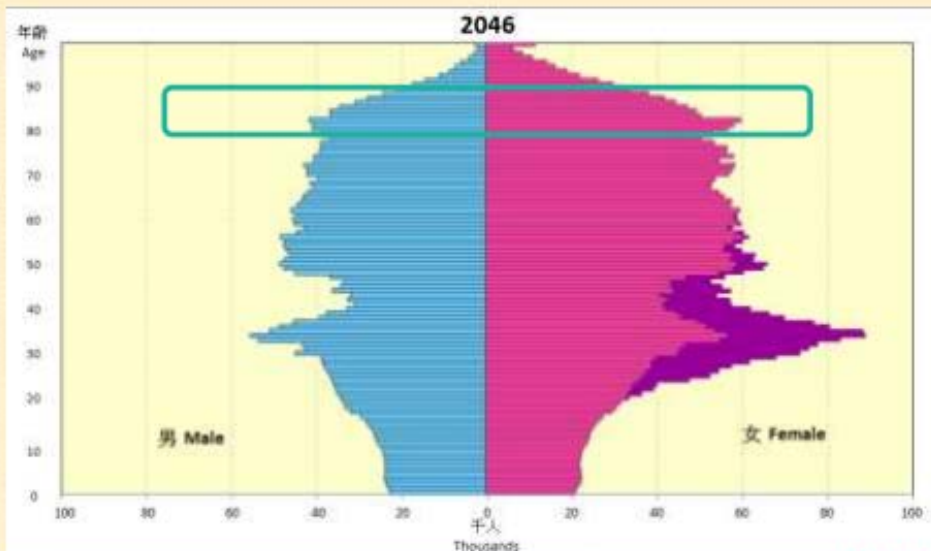
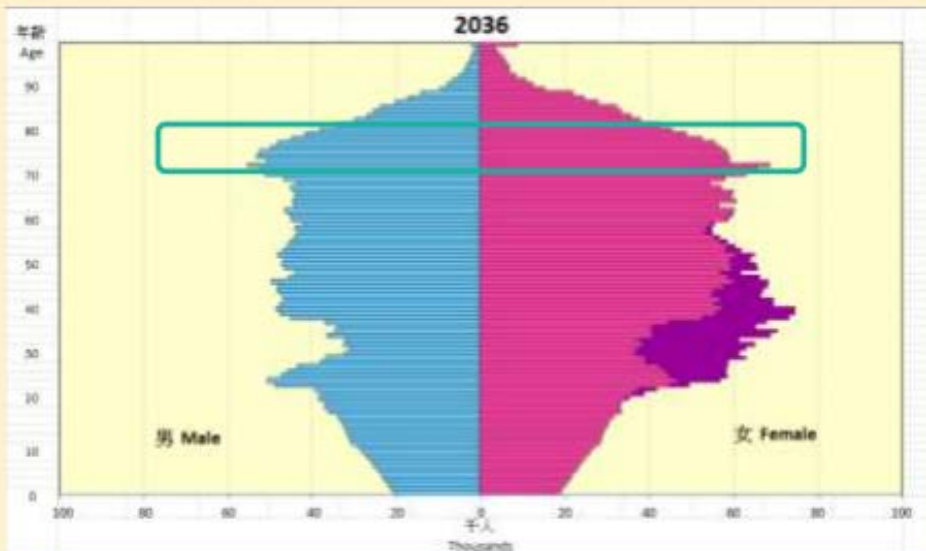
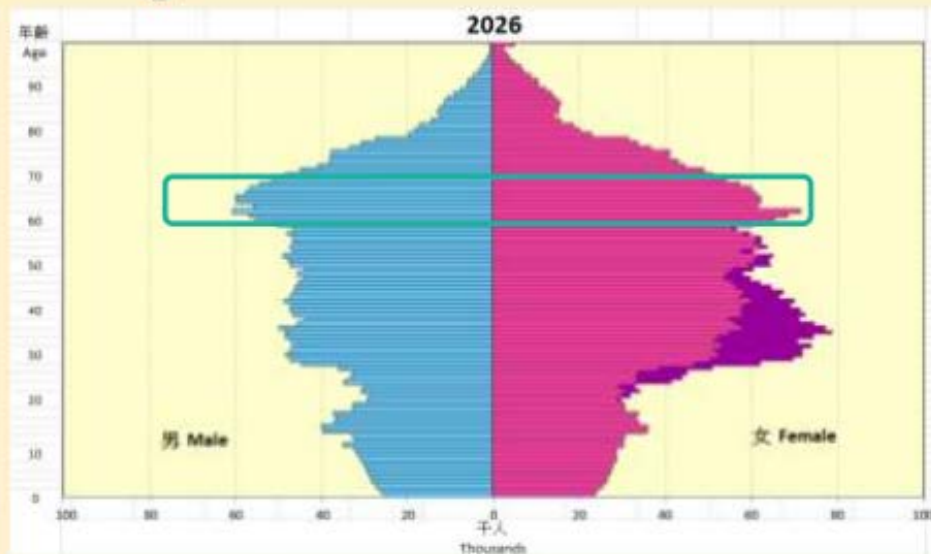
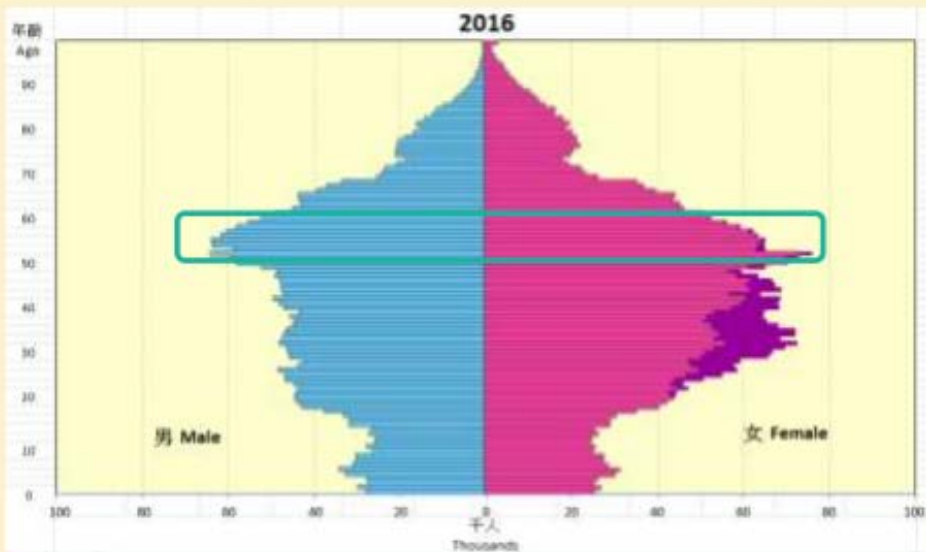
- Good health status and disease patterns
- Population Growth rate around 1% per annum, dropped from 3% in the 1980s
- a rather unexpected result of achieving the **longest** life expectancy in the world among its residents in this tiny, crowded city, full of stressful urban life and activities

# Life Expectancy at Birth (Male and Female). 1971 - 2016



- The life expectancies at birth for both sexes have steadily increased during the past 46 years, from 67.8 years for males and 75.3 years for females in 1971 to **81.3** years and **87.3** years respectively in 2016

# Rapidly Aging Population



# Hong Kong People

- Life expectancy for both men and women came top of the world
  - 81.3 years for males
  - 87.3 years for females
- Increase of some 8 years compared with 30 years ago
- Increase in the demand for health and long-term care
- Whether the traditional model of financing and delivery of care will face huge problems in terms of sustainability, patient's best interests, and equity

# Transition of Hospital Acute-Centric to Long Term Care

## Issues in the health system

1. Policy
2. Governance system, including financing
3. Services

# HK Government's pledge

- Policies carried out effectively
  1. To protect and promote public health
  2. To provide lifelong holistic health care to every citizen of Hong Kong
  3. To ensure that no one is denied adequate medical treatment due to lack of means
- ***“that no one is denied adequate medical treatment due to lack of means”***
- A stance in existence for decades
- Reflected by the steady state of public and private share of health expenditure in the health system



# Governance Systems

Healthcare system => changes on the delivery and management of health care services

- To meet the needs of modern society, arising from increasing aging populations, limited resources, technological advancements and higher patient anticipations, etc.

Two major re-structuring of the governance system

- Statutory **Hospital Authority** in 1991 - management of all public, heavily funded hospital services
- Reshuffling of policy secretariats in 2000 – **Food and Health Bureau** (formerly Health and Welfare Bureau)

# Health Care Services

- Heavily hospital based and acute-centric, particularly in the public services
- Private sector - predominantly primary care, mostly in clinical services, not focusing on prevention or education.



# Health Care Services

## **Significant service gap**

- Needs to be examined and addressed systematically
- => practical solution
- A more holistic, humanistic and better integrated system of care
- Innovative care patterns
- Needs to be supported by political commitment and appropriate governance frameworks.

# Primary Health Care

- Government proposed a reforming the health care system in the consultation document “Your Health, Your Life”,
  - Emphasis on enhancing primary care
- Chinese Medicine Development Committee set up to give recommendations to the government
  - Concerning the direction and long-term strategy of the future development of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong
- 2014 Policy Address: to develop a Chinese medicine hospital to provide Chinese medicine inpatient services, a site in Tseung Kwan O

*Thank You*