

End-of-life Care Legislative Proposals in Hong Kong

While Hong Kong tops life expectancy ranking in the world, death remains a taboo in society. Against the backdrop of an aging population in the territory, the Government, the Hospital Authority and non-governmental organisations have been joining hands to improve end-of-life care and advance care planning in Hong Kong.

Legislative proposals were put forward this September in a public consultation, on advance directives and dying in place. The Government seeks to gauge views on the proposals to 1) codify the common law position of advance directives, 2) remove legislative impediments to implementation of advance directives, and 3) amend relevant legal provisions to facilitate dying in place.