Guidelines on Premises Suitable for Practice for <u>Physiotherapists</u>

In accordance with section 19(1) of the Allied Health Professions Ordinance, no registered physiotherapist shall practise his profession in premises which are considered by the Physiotherapists Board to be unsuitable for such practice. The following guidelines serve to provide guidance on suitable premises –

(a)   The design and condition of the premises should be able to meet the purpose of delivering adequate standards of professional practice.

(b)   The physical design, size and layout of the premises are appropriate for the safe and professional delivery of physiotherapy service.

(c)   Lighting, temperature, humidity, ventilation and noise level are appropriate to the facilities being used.

(d)   The premises are kept in a good state of repair.

(e)   The interior of the premises is kept clean and hygienic.

(f)   There are adequate hand-washing and sanitary facilities for patients.

(g)   There are facilities (e.g. screens or partitions) to provide for privacy of patients, where necessary.

(h)   Appropriate facilities (e.g. lifts and ramps) are available for the access of the disabled.

(i)   In so far as permitted under section 6, adequate and appropriate signages is displayed to direct clients to the premises.

(j)   Mechanism exists to inspect periodically all premises and physical facilities. This periodic inspection is documented and helps the management to develop a plan to reduce evident risks and provide a safe and secure physical environment of care.

(k)   Adequate precautions against risk of fire are taken. Fire exits and escape routes are clearly marked in a conspicuous place.

(l)   Physiotherapists providing out-reaching or on-field services should exercise their professional judgment on the appropriateness of the immediate environment and circumstances for the delivery of relevant physiotherapy intervention.

(m)   Physiotherapists providing services in emergency or first-aid situations are exempted from the above requirements.