



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE

MH 78:44/1

MOH-MHC-0017-2026

05 March 2026

See Distribution List

AMENDMENTS TO THE HEALTHCARE SERVICES (EXEMPTION) ORDER 2021 ON THE USE OF THE TITLE "DOCTOR" IN HEALTHCARE ADVERTISING

On 19 February 2026, the Ministry of Health ("MOH") published the Healthcare Services (Exemption) Order 2021 ("Exemption Order") under the Healthcare Services Act 2020 ("HCSA"). The amendments will allow non-registered Allied Health Professionals ("AHPs") and Traditional and Complementary Medicine ("T&CM") practitioners to use the "Dr" title with positive disclaimers.

Use of the "Dr" Title with Positive Disclaimers

2. The intention of the advertising controls under HCSA is to protect the public from misleading healthcare advertisements. Hence, s.31B of the HCSA requires healthcare advertisements using the title "Doctor" for non-medical practitioners to include a disclaimer stating that the qualification is "not a medical or dental qualification". This is to prevent the public from being misled about the practitioner's qualifications and scope of practice.
3. However, MOH has received feedback for the disclaimer to be positively worded to reflect the individual's achievements and professionalism.
4. Having considered the feedback and consulted relevant stakeholders, MOH has issued an exemption order to allow certain non-registered AHPs and T&CM practitioners to use the "Dr" title with the condition that they must use alternative positive disclaimers as specified in **Annex B** when using the "Dr" title.
5. The revised disclaimers are worded positively while maintaining important information to clarify the professionals' scope of practice and to protect patients. For example, instead of stating "Not a medical or dental qualification", an Ayurvedic Medicine practitioner must use the disclaimer "A Traditional and Complementary Therapy qualification".

6. These professionals must continue to adhere to the advertising controls and codes of conduct set out by their professional boards, councils, or associations.
7. Failure to comply with the requirements may result in enforcement action by MOH.
8. For professionals whose qualifications do not fall into the newly proposed categories set out in **Annex B**, the current disclaimer requirements will continue to apply.

Implementation

9. This new amendment takes effect on 20 February 2026 and is appended in **Annex A** for information please.
10. Should you require further enquiries, you may contact MOH at HCSA_Enquiries@moh.gov.sg.

Thank you.

PROFESSOR KENNETH MAK
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Distribution List

To:

Audiologists
Clinical Psychologists
Dietitians
Podiatrists
Prosthetists
Orthotists
Chiropractors
Osteopaths
Traditional Indian Medicine Practitioners
Traditional Malay Medicine Practitioners

Annexes

Annex A	HEALTHCARE SERVICES (EXEMPTION) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2026
Annex B	NEW DISCLAIMER CATEGORIES

Annex A

HEALTHCARE SERVICES (EXEMPTION)
(AMENDMENT) ORDER 2026



Healthcare Services
(Exemption) (Amendn

Annex B

NEW DISCLAIMER CATEGORIES

S/N	Relevant Personnel	Disclaimer
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Audiologists• Clinical Psychologists• Dietitians• Podiatrists• Prosthetists• Orthotists	An Allied Health Qualification
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chiropractors• Osteopaths• Traditional Indian Medicine Practitioners• Traditional Malay Medicine Practitioners	A Traditional and Complementary Therapy Qualification