Sophia Chan was appointed Secretary for Food and Health in Hong Kong in 2017. She was Under Secretary for Food and Health from 2012-2017. (Hong Kong, a special administrative region of China, maintains a separate legislature, executive, and judiciary from the rest of the country.) Before joining the government, Dr. Chan was head of the School of Nursing at the University of Hong Kong and director of research.

Dr. Chan's research areas include tobacco control and smoking cessation promotion. She has been a consultant to the World Health Organization on training health-care professionals in tobacco dependency treatment interventions through advocacy and education. The first-ever Academy fellow from Hong Kong, she was inducted in 2008.