## <u>Appeal on in-patient missing from Kowloon Hospital</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Kowloon Hospital (KH) made the following appeal today (March 21) regarding an in-patient who escaped from supervision during temporary leave:

A 57-year-old male in-patient of an adult psychiatric ward was assessed as having stable mental condition and was granted temporary leave from hospital. The patient was escorted by one social worker and one member of supporting staff. They travelled by taxi to the Registration of Persons Office at Cheung Sha Wan to replace the patient's Hong Kong identity card. Upon their arrival at 9.15am, the patient suddenly fled when leaving the taxi. The social worker subsequently lost sight of the patient and reported the incident to the hospital and the Police immediately.

KH is very concerned about the incident and contacted a relative of the patient immediately but in vain. The hospital will fully provide assistance to the Police for the search. The patient was earlier admitted to the psychiatric ward of the hospital. His condition has improved with stable condition during hospitalisation.

The patient is about 1.66 metres tall, 62 kilograms in weight, of medium build and has black short hair. He was last seen wearing the dark green chequered patient uniform and red flip-flops. The hospital appeals to the public to contact the Police or call the hospital at 3129 7111 if they know the whereabouts of the patient.

KH has reported the incident to the Hospital Authority Head Office via the Advance Incident Reporting System. The hospital will communicate with the patient's relatives to provide necessary assistance.