

Eight more Designated Clinics of Hospital Authority to cease operation and resume to provide General Out-patient Clinics services

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) spokesman today (May 22) announced that eight more Designated Clinics for COVID-19 confirmed cases (see Annex 1) will cease operation on May 23 and resume to provide the services of General Out-patient Clinics (GOPCs) on May 24 subsequently.

"The HA has been closely monitoring the epidemic situation and has adjusted our services in accordance to the epidemic development. Taking into consideration of the service demand for GOPC services and the recent development of epidemic situation, the HA will cease operation of the Designated Clinics for COVID-19 confirmed cases and resume the services of GOPC by phases. Following eight Designated Clinics ceased operation earlier, another eight Designated Clinics will cease operation on May 23 and resume the services of GOPCs on May 24 after thorough disinfection and cleaning. Lady Trench GOPC will resume evening clinic service on the same day," the HA spokesman said.

"Seven HA Designated Clinics will continue to provide services and support for the confirmed patients in the community (see Annex 2) after the Designated Clinics concerned ceased operation. Patients and their carers can make an appointment with a Designated Clinic by calling the selected Designated Clinic during the booking and service hours or booking via the "Book DC" function in the HA's one-stop mobile app "HA Go"," the spokesman added.

As at 5pm on May 21, the Designated Clinics for COVID-19 confirmed cases have provided for a total of over 123 400 attendances, among these over 17 600 attendances were from appointments made via "Care Booking Line" for high-risk patients.

The HA will communicate the service arrangement to the public and patients through different channels, including the display of notices at prominent places of the clinics, public media announcement, the publicity of the service arrangement via the HA website and to contact individual patients requiring follow-up, to ensure that members of public and patients are informed of the relevant service arrangement.

The HA will continue closely monitor the epidemic situation and service needs, especially the situation after the relaxation of the social distancing measure and to adjust our services (including the services of designated

clinics and GOPCs) in response to the epidemic situation and to provide appropriate treatment to needy patients.

Liquor Licensing Board to meet on Tuesday

The following is issued on behalf of the Liquor Licensing Board:

The Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) will meet on Tuesday (May 24) to consider an application for renewal of liquor licence.

The application is:

New Territories:

LI'S VILLA in Tsuen Wan

The meeting will be held at 9.45am in the conference room, Room 102, 1/F, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai. In response to the latest developments of COVID-19, to avoid the gathering of people in an enclosed environment and to safeguard the health of all participants, only limited public seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for all open hearings of the LLB in the interim.

"LeaveHomeSafe" hotline to commence operation tomorrow

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) today (May 22) announced that the "LeaveHomeSafe" telephone hotline (2626 3066) will commence operation tomorrow (May 23) to handle public enquiries on installation or use of the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app in areas such as the functionality and updates of the app and storing and display of the Vaccine Pass. The hotline will operate from 7am to 9pm daily.

Apart from calling the "LeaveHomeSafe" telephone hotline, members of the public may continue to visit the "LeaveHomeSafe" thematic webpage for usage details and making enquiries. They can also seek assistance from staff at the mobile support stations of the OGCIO at 25 MTR stations on usage of "LeaveHomeSafe". The mobile stations are located at Sai Ying Pun, Wan

Chai, North Point, Shau Kei Wan, Wong Chuk Hang, Nam Cheong, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Prince Edward, Kowloon Tong, Wong Tai Sin, Ho Man Tin, Kai Tak, Ngau Tau Kok, Sheung Shui, Tai Po Market, Tai Wai, Wu Kai Sha, Tiu Keng Leng, Tsuen Wan West, Kwai Fong, Tsing Yi, Tung Chung, Siu Hong and Long Ping stations, and are open from 9am to 6pm every day. For details, please visit the thematic webpage of "LeaveHomeSafe" at www.leavehomesafe.gov.hk/en/.

Government finishes exercise on "restriction-testing declaration" in respect of specified "restricted area" in Block 23A, South Horizons, Ap Lei Chau, and enforcement operation for breaches of compulsory testing notice

The Government yesterday (May 21) exercised the power under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) to make a "restriction-testing declaration" effective from 5pm yesterday, under which people (hereafter referred to as "persons subject to compulsory testing") within the specified "restricted area" in Ap Lei Chau (i.e. Block 23A (Mei Ka Court), South Horizons, Ap Lei Chau, excluding the kindergarten and car park below the podium level) were required to stay in their premises and undergo compulsory testing. Persons subject to compulsory testing were required to stay in their premises until all such persons identified in the "restricted area" had undergone testing and the test results were mostly ascertained. All persons in the "restricted area" who have tested positive in the past 14 days, including positive cases identified either by nucleic acid tests recorded by the Department of Health (DH) or by rapid antigen tests that have been self-declared to the DH, were not required to undergo testing in this compulsory testing exercise.

In addition, the Government issued a compulsory testing notice yesterday, requiring persons, other than those specified above, who had been present at the above building for more than two hours from May 15 to May 21, 2022, even if they were not present in the "restricted area" at the time when the declaration took effect, to undergo compulsory testing on or before May 23, 2022.

The Government finished the compulsory testing exercise at around 8.30am today (May 22) and carried out enforcement action in the "restricted area" afterwards to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone compulsory testing in accordance with the requirements of the relevant

declaration and compulsory testing notice. The Government announced that the enforcement operation ended at around 10.30am today.

The Government provided food packs for persons subject to compulsory testing to facilitate their meal arrangements. Anti-epidemic proprietary Chinese medicines donated by the Central Government or procured with the co-ordination of the Central People's Government and rapid antigen test kits were also distributed to persons subject to compulsory testing to help them fight against the virus.

The Government thanks persons subject to compulsory testing for their support and understanding. With everyone's co-operation and efforts, coupled with the efforts of the testing contractors throughout the night, residents have been informed about their testing results by SMS notification. After finishing the compulsory testing exercise at around 8.30am today, the Government took enforcement action in the "restricted area" immediately to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone testing according to the requirements of the declaration and the compulsory testing notice. Persons who could present an SMS notification containing a negative testing result or wore a wristband as proof of having undergone the compulsory testing could leave the "restricted area" through the designated exit after providing personal information to a prescribed officer. The enforcement operation was completed at around 10.30am. Test records of around 206 persons subject to compulsory testing were checked. No person was found to have not undergone compulsory testing. Taking into account the above situation, the Secretary for Food and Health revoked the "restriction-testing declaration" in accordance with Cap. 599J (see attachment).

The Government reminds the 58 households who have not answered the door to undergo a nucleic acid test as soon as possible after reading the notices put up by the Government, in the hope of eliminating the possible risk of further spread of the virus in the community.

The Government thanks all participating government staff and the testing agencies for their hard work. The Government is also grateful to those subject to compulsory testing for their support and understanding, and their full co-operation during this period in undergoing testing and waiting for the results at home.

The Government will seriously follow up on the compliance situation of the compulsory testing notices and the "restriction-testing declaration" by persons subject to compulsory testing. Any person who fails to comply with the compulsory testing notices commits an offence and may be liable to a fixed penalty of \$10,000. The person will also be issued with a compulsory testing order, requiring him or her to undergo testing within a specified time frame. Failure to comply with the order or the "restriction-testing declaration" is an offence and the offender may be liable to a fine of level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for six months.

Red flags hoisted at Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (May 22) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.