<u>Cluster of Carbapenemase-Producing</u> <u>Enterobacteriaceae cases in Tai Po</u> <u>Hospital</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Tai Po Hospital made the following announcement today (January 29):

Three patients (aged 67 to 84) in a male ward of the Department of Medicine and Geriatrics have been confirmed to be Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) carriers through screening since January 26. All of them are being treated under isolation with stable condition.

The hospital infection control team has followed up with the department concerned and the Centre for Health Protection. The following enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted in the ward:

1. Enhanced patient and environmental screening procedures;

2. Applied stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene of staff and patients; and

3. Enhanced cleaning and disinfection of the ward.

The hospital will continue to closely monitor the situation of the ward. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.