<u>Cluster of Human Metapneumovirus cases</u> <u>in Kwai Chung Hospital</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson of Kwai Chung Hospital made the following announcement today (May 21):

Three patients (aged 55 to 62) in a female psychiatric ward have presented with respiratory symptoms since May 10. Appropriate viral tests had been arranged for the patients and the test results of three patients were positive to Human Metapneumovirus. One of the patients is being treated under isolation and another two patients had been transferred to Princess Margaret Hospital. Three patients are in stable condition.

Admission to the ward has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.