<u>Cluster of Multi-drug Resistant</u> <u>Acinetobacter cases in North District</u> <u>Hospital</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesman for the North District Hospital (NDH) made the following announcement today (February 1):

Since January 24, four male patients (aged 77 to 89) of a medical ward have been confirmed to be carriers of Multi-drug Resistant Acinetobacter. The four patients are currently being treated under isolation with stable condition in NDH, the Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital and the Tai Po Hospital respectively.

Following the activation of Emergency Response Level in public hospitals, visiting arrangement has been suspended. The following enhanced infection control measures have been stepped up according to established guidelines:

1. Enhance cleansing and disinfection of the ward concerned

2. Apply stringent contact precautions and enhance hand hygiene of staff and patients

3. Enhance patient and environmental screening procedures

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