DH's staff member of Travel Health Centre (Kowloon) confirmed positive for COVID-19

The Department of Health (DH) announced today (January 25) that a staff member of its Travel Health Centre (Kowloon) located at Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices has tested positive for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The clinic was closed immediately for thorough cleaning and disinfection, and will remain closed for 14 days. Affected clients will be contacted by the staff of the clinic to reschedule their service appointments. In addition, the Cremation Permit Office (Kowloon) which is connected to the Travel Health Centre (Kowloon) was also closed immediately and will remain closed for three days.

The staff member concerned is a medical and health officer. He last performed duties on January 23 morning. His body temperature was normal when undergoing temperature screening during work. He wore a surgical mask while performing duties and properly maintained social distancing with people he contacted. He subsequently felt unwell on January 23 and collected deep throat saliva sample for testing on the same day. The testing result was positive today.

The staff member concerned had contacted a today's confirmed case of COVID-19 while seeking treatment on January 18.

The DH's Centre for Health Protection has initiated an epidemiological investigation on the above case. Relevant contact tracing is ongoing to identify and trace close contacts of the staff member. Arrangements have also been made for colleagues working with the officer to work from home and they will undergo COVID-19 testing.

The DH is highly concerned about the COVID-19 situation and has been strictly implementing various disease prevention measures during the epidemic, which include providing employees with masks and other protective equipment, stepping up the cleaning and sanitising measures of the working environment, and reminding all staff to maintain personal hygiene and be vigilant at all times.