<u>DH's Tai Po Wong Siu Ching Dental</u> Clinic to close for disinfection

The Department of Health (DH) announced today (January 19) that its Tai Po Wong Siu Ching Dental Clinic (TPWSCDC) learnt that a patient who tested positive for COVID-19 had earlier visited the premises for treatment. Based on public health considerations, TPWSCDC will be closed for thorough cleaning and disinfection tomorrow (January 20). Affected clients will be contacted to reschedule their service appointments.

The client visited the clinic on January 15 and subsequently tested positive for COVID-19 infection yesterday (January 18). The client had a mask on while waiting for treatment at the dental clinic and the staff attending were wearing masks with suitable protective equipment. So far, no staff members have developed symptoms nor are confirmed cases.

The DH's Centre for Health Protection has initiated an epidemiological investigation on the case and relevant contact tracing is ongoing. In view of the epidemic situation, dental clinics have stepped up infection control measures, including temperature screening for all visitors before clinic entry and conducting health declaration. Dental services have been strictly implementing various disease prevention measures during the epidemic, which include providing employees with masks and other protective equipment, and stepping up the cleaning and sanitising measures of the clinics. All dental services staff members are wearing masks at work and practising hand hygiene at all times. The DH is highly concerned about the COVID-19 situation and has reminded all staff again to maintain personal hygiene and be vigilant at all times.