<u>General clinic service during</u> <u>Christmas holidays</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) today (December 23) announces that 12 general out-patient clinics (see table below) will remain open during the Christmas holidays on December 25 and 26. Members of the public are reminded to make advance booking through the telephone system as usual for an appointment. A public hospital emergency physician also reminds the public to refrain from excessive drinking during festive celebrations.

The HA spokesperson said the public could call the HA Infoline (2882 4866) for information on holiday general out-patient clinic service. They can also browse the website of Primary Care Directory of the Department of Health at <u>www.pcdirectory.gov.hk</u>, or download its mobile App to find an appropriate family doctor and his service hours.

With the approach of Christmas, HA consultant emergency physician Dr Lau Chu-leung reminds the public to refrain from excessive drinking. "Excessive drinking may result in adverse health condition and alcohol hangover. Alcohol will be decomposed by liver enzymes into acetaldehyde which is a toxic metabolite. Acetaldehyde accumulated to a certain level in blood will cause adverse reactions such as rapid heartbeat, headache, vomiting, impaired concentration, anxiety and depression. Excessive alcohol may also result in alcohol intoxication, which is life-threatening."

Dr Lau appeals to the public to avoid driving after drinking or when having alcohol hangover to prevent injuries from traffic accidents.

With the approach of the influenza season, he also reminds the public on the good personal hygiene habits such as covering the nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing, maintain hand hygiene, and wear a mask when having symptoms of respiratory infections to avoid further spread of the disease. The general public is also advised to receive seasonal influenza vaccination as early as possible to protect themselves and others. People travelling outside Hong Kong are reminded to avoid contacting birds or poultry, and to disclose their travel history to healthcare staff when seeking medical consultation.

District			General enquiry
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Hong Kong Island	Shau Kei Wan Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0077	2560 0211
	Violet Peel General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0000	3553 3116
	Aberdeen Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	3543 5011	2555 0381
Kowloon	Kwun Tong Community Health Centre	3157 0687	2389 0331
	Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital Family Medicine Clinic	3157 0118	2354 2267
	Robert Black General Out-patient Clinic (Holiday clinic service is now provided at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital Family Medicine Clinic due to renovation works currently undertaking)	3157 0113	2383 3311
	Yau Ma Tei Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0880	2272 2400
New Territories	Lady Trench General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0107	2614 4789
	Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0972	2692 8730
	Shek Wu Hui Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0965	2670 0211
	Tai Po Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	3157 0906	2664 2039
	Tuen Mun Clinic	3543 0886	2452 9111
	Yuen Long Jockey Club Health Centre	3543 5007	2443 8511

Consultation Hours:

December 25 and 26 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm