## <u>General out-patient clinic service</u> <u>during Christmas holidays</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) today (December 23) announces that in view of the increased demand during the winter surge in public hospitals, the general out-patient clinic (GOPC) service will be enhanced during the Christmas holidays. An addition of over 1 800 consultation quotas will be provided during the Christmas holidays. Furthermore, three additional GOPCs will provide service during the long holidays, i.e. 16 clinics in total (see table below) will remain open to meet the service needs of the public and alleviate the service pressure of Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments. Meanwhile, the Chairman of the HA Central Coordinating Committee (A&E), Dr Tsui Sik-hon, reminded the public to refrain from excessive alcohol consumption during the festive celebrations.

An HA spokesperson said the public could browse the website of Primary Care Directory of the Food and Health Bureau at <a href="www.pcdirectory.gov.hk">www.pcdirectory.gov.hk</a> to find an appropriate family doctor and the related clinic service.

As Christmas is approaching, Dr Tsui reminded the public to avoid excessive drinking. "Excessive alcohol will impair one's brain function. It may result in a headache, vomiting, breathing difficulties, unconsciousness, coma or even alcohol intoxication which could be life-threatening. Underage drinking is particularly harmful to brain development." He added that drinking cannot generate warmth as alcohol would dilate blood vessels and lower body temperature.

Dr Tsui also appealed to the public to avoid driving after drinking or during an alcohol hangover to help prevent the occurrence of traffic accidents.

With the approach of the influenza season, he also reminded the general public to receive a seasonal influenza vaccination as early as possible to protect themselves and others. Travellers returning to Hong Kong with respiratory symptoms are advised to wear face masks, seek medical attention and disclose their travel history to healthcare staff when seeking medical consultation.

General out-patient clinic service during Christmas holidays (December 25 and 26)

Clinics	iniimner tor - i	General enquiry
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
<pre>Kennedy Town Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic *</pre>	3543 5088	2817 3215
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	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
Ha Kwai Chung General Out-patient Clinic #	3157 0100	3651 5411
Tseung Kwan O (Po Ning Road) General Out- patient Clinic *	3157 0660	2191 1083

<sup>#</sup> Will provide clinic service on December 25

Consultation Hours: 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm

<sup>\*</sup> Will provide clinic service on December 26