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

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) today (December 23) announced that in view of the epidemic of COVID-19 and the winter service surge, the general outpatient clinic (GOPC) services will be enhanced during the Christmas holidays. The consultation quota will be increased by around 900 during the Christmas holidays. Furthermore, two additional GOPCs will provide services during the long holidays, i.e. 16 clinics in total (see table below) will remain open to address the service needs of the public.

The HA Chief Infection Control Officer, Dr Raymond Lai reminded the public to continue to stay vigilant during festive celebrations. They should maintain personal and environmental hygiene to prevent infection and spreading the virus in the community.

"Current data show that Omicron variant is much more contagious than Delta variant. There are a lot of people returning to Hong Kong from overseas for the Christmas and New Year holidays. To minimise the risk of infection, people should avoid mass gathering activities and maintain personal hygiene, including masking and frequent hand-washing. Members of the public should also seek medical advice early for respiratory symptoms."

"Amid the growing threat of the Omicron surge, vaccination is still the most effective means of outbreak control. Members of the public who have not yet vaccinated should grasp the opportunity for vaccination as soon as possible. Vaccinated people should consider taking a booster dose at appropriate time to reduce the risk of infection or developing severe symptoms if infected."

Members of the public are welcome to browse the designated website www.ha.org.hk/goto/wintersurge/en and "Service Surge Online" in the "HA Go" mobile application for key service statistics, Accidental and Emergency Department waiting times and medical consultation information. In addition, members of the public can obtain specimen collection packs for COVID-19 tests during the holiday or submit specimens at eleven GOPCs (see table below) within the specified time. The public can also obtain specimen collection packs at the selected MTR stations. For details, please visit the website: www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html.

General out-patient clinic services during Christmas holidays (December 25 – 27)

District	Name of clinic	Inumper for 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
	Kennedy Town Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic *#	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
	Yuen Chau Kok General Out-patient Clinic (Service of Lek Yuen GOPC is temporarily relocated to Yuen Chau Kok GOPC due to clinic renovation.)	3157 0995	2647 3383
	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
	Tseung Kwan O (Po Ning Road) General Out-patient Clinic*	3157 0660	2191 1083
	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

Will provide clinic services on December 27

Service hours:

December 25 & 26: 9am to 1pm

December 27: 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm

* General out-patient clinics to distribute specimen collection packs and collect specimens for COVID-19 tests

Specimen collection packs distribution time: from 9am (while stocks last)

Specimen collection time: 9am to 11am