

Government follows up on positive results of sewage surveillance and appeals to residents to undergo virus testing

The Government announced today (March 26) that in order to fight the coronavirus epidemic, the Environmental Protection Department and the Drainage Services Department in collaboration with the cross-disciplinary team of the University of Hong Kong had strengthened the sampling of sewage for virus testing in all districts, and had detected positive results in many areas, indicating that there may be hidden cases in the premises within these areas.

Rapid test

As regards positive sewage testing results with relatively high viral loads in the following areas, the respective District Offices will distribute over 220 000 sets of the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) kits to a total of about 220 000 residents, cleaning workers and property management staff working in the following areas starting from tomorrow (March 27) for them to take the test on their own, in order to help identify infected persons:

- Kwun Tong District – Lok Wah South Estate, Lok Wah North Estate, Upper Ngau Tau Kok Estate, Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate and Chun Wah Court
- Sham Shui Po District – Residential premises around Po On Road, Hing Wah Street, Un Chau Street and Cheung Fat Street (See Annex)
- Tai Po District – Luen Yick Fishermen Village, Sam Mun Tsai New Village and Springdale Garden
- Tsuen Wan District – Tsuen Wan Centre, Allway Gardens, Discovery Park, Tsuen King Garden, Fuk Loi Estate, Clague Garden Estate, Kam Fung Garden, Tsuen Wan Plaza, Skyline Plaza, Tak Yan Building, Joyful Building, Dao Shing Building and On Hong Building
- Tuen Mun District – Pearl Island Villas, Pearl Island Garden, Peridot Court, Aqua Blue, The Hillgrove, Jade Grove, Villa Sapphire, The Aegean, Avignon, Lepont, Emerald Bay, Crown By The Sea, The Bloomsway, Verdant Villa, Palm Cove, Dragon Inn Court, South Crest, Faraday House, Elegant Villa, Tuen Mun Court, The Cafeteria, Aquamarine Garden, Castle Peak Bay Garden, Dragon Villa, Goodview Garden, Oceania Heights, Hanford Garden, Lai Bo Building, Kai Hei Land Building, JC Place, Alpine Garden, Harvest Garden, Handsome Court and Kam Fai Garden
- Sha Tin District – Shek Mun Estate, Greenhill Villa, Castello, Hong Lam Court and Kwong Yuen Estate

Members of the public may refer to (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/rat/eng/rat.html) for enquiries relating to the use of the RAT kits.

When using an RAT kit, please pay attention to and follow the instructions from the manufacturer to perform the test and read the result properly. It is advisable to record the displayed result by taking a photo immediately after reading. Users should wash their hands before and after performing the tests, and avoid placing non-essential items within the specimen collection area. After completing the test, wrap and seal all components of the test kit carefully and dispose properly. If the household environment is contaminated during the specimen collecting process, disinfection should be conducted with 1 in 49 diluted bleach solution or 70 per cent alcohol.

People who obtained a positive result through an RAT for the first time can report via the online platform "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" (www.chp.gov.hk/ratp/). If individuals encounter difficulties using the online platform, they can call the automated system at 1836 119 to register their identification document and telephone number. The Centre for Health Protection will contact the relevant person later to finish the report procedure.