

HA to operate holiday clinics on day following Mid-autumn Festival and urges public to stay vigilant during the festival

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) spokesperson reminds the members of the public today (September 21) that 12 general out-patient clinics (see table below) under HA will continue to provide services on the holiday following the Mid-autumn Festival next Tuesday (September 25). Patients requiring medical consultation could make advance booking for an appointment through the telephone system as usual. Furthermore, an Accident & Emergency (A&E) doctor of public hospital urges the public to stay vigilance during the festival to prevent accidents, particularly not to play with burning wax and handle glow sticks carefully to prevent accidental ingest chemicals or splash into eyes.

According to the HA spokesperson, to help find the appropriate family medicine doctor and related clinic service of their choice, public are welcome to call the HA Infoline (2882 4866) for information on holiday general out-patient clinic service. They can also browse the Primary Care Directory of Department of Health at www.pcdirectory.gov.hk, or download the mobile App of Primary Care Directory.

With the approach of the Mid-autumn Festival, HA consultant emergency physician Dr Lau Chu-leung advises the public that burning wax is a very dangerous activity. It will cause burn injuries with permanent scars. In severe cases, the mobility of limbs may also be affected. The temperature of hot wax is even higher than that of boiling water. It will possibly lead to third-degree (severe level) burns. Patients with third-degree burns will have their dermis and skin nerves seriously damaged and the wound will not be able to heal by itself. These patients will require a prolonged management and treatment.

"In case of accidental burns, patients are advised to take some simple first-aid measures, such as rinsing the wound gently with clean water or to wrap the wound with clean gauze or plastic wrap to minimise the risk of infection." Dr Lau added.

Furthermore, glow sticks are frequently used in festival for fun. Dr Lau reminds the public to handle glow sticks carefully and avoid overbending it. The chemicals in a broken glow stick may splash into eyes, causing injury to the cornea and impair vision. Parents should prevent children from ingesting the chemicals of glow sticks accidentally. The chemicals can cause irritation and pain to the mouth, and dizziness in extreme circumstances.

“Anyone accidentally splash the chemicals in the eyes should rinse with clean water for 10 to 15 minutes immediately and seek medical consultation nearby. People should dispose the glow sticks properly after the festival as glow sticks will wear out and more easily break on bending.” said Dr Lau.

District	Name of Clinic	Telephone number for booking	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
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:
9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm