

# Hospital Authority offers vaccination leave to encourage staff receiving third dose

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) today (November 10) announced that the HA will offer one-day vaccination leave to HA staff for their third dose of COVID-19 vaccine to dovetail with the Government's advice on receiving a third dose of vaccine and the vaccination leave arrangement for civil servants for their third dose.

The spokesperson said staff members can take sufficient rest with the leave after receiving vaccination. The significance of vaccination is to protect oneself and the people around by preventing transmission of the virus, and as an important step in managing the epidemic. Receiving vaccination benefits oneself and others.

Furthermore, with effect from November 22, all HA staff members will have to undergo a weekly COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test for COVID-19 (PCR tests), except for those who are vaccinated, to further reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection in the hospitals. The PCR tests will need to be taken outside working hours and at staff members' own expense.

At present, the vaccination rate has exceeded 97 per cent for HA staff overall.