Pok Oi Hospital announces patient tests preliminarily positive for COVID-19

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority.

The spokesperson for Pok Oi Hospital (POH) made the following announcement today (December 4) regarding an inpatient confirmed preliminarily positive for COVID-19:

A 76-year-old male patient was admitted through the Accident and Emergency Department to an Emergency Medicine Ward (EMW) of POH due to underlying diseases in the early hours of yesterday (December 3) morning. He was arranged to take the viral test for COVID-19 and the preliminary result available in the afternoon was positive. The patient has been transferred to an isolation ward of Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH) with stable condition.

Upon learning the patient's test result, the Infection Control Unit conducted an investigation to trace the healthcare workers and patients who had been in contact with him. The contact tracing identified five patients who stayed in the same cubicle with the patient concerned as close contacts and who require quarantine for 14 days. A nurse was also classified as a close contact and required quarantine for 14 days since she only wore a surgical mask when staying next to the patient when he was collecting his deep throat saliva for testing.

As well, the patient concerned has been to the Ambulatory Care Centre of TMH on December 1 for a blood test and attended a follow up consultation at New Territories West Diabetes Centre located in POH on the next day (December 2). It was confirmed that all staff members who had contacted the patient in these two days had worn appropriate personal protection equipment. Therefore, none of these staff members were listed as close contacts or other contacts.

The New Territories West Cluster had arranged thorough cleaning and disinfection in the EMW and other places concerned. The hospital will fully co-operate with the Centre for Health Protection on follow up actions.