<u>Public hospitals daily update on</u> COVID-19 cases

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 9am today (December 18), two COVID-19 confirmed patients (case numbers: 12430 and 12497) were discharged from hospital in the last 24 hours. While one patient (case number: 12430) had left Hong Kong and the other patient (case number: 12497) had been released from isolation order by the Department of Health. So far, a total of 12 182 patients with confirmed or probable infection have been discharged.

A total of 83 confirmed patients are currently hospitalised in the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre and the Hospital Authority (HA) Infectious Disease Centre. Among those patients, one is in serious condition (case number: 12431) while the remaining are in stable condition.

The HA will maintain close contact with the Centre for Health Protection to monitor the latest developments and to inform the public and healthcare workers on the latest information in a timely manner.