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

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 0.00am today (February 18), a total of 3 099 patients who are suspected of having or have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus are currently being treated in the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre, the Hospital Authority (HA) Infectious Disease Centre, the Community Treatment Facility at AsiaWorld-Expo and public hospitals. Ten confirmed patients passed away, including eight patient cases that had been announced yesterday. Including the previous unannounced cases, a total of 255 patients have passed away in public hospitals so far. There were 251 patients discharged.

In addition, there are around 2 200 patients isolated in the Community Isolation Facility in Penny's Bay.

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.