<u>Public urged to donate blood before</u> <u>taking Chinese New Year vacations</u> <u>(with photos)</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service (BTS) today (January 28) urged members of the public to donate blood before taking vacations during the Chinese New Year holidays to help fill up the blood bank. The BTS needs the donations to tackle the low blood supply during the current winter surge and serve patients in need throughout the long holiday.

There has been a significant increase in demand for blood transfusion since the commencement of the winter surge in public hospitals. The cold and wet weather has brought down the blood supply, and the BTS has recorded persistently low collection levels lately. Those who go to donate now to stock up the blood bank will support the patients in need.

Most BTS donor centres will be open during the Chinese New Year holidays (except on February 5). For details, please refer to the table below, visit www.ha.org.hk/rcbts, use the mobile app "HK Blood" or call 2710 1234.

As a token of thanks, all successful blood donors during the period from February 6 to 8 will receive a "CNY Goodie Bag", while stocks last.

The "HK Blood" app helps to locate the nearest donor centre across the city, and it can be downloaded via the following links:

IOS: itunes.apple.com/hk/app/hk-blood/id1387423207?mt=8
Android: play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hk.org.ha.btsmapps&rdid=hk.org
.ha.btsmapps

The opening hours of donor centres during the Chinese New Year holidays are as follows:

	February 4	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8
Hong Kong Island					
Causeway Bay	11am to 8pm	Closed	11am to 8pm	llam to 8pm	llam to 8pm
Central	11am to 7pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	11am to 7pm
University of Hong Kong	10am to 6pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Kowloon					

Mong Kok	11am to 9.30pm	Closed	11am to 7pm	llam to 7pm	11am to 9.30pm
Kwun Tong	11am to 8pm	Closed	11am to 8pm	11am to 8pm	11am to 8pm
West Kowloon	9.30am to 6pm	Closed	9.30am to 6pm	9.30am to 6pm	9.30am to 6pm
Hong Kong Polytechnic University	10am to 6pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	10am to 6pm
New Territories					
Tsuen Wan	llam to 8pm	Closed	11am to 8pm	llam to 8pm	llam to 8pm
Sha Tin	llam to 7pm	Closed	11am to 7pm	llam to 7pm	llam to 7pm
Yuen Long	llam to 7pm	Closed	11am to 7pm	llam to 7pm	llam to 7pm



