## <u>Queen Elizabeth Hospital's appeal on a</u> <u>walk-away patient incident</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesman for Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) made the following appeal today (December 18) regarding a walk-away patient incident:

A 63-year-old male confirmed COVID-19 patient (case number: 7379) was admitted to QEH isolation ward on December 14 for treatment. At about 5pm today (December 18), the ward staff spotted that the patient was making his way to run away from the ward. The ward staff chased him but the efforts were in vain. The patient had fled away to staircase. The ward staff immediately informed the hospital security, the follow-up search in the hospital compound did not locate the patient.

The Hospital called the police and would cooperate with the police investigation. The Hospital has also reported the incident to the Centre for Health Protection (CHP), and made a report to the Hospital Authority Head Office via the Advance Incidents Reporting System.

He is about 1.6 metres tall and of medium build with black short hair. He was last seen wearing hospital patient clothes, navy blue jacket and sport shoes with surgical mask. The Hospital appeals to the public to contact the Police or call the hospital hotline at 3506 8944 if they know the whereabouts of the patient.

The Hospital appeals to all patients under isolation treatment to strictly follow the direction of medical staff. They should not leave the hospital without permission in order to protect the public and for their own health.