

Staff member at DH's Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices Dental Clinic tests preliminarily positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus

The Department of Health (DH) today (February 14) said that a Dental Surgery Assistant who works at its Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices Dental Clinic has tested preliminarily positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus while a Dental Officer has also tested preliminarily positive through rapid antigen testing.

The Dental Surgery Assistant is currently on leave and returned to the clinic for a short while for clerical work on February 8. She had no contact with members of the public on that day. She underwent testing on February 10 and tested preliminary positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The Dental Officer last performed duties on February 11. She developed symptoms on February 12 and tested preliminarily positive through rapid antigen testing on the same day.

The two staff members wore appropriate personal protective equipment, including N95 respirators, while performing duties. The dental clinic will be closed today and tomorrow (February 15) for thorough cleaning and disinfection. Affected clients have been contacted to reschedule their service appointments.

The DH's Centre for Health Protection has initiated an epidemiological investigation on the relevant cases and relevant contact tracing is ongoing. In view of the epidemic situation, the DH's dental clinics have stepped up infection control measures, including temperature screening for all visitors before clinic entry, conducting health declaration and rescheduling the appointments of patients with higher transmission risk (e.g. persons subject to compulsory testing). The Dental Services have been strictly implementing various disease prevention measures during the epidemic, which include providing employees with masks and other protective equipment, and stepping up the cleaning and sanitising measures of the clinics. All staff members are wearing masks at work and practising hand hygiene at all times. The DH is highly concerned about the COVID-19 situation and has reminded all staff again to maintain personal hygiene and be vigilant at all times. If feeling unwell, they should seek medical attention immediately.