

SWD launches Anti-virus Coating Spray Subsidy for residential care homes for the elderly and residential care homes for persons with disabilities

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) today (May 4) launched the Anti-virus Coating Spray Subsidy to support all the some 1 000 residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) to give their premises an anti-virus coating spray for stepping up infection control. The subsidy is one of the items approved by the Anti-epidemic Fund Steering Committee on April 20, with a total subsidy amount of \$80 million.

All subvented, contract, self-financing and private RCHEs and RCHDs with a valid licence as at April 30, 2020, are eligible to apply for the subsidy. The ceiling of the subsidy amount for each RCHE or RCHD is calculated on the basis of the floor area of the home.

The SWD issued letters today to invite eligible RCHEs and RCHDs to apply for the subsidy. Following a streamlined confirmation procedure, the RCHEs and RCHDs may procure the anti-virus coating spray service on their own for one-off or multiple applications of coating to provide disinfection protection for an aggregate of no less than 180 days. The coating spray must be started on or before August 31, 2020.