

Transcript of remarks by S for Health on "LeaveHomeSafe" at media session

Following is the transcript of remarks made by the Secretary for Health, Professor Lo Chung-mau, at a media session after attending a radio programme today (July 16):

Reporter: Secretary, you said that there will be no real name registration for "LeaveHomeSafe" users except the inbound travellers and the infected people. Could you explain a little bit more on that?

Secretary for Health: For the majority of the people, there is nothing changed. The whole purpose of the "red code" is to identify (confirmed COVID-19 cases). For the majority of the people, there is no need to have any change in the "LeaveHomeSafe". The "red code" is meant for those who have confirmed infection by the PCR test (polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test). These people, they should have their identity registered and the "red code" will ensure safety of the rest of the community. In fact, by law, people who are confirmed to have the COVID-19 infection should actually stay at the designated isolation area whether it is a designated place or home isolation. For the "yellow code", we meant to use this not actually to increase the restriction but to relieve the restriction imposed on all those inbound travellers. With the "yellow code", we will be able to identify them more precisely, to avoid them from getting into the high risk areas exposing the community to the risk of infection, and at the same time, we will be able to perhaps reduce the designated hotel quarantine period. That is the whole purpose. If we want to reduce the designated hotel quarantine period and to improve our international communication, we will need this "yellow code" to more precisely identify these people. For the rest of the public, there will not be any increase in restriction and there will not be any tracking function.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)