United Christian Hospital announces a preliminary positive COVID-19 confirmed case

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for United Christian Hospital (UCH) made the following announcement concerning a preliminary positive COVID-19 confirmed case today (December 14):

A 65-year-old male patient was admitted to UCH Accident and Emergency Department (AED) yesterday (December 13) due to syncope. He was transferred to the Emergency Medicine Ward. Medical staff arranged COVID-19 deep throat saliva test for him and the preliminary test result was positive.

The hospital's infection control team conducted contact tracing and identified six other patients who had stayed in the same cubicle of the ward with the confirmed patient and will be quarantined for 14 days. They are classified as close contacts and so far five of them are tested negative for COVID-19, further testing is still in progress. All staff members working in the ward concerned was equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment in accordance with infection control guidelines. No aerosol generating procedures had been performed during that period. Therefore, none of the staff members is being classified as close contacts so far, while contact tracing is still underway.

The hospital has arranged thorough cleansing and disinfection of the areas in AED and wards concerned.