Update on cluster of Human Metapneumovirus in Castle Peak Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding the announcement yesterday (March 19) on a cluster of patients infected with Human Metapneumovirus in a male adult psychiatric ward, the spokesperson for Castle Peak Hospital made the following update today (March 20):

Two more patients (aged 52 and 59) in the ward have presented with respiratory symptoms. Appropriate viral tests had been arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Human Metapneumovirus. The patients concerned are being treated in isolation and are in stable condition.

Admission to the ward has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.