

# Princess Margaret Hospital announces investigation result on sentinel event

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a sentinel event concerning a liver biopsy, the spokesperson for Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) announced the following investigation findings and recommendations today (March 15):

A 60-year-old male patient admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) was prescribed daily injections of anticoagulation medication (enoxaparin) for treatment of deep venous thrombosis. At 3pm on January 9, an ICU team administered enoxaparin as scheduled. At 5pm, a physician performed a liver biopsy to investigate the cause of liver enzyme derangement. Under normal circumstances, enoxaparin should be withheld for 24 hours before performing a liver biopsy.

The patient developed haemorrhagic shock following bleeding from the liver later that evening. Despite multiple radiological and surgical interventions, the patient succumbed on January 12.

Following the incident, PMH set up a Root Cause Analysis (RCA) Panel to investigate the incident. After a thorough investigation, the Panel concluded that communication between clinical teams was inadequate, and there was no prompt for reviewing anticoagulants before procedures.

The Panel made recommendations to enhance patient safety including:

1. To enhance communication between parent team and consultation teams;
2. To develop a preparation guide for bedside liver biopsy; and
3. To revise the "Bedside Procedure Safety Checklist" to ensure checking the coagulation status, including the clotting profile, and anticoagulant medication before the bedside procedure.

The hospital has accepted the Panel's recommendations, and submitted the investigation report to the Hospital Authority Head Office. The case has been referred to the Coroner for follow-up. PMH has explained the investigation results to the patient's family and expressed condolences again. The hospital will continue to provide necessary assistance to them.

The hospital expressed its gratitude to the Chairperson and members of the Panel.

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## **SCMA to visit Shanghai**

The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Patrick Nip, will visit Shanghai from March 17 to 18.

During the visit, Mr Nip will meet with the officials of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government to exchange views on issues relating to Hong Kong-Shanghai co-operation, and to discuss arrangements for the Legislative Council joint-Panel duty visit to the major cities in the Yangtze River Delta Region (joint-Panel visit) in April. Mr Nip will view one of the sites of the joint-Panel visit.

Mr Nip will also attend a high table dinner organised by the HKU Shanghai Alumni Network and deliver a keynote speech.

Mr Nip will return to Hong Kong in the evening of March 18. During his absence, the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Andy Chan, will be the Acting Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs.

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## **Meetings of Legislative Council and its Committees**

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) and its Committees will hold 20 open meetings and three closed meetings during the week from March 18 to 22 in the LegCo Complex. Details of the meetings are available in the meeting schedule attached.

The information in the meeting schedule is subject to change. Please refer to the "LegCo Calendar" on the LegCo Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) for the latest details of meetings.

Members of the public are welcome to observe open meetings of LegCo and its Committees. Interested individuals and groups are advised to make advance booking of seats by calling the LegCo Secretariat at 3919 3399 during office hours. Members of the public can also listen to or watch all open meetings via the "Webcast" system on the LegCo Website.

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## **Red tides sighted**

Five red tides have been sighted, an inter-departmental red tide working group reported today (March 15).

One red tide was spotted by staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) at Hoi Ha Wan on March 10.

In addition, staff of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department spotted two red tides at Kwun Yam Beach in Cheung Chau and Approach Beach in Tsuen Wan on March 11. The red flag was hoisted at Kwun Yam Beach in Cheung Chau immediately.

Staff of the Marine Department also spotted two red tides at waters off Tung Chung and Rambler Channel near Hoi Hing Road on March 11 and 12 respectively.

All five red tides have dissipated and no associated death of fish has been reported so far.

A spokesman for the working group said, "Five red tides were formed by *Noctiluca scintillans*, which is commonly found in Hong Kong waters and non-toxic."

The AFCD urged mariculturists at Tap Mun, Kau Lau Wan, Sham Wan, Yim Tin Tsai, Yim Tin Tsai (East), Yung Shue Au, Lo Fu Wat, Cheung Sha Wan and Ma Wan fish culture zones to monitor the situation closely and increase aeration where necessary.

Red tide is a natural phenomenon. The AFCD's proactive phytoplankton monitoring programme will continue monitoring red tide occurrences to minimise the impact on the mariculture industry and the public.

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## **Temporary traffic arrangements for tram track renewal works in Central district from tomorrow**

The Transport Department (TD) today (March 15) reminded the public that to facilitate tram track renewal works at Des Voeux Road Central, parts of the traffic lanes of Pedder Street will be temporarily closed from about 10am tomorrow (March 16) to 6am on Monday (March 18).

Appropriate traffic signs will be erected on-site to guide motorists.

The TD anticipates that the traffic in the vicinity of the above road sections will be relatively busy. Motorists should exercise tolerance and patience in case of traffic congestion. Members of the public are advised to stay alert to the latest traffic news through the media or the department's website ([www.td.gov.hk](http://www.td.gov.hk)).