

DH clinics service arrangement

The Department of Health (DH) today (March 27) announced that following its earlier announcements on service adjustments in response to the latest situation of COVID-19, some services will also be further adjusted starting next Monday (March 30).

The services and opening hours of Elderly Health Centres (EHCs) will be adjusted, with seven EHCs providing services twice a week and the remaining 11 EHCs providing services once a week. All EHCs will only provide booked medical consultation services. All other services are suspended, details of which can be found on the following website: www.elderly.gov.hk/eindex.html. The staff of the centres will make separate arrangements for affected users with prior appointments.

Separately, while the DH continues to receive and handle applications related to the regulation of private healthcare facilities, pharmaceutical products and Chinese medicines, the relevant services have also been adjusted owing to the latest development and the processing time of these applications may be lengthened. The public and relevant traders may visit the respective websites for details (Office for Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities: www.orphf.gov.hk; Drug Office: www.drugoffice.gov.hk; Chinese Medicine Regulatory Office: www.cmro.gov.hk).

Apart from the above, some non-urgent services including the Student Health Service Centres, School Dental Clinics, Woman Health Centres, Social Hygiene Clinics, Families Clinics and Education and Training Centre in Family Medicine, dental clinics as well as telephone and online bookings for HIV testing of the DH's AIDS Counselling and Testing Service have also been adjusted or suspended. For enquiries, please contact the relevant clinics and service units.

In addition, in order to enhance infection control measures including minimising flows of people and social contacts, the DH advised that family members and friends should avoid accompanying clients to visit Maternal and Child Health Centres (MCHCs) or other clinics/facilities unless there are special reasons to do so. The DH also advised that:

- No more than two parents may accompany a 1 month old or below newborn baby to MCHCs; and
- No more than one parent/relative/friend may accompany the service user to clinics/facilities.