

Government follows up on positive results of sewage surveillance and appeals to residents to undergo virus testing

The Government announced today (July 27) that in order to fight the coronavirus epidemic, the Environmental Protection Department and the Drainage Services Department have been collecting sewage samples for virus testing in all districts, and had detected positive results in some areas, indicating that there may be hidden cases in the premises within these areas.

Rapid test

As regards positive sewage testing results with relatively high viral loads in the following areas, the Housing Department and the respective District Offices will commence distributing about 315 000 sets of the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) kits to residents, cleaning workers and property management staff working in the following areas for them to take the test on their own, in order to help identify infected persons:

- Sai Kung District – On Ning Garden, Choi Ming Court, Metrotown, Finery Park, Well On Garden, The Pinnacle and The Metropolis
- Sham Shui Po District – So Uk Estate, Shek Kip Mei Estate, and residential premises around Marigold Road, Magnolia Road and Osmanthus Road (See Annex)
- Yau Tsim Mong District – Parc Palais and King's Park Villa
- Central and Western District – Kwan Yick Building Phase II, Kong Chian Tower, Whitty Street Court, Des Voeux Road West Building, Hang Lung Bank Western Branch Building, Wing Wah Mansion, Sang Cheong Building, Upton, Fung Yip Building, Kam Ling Court, Lun Fung Court and The Merton

Members of the public may refer to (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/rat/eng/rat.html) for enquiries relating to the use of the RAT kits.

When using an RAT kit, please pay attention to and follow the instructions from the manufacturer to perform the test and read the result properly. It is advisable to record the displayed result by taking a photo immediately after reading. Users should wash their hands before and after performing the tests, and avoid placing non-essential items within the specimen collection area. After completing the test, wrap and seal all components of the test kit carefully and dispose of them properly. If the household environment is contaminated during the specimen collecting process, disinfection should be conducted with 1 in 49 diluted bleach solution or 70

per cent alcohol.

People who obtained a positive result through an RAT for the first time can report via the online platform "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" (www.chp.gov.hk/ratp). If individuals encounter difficulties using the online platform, they can call the automated system at 183 6119 to register their identification document and telephone number. The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health will contact the relevant person later to finish the report procedure.