

# Hospital Authority activates Emergency Response Level

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) today (January 25) announced the activation of Emergency Response Level in public hospitals to tie in with the Government raising the response level from "Serious" to "Emergency" in response to the latest situation of Novel Coronavirus. A series of special measures will be implemented to enhance infection control measures, and to focus the resources to cope with the situation of Novel Coronavirus.

The HA Central Command Committee and HA Central Committee on Infectious Disease and Emergency Responses have separately convened meetings today and have decided to implement the following measures:

1. Visiting arrangement will be suspended in all public hospitals, while compassionate arrangement will be made for clinical consideration;
2. All persons entering public hospitals and clinics are required to put on surgical masks;
3. Volunteer services and clinical attachment will be suspended in public hospitals;
4. All hospital clusters will review their non-emergency services with a view to adjust the service and focus the resources to cope with the situation of Novel Coronavirus.

The HA will maintain close contact with the Centre for Health Protection to monitor the latest developments and to inform the public and healthcare workers on the latest information in a timely manner.