<u>Infectious disease cases in New</u> Territories West Cluster

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for New Territories West Cluster made the following announcement today (June 22):

Eight patients (aged 20 to 56) and two staff members in a male ward for intellectual disability in Castle Peak Hospital presented with respiratory symptoms since June 19. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Respiratory Syncytial Virus. The patients concerned are being treated under isolation with stable condition. The two staff members are currently on sick leave.

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.

In addition, Tuen Mun Hospital has provided an update on an earlier announcement of a cluster of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) carriers in a female Orthopaedic and Traumatology ward. In accordance with the prevailing infection control guidelines, the hospital has performed contact tracing and one more 68-year-old female patient was confirmed as a VRE carrier without clinical symptoms. She is hospitalised with serious condition due to her underlying disease.

The hospital will continue the enhanced infection control measures and closely monitor the situation of the ward.

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