<u>Public hospitals daily update on</u> <u>COVID-19 cases</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 0.00am today (October 17), a total of 1 760 patients who tested positive for COVID-19 are currently hospitalised for treatment, including 252 new patients. Among the patients staying in isolation facilities, 468 patients are in isolation wards, 130 patients are in second-tier isolation wards and 431 patients are in the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre, of which 189 in total are new patients. There are six newly reported critical patients and six newly reported serious patients. There are a total of 22 patients in critical condition and 29 are in serious condition, of which 11 critical patients are receiving intensive care. Moreover, there are 155 patients who have recovered, including 119 patients who have been discharged. In addition, five patients who passed away in public hospitals were reported.

In the fifth wave of the epidemic, there are 76 370 patients who have recovered so far, including 76 039 patients who have been discharged. And since early 2020, there are 88 750 patients who have recovered, including 88 419 patients who have been discharged.

The Hospital Authority 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.