

Queen Elizabeth Hospital announces discharged patient tested positive for COVID-19

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Queen Elizabeth Hospital made the following announcement today (March 13) regarding a patient, who was discharged, tested positive for COVID-19:

The hospital was informed by Centre for Health Protection yesterday (March 12) that a 34-year-old female patient, who was discharged after delivery, was tested preliminarily positive for COVID-19.

According to the record, the patient was admitted to the hospital on February 28. She received admission screening COVID-19 test according to the established procedures and the test result was negative at that time. She was discharged after delivery on March 4.

Since the patient had stayed at the hospital before onset of symptoms, the hospital's infection control team conducted contact tracing. The staff members working in the ward concerned were equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment in accordance with infection control guidelines. No high risk procedures had been performed during that period. No staff members have been classified as close contact. A patient who had stayed in the same cubicle was classified as a close contact and is required to be quarantined. This patient is a nurse of Department of Medicine & Geriatrics of Kwong Wah Hospital. Her last working day is February 16.

As a precautionary measure, the hospital has arranged COVID-19 tests for healthcare workers in the same ward.

The hospital has arranged thorough cleaning and disinfection of the ward concerned. The hospital will continue to closely monitor the health conditions of its staff and patients and communicate with the Centre for Health Protection about the latest situation.

Public hospitals daily update on COVID-19 cases

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 9am today (March 13), 28 COVID-19 confirmed patients were discharged from hospital in the last 24 hours. So far, a total of 10 739 patients with confirmed or probable infection have been discharged.

At present, there are 665 negative pressure rooms in public hospitals with 1 214 negative pressure beds activated. A total of 233 confirmed patients are currently hospitalised in 21 public hospitals and the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre, among which 13 patients are in critical condition, 9 are in serious condition and the remaining 211 patients are in stable condition.

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.

Details of the above-mentioned patients are as follows:

Patient condition	Case numbers
Discharged	8376, 9665, 9975, 10048, 10417, 10845, 10853, 10859, 10868, 10904, 10912, 10917, 10926, 10941, 10950, 10966, 10997, 10999, 11006, 11023, 11028, 11037, 11042, 11052, 11069, 11111, 11118, 11123
Critical	1989, 3496, 6125, 6607, 6794, 8018, 8078, 9612, 9907, 10358, 10851, 10942, 10984
Serious	6386, 7468, 8221, 9055, 9135, 10367, 10585, 10865, 11055

CHP investigates 47 additional confirmed cases of COVID-19

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) announced that as of 0.00am, March 13, the CHP was investigating 47 additional confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), taking the number of cases to 11 258 in Hong Kong so far (comprising 11 257 confirmed cases and one probable case).

Among the newly reported cases announced, four are imported cases.

A total of 260 cases have been recorded in the past 14 days (February 27 to March 12), including 204 local cases of which 59 are from unknown sources.

The CHP's epidemiological investigations and relevant contact tracing on the confirmed cases are ongoing. For case details and contact tracing information, please see the Annex or the list of buildings with confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and the latest local situation of COVID-19 available on the website "COVID-19 Thematic Website" (www.coronavirus.gov.hk).

Meanwhile, the CHP reminded those who had visited specified venues under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) to receive COVID-19 nucleic acid testing according to the compulsory testing notice. The public are also urged to seek medical attention early if symptoms develop.

The CHP reminds members of the public that under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) (the Regulation) requires all household members of close contacts of confirmed cases to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test within a specified period according to compulsory testing notices(www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202102/03/P2021020300018.htm) published in the Gazette under the Regulation.

Moreover, the Government has expanded the scope of the priority groups of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme to cover staff of scheduled premises under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) including staff of fitness centres. They can make reservations through the online booking system for receiving vaccines at community vaccination centres or get vaccinated at clinics of private doctors as early as possible.

The CHP called on members of the public to avoid going out, having social contact and dining out. They should put on a surgical mask and maintain stringent hand hygiene when they need to go out. The CHP strongly urged the elderly to stay home as far as possible and avoid going out. They should consider asking their family and friends to help with everyday tasks such as shopping for basic necessities.

The spokesman said, "Given that the situation of COVID-19 infection remains severe and that there is a continuous increase in the number of cases reported around the world, members of the public are strongly urged to avoid all non-essential travel outside Hong Kong.

"The CHP also strongly urges the public to maintain at all times strict personal and environmental hygiene, which is key to personal protection against infection and prevention of the spread of the disease in the community. On a personal level, members of the public should wear a surgical mask when having respiratory symptoms, taking public transport or staying in crowded places. They should also perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes.

"As for household environmental hygiene, members of the public are advised to maintain drainage pipes properly and regularly pour water into

drain outlets (U-traps). After using the toilet, they should put the toilet lid down before flushing to avoid spreading germs."

Moreover, the Government has launched the website "COVID-19 Thematic Website" (www.coronavirus.gov.hk) for announcing the latest updates on various news on COVID-19 infection and health advice to help the public understand the latest updates. Members of the public may also gain access to information via the COVID-19 WhatsApp Helpline launched by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer. Simply by saving 9617 1823 in their phone contacts or clicking the link wa.me/85296171823?text=hi, they will be able to obtain information on COVID-19 as well as the "StayHomeSafe" mobile app and wristband via WhatsApp.

To prevent pneumonia and respiratory tract infections, members of the public should always maintain good personal and environmental hygiene. They are advised to:

- Wear a surgical mask when taking public transport or staying in crowded places. It is important to wear a mask properly, including performing hand hygiene before wearing and after removing a mask;
- Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, after touching public installations such as handrails or doorknobs, or when hands are contaminated by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing;
- Maintain drainage pipes properly and regularly (about once a week) pour about half a litre of water into each drain outlet (U-trap) to ensure environmental hygiene;
- After using the toilet, put the toilet lid down before flushing to avoid spreading germs;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water, and rub for at least 20 seconds. Then rinse with water and dry with a disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, performing hand hygiene with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub is an effective alternative;
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, then wash hands thoroughly; and
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending class at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.

[Hong Kong Customs raids suspected illicit cigarette storage again within](#)

two days and seizes suspected illicit cigarettes (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (March 12) seized about 590 000 suspected illicit cigarettes with an estimated market value of about \$1.6 million and a duty potential of about \$1.1 million in Tai Po. Together with the operation conducted in Fanling on March 11, this is another suspected illicit cigarette storage raided by Customs in two consecutive days.

During an anti-illicit cigarette operation conducted in Tai Po yesterday afternoon, Customs officers seized the batch of suspected illicit cigarettes at a residential unit. Two women, aged 43 and 64, suspected to be in connection with the case, were arrested.

Investigation is ongoing.

Customs will continue to combat illicit cigarette activities on all fronts through a multi-pronged approach.

Under the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance, anyone involved in dealing with, possession of, selling or buying illicit cigarettes commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$1 million and imprisonment for two years.

Members of the public may report any suspected illicit cigarette activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



Missing man in Ta Kwu Ling located

A man who went missing in Ta Kwu Ling has been located.

To Kong-tai, aged 62, went missing after he left his residence at Chow

Tin Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling on March 11 afternoon. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

The man was located at Hung Lung Hang this afternoon (March 13). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.