Update on cluster of Candida auris cases in Haven of Hope Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on Candida auris carrier cases, the spokesperson for Haven of Hope Hospital (HHH) gave the following update today (November 22):

One more male patient, aged 74 in the pulmonary ward of HHH, was confirmed to carry Candida auris without signs of infection. The patient was transferred to the United Christian Hospital today to continue receiving treatment in isolation. His condition is stable.

The hospital will continue the contact tracing investigation of close contacts of the patient in accordance with the prevailing guidelines. A series of enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted to prevent the spread of Candida auris:

1. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the ward concerned;
2. Enhanced admission screening for patients and environmental screening procedures; and
3. Application of stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene of staff and patients.

The hospital will continue to closely monitor the patient's condition. The case has been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.