

REPORT ABOUT THE COUNTERMEASURES AGAINST COVID-19



香港醫學會
THE HONG KONG
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Prepared on 16th September 2020

Update of local situation

As of 16/9/2020

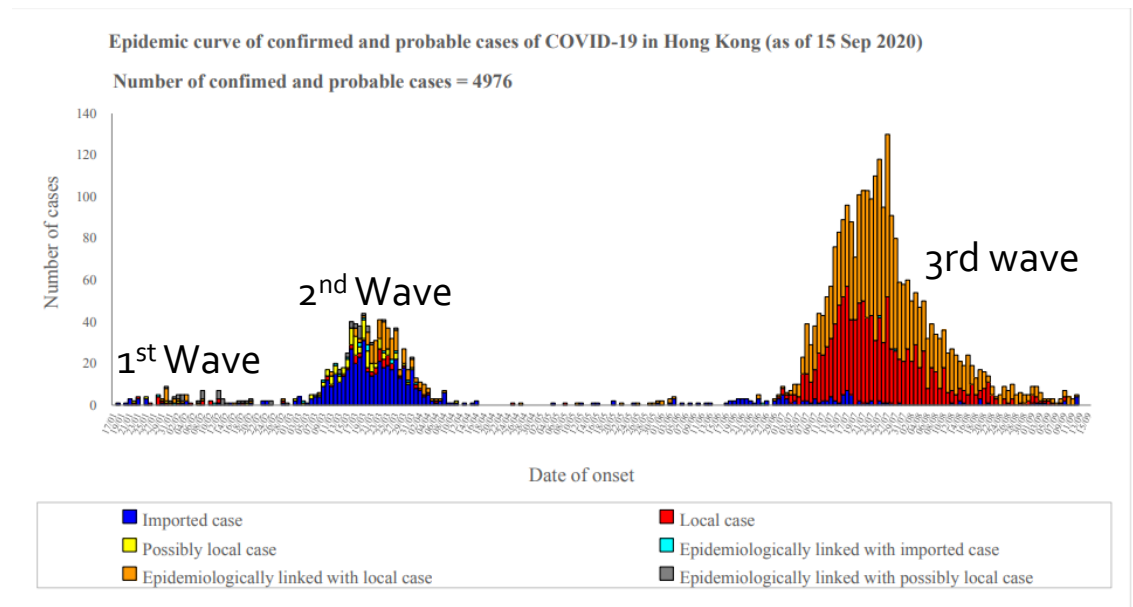
Confirmed/Probable	Discharged	Hospitalized	Critical	Death
4,976	4,646	197	18	102

Data: Centre for Health Protection (CHP), Department of Health (DH)

A Brief timeline of local condition

Important dates:

22/1	1 st positive case in Hong Kong (a 39-year-old man who arrived in Hong Kong from China).
25/1	Hong Kong government declared the outbreak as an "emergency".
25/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the closure of its border to all incoming non-residents arriving from overseas. Transiting through Hong Kong was also no longer allowed. all returning residents were subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days. Returning residents from high-risk countries were required to go through enhanced screening procedures and submit a saliva sample for testing
5/7	<p>A cook in a local restaurant is confirmed positive, breaking the 21-day streak of no confirmed local cases.</p> <p>Start of Hong Kong's third "wave" with COVID-19</p>
1/9	Launching of the Universal Community Testing Programme (UCTP)



Note:

- The case classification may be subject to changes when there is new information available.
- Asymptomatic cases are not shown in this epidemic curve.

Source : CHP

Outline

1. Hong Kong Government Response to Covid-19 pandemic
2. The HKMA's commitment

Government's measures in response to the outbreak

- ✓ Social Distancing
- ✓ Setting up of quarantine centres
- ✓ Setting up of community treatment facilities at AsiaWorld-Expo
- ✓ Early Testing and Detection
- ✓ Universal Community Testing Programme (UCTP)
- ✓ Setting up of designated website to provide updated information

Social Distancing

- **Mandatory Masking** in all public places and transport are in place take effect on 23 July 2020
- **Prohibition on Group Gathering** take effect on 29 March 2020
The Government is constantly reviewing the restrictions
- For Catering business
 - ensure there is a distance of at least 1.5 metres or partition(s)
- **Suspension of school** since Jan 2020.
- **Closure of bathhouses, all places of public entertainment,** including theme parks and exhibition venues, party rooms, clubs or nightclubs, karaoke establishments and swimming pools.
- **Encourage special arrangement** i.e. work from home

Setting up of quarantine centres

- Use of campsites and unoccupied public housing
- Use for accommodate people who are close contacts of confirmed cases, but without compatible symptoms for compulsory quarantine.



**Chun Yeung Estate, providing 3 121 units
(Some of the facilities are no longer used)**



**Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village in Chai Wan
(including the constructed units at basketball court
and football field), providing 379 units (still in use)**

Quarantine Centres

- As of 9:00am on 15 September 2020, the occupancy of the currently operating quarantine centres are tabulated as follows:

	Quarantine Centres	Address	Total Capacity	Currently in Use	Ready to be Used*
			Unit	Unit	Unit
1	JPC Permanent Activity Centre and Integrated Youth Training Camp	No. 123 Fam Kam Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	198	49 (81 persons)	114
2	Chun Yeung Estate (Block 1, 2 and 3)	Wong Chuk Yeung Street, Fo Tan	1 533	26 (34 persons)	1 436
3	Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre	Tui Min Hoi Area, Sai Kung	99	38 (41 persons)	53
4	Penny's Bay Quarantine Centre Phase I	Fantasy Road, Penny's Bay, Lantau Island	800	186 (213 persons)	498
Total			2 630	299 (369 persons)	2 101

*Some units under maintenance or disinfection

Number of confinees by types is tabulated as follows:

By types	Cumulative number	Current number
Close contacts of confirmed cases	10 471	364
Non-close contacts	9 073	5
Total	19 544	369

Source : CHP

Community treatment facilities at AsiaWorld-Expo

- Operated by The Hospital Authority and providing **500 beds**.
- admitting COVID-19 confirmed patients, aged 18 to 60 and with clinically suitable condition from August 1 onwards.
- The facility used for triage patients and allow public hospitals to focus on caring the more severe patients.
- Relatively young patients with mild symptoms and able to live independently are admitted to this facility.
- The HA hopes that the establishment of community treatment facilities can shorten the admission waiting time for newly confirmed patients.



Early Testing and Detection

COVID-19 Testing Service for Designated High-risk Groups

- 18 groups of persons, including high risks occupations, people living in specific areas and with special characteristics could enroll in the scheme.
- For example: **Taxi and Public Light Bus Drivers , Catering Premises with Seating Areas , Frontline Property Management and COVID-19 Community Testing Scheme in Tsz Wan Shan**

Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance for COVID-19

- People presenting with fever or mild respiratory symptoms could approach their family doctors for referral for COVID-19 tests. They could collect deep throat saliva specimens at home by themselves and send to any one of the 13 collection clinics of the Department of Health or the 18 GOPCs of Hospital Authority.

If the test result is positive:

- If a sample tests positive, the DH will arrange for admission to a public hospital for treatment. Quarantine will be arranged for close contacts while medical surveillance will be arranged for other contacts. In general, household members will stay in the same unit in a quarantine centre, depending on availability of units and size and composition of the family. Quarantine centres will provide the confinees with meals and basic daily personal necessities. You can bring own personal necessities, such as clothes and daily medications.



Universal Community Testing Programme (UCTP)

- **Aims:**
To better gauge the COVID-19 infection situation in Hong Kong and find asymptomatic patients as early as possible to achieve early identification, early isolation and early treatment, and to cut the virus transmission chain in the community.
- **Participation:**
Participation in the UCTP is voluntary. Other than some who are not suitable for testing, all Hong Kong residents without symptoms can receive a one-off COVID-19 test for free.
- **Period:**
The scheme commenced on 1st September and ended on 14th September 2020.

UCTP

- **Method:**

Citizens are welcome to visit any of the Community Testing Centres, where their combined nasal and throat swabs will be collected by staff with medical and healthcare training.

- **Targets**

All Hong Kong residents (including permanent and non-permanent residents) who are holders of valid Hong Kong identity cards (HKID) or birth certificates can participate in the UCTP on a voluntary basis. Note: Children below 6 years old and people who have undergone throat or nasal operations are not suitable for participating in the UCTP.

- **Two steps of testing**

1. Book online
2. Go to collect specimens

- **Test result**

Participants will be notified of a negative result by SMS in around 3 days.

Those who test positive will receive calls from the Department of Health to arrange for isolation and treatment in a public hospital.

Participation rate : 1.7 millions have participated in the UCTP

Numbers of Participant that test positive: 42

Setting up of designated website to provide updated information



Website:

<https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html>

- Providing updates of local conditions & regulation related to Covid-19
- Uploading Useful educational material regarding Covid-19

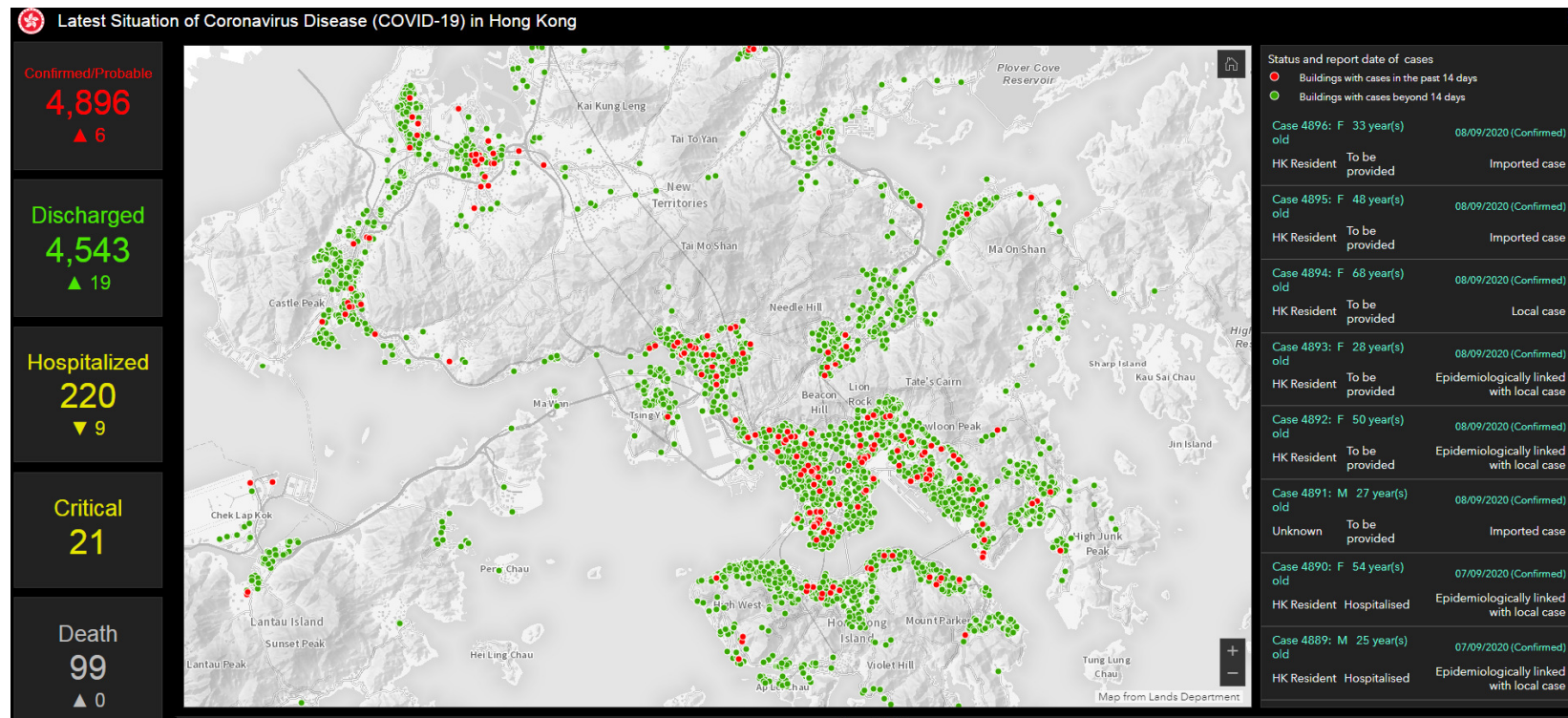
The screenshot displays the official Hong Kong Government website for COVID-19 information. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Local Situation Dashboard', 'Latest News', 'News Videos', 'What is COVID-19', 'Clarifications', 'Useful Information', 'Updates on Infection Situation', 'Health Tips', 'Resource Centre', and 'Community Involvement'. Below this, a secondary bar features 'Tamar Talk', 'news.gov.hk FB', 'ISD YouTube', 'news.gov.hk', 'CHP FB', 'CHP YouTube', 'HA FB', and 'HA YouTube'. A language selection menu is visible, offering options in Hindi, Nepali, Urdu, Thai, Bahasa Indonesia, Tagalog, Sinhala, Bengali, and Vietnamese, along with a search bar and text size controls.

The main content area features a prominent banner for the '2019 冠狀病毒病 普及社區檢測計劃' (2019 Coronavirus Universal Community Testing Programme). Below the banner, a grid of six yellow tiles provides key information:

 7 Ways to Fight the Virus under the New Normal ^{New}	 Early Testing and Detection
 Health Quarantine Arrangements on Inbound Travellers	 Specified conditions imposed on inbound travellers who have visited specified high risk places ^{New}
 New Requirements to Reduce Gatherings	 Wearing Masks in Public Places

Setting up of designated website to provide updated information

An interactive dash board with updates of patient condition and area which they visited is published on the website

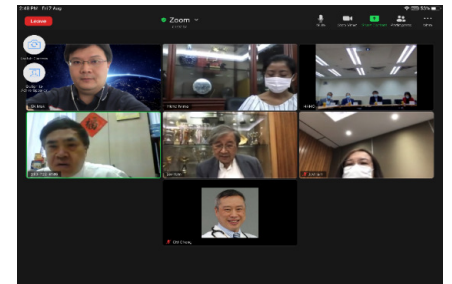


The HKMA's commitment

- Meeting with different parties regarding Covid-19
- Publishing Press Release and organizing Press Conference on Covid-19 to advice the government and the public
- Organizing Continue Medical Education lectures on Covid-19 to keep doctors updated
- Sourcing donation of PPE for doctors / selling of PPE at cost
- Allocating the mask to the needy and producing educational materials to educate the public

Meeting with different parties regarding Covid-19

- Meeting with Hospital Authority on 7 August
 - To discuss possible initiatives with the HA during Covid-19 pandemic
- The HKMA Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases
 - The Committee has convened a meeting on 11th Aug 2020 to discuss Covid-19 related issues with Infectious Disease Experts and Dr. WONG Ka Hing, Controller, Centre for Health Protection



Press Conferences / Press Releases

Date	Press Conference / Press Releases
23/1/2020	Control Recommendations on Novel Coronavirus Infection
28/1/2020	Latest Development of Novel Coronavirus
6/2/2020	Mask Supply for the Medical Profession
16/2/2020	Immediate Evacuation of Hong Kong Passengers From Diamond Princess
20/2/2020	Your Protection Against COVID-19
25/3/2020	Stand Together, Stay Apart, United We Fight COVID-19
28/5/2020	Stay Vigilant against COVID-19
3/6/2020	Concerns over increase in community cases / Listing of COVID-19 as Occupational Disease
23/7/2020	Combating the 3 rd wave of COVID-19
27/8/2020	The HKMA Advices on COVID-19 and the “Universal Community Testing Programme”

Press Conference on Covid-19 to advise the government and the public




6/2/2020
Mask Supply for the Medical Profession



27/8/2020
The HKMA Advices on COVID-19 and the
“Universal Community Testing Programme”


Examples of HKMA Press Releases on Covid-19



香港醫學會
The Hong Kong Medical Association

FOUNDED IN 1950 INCORPORATED IN 1960 AS A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
MEMBER OF WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND CONFEDERATION OF MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS IN ASIA & OCEANIA

5th Floor, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2527 6285 (6 lines) Fax: (852) 2565 0943 E-mail: hkma@hkma.org Website: www.hkma.org
香港軒尼詩道十五號達芬公爵社會服務大樓五樓



100週年

23 July 2020

PRESS RELEASE


Combating the 3rd wave of COVID-19

Entering July 2020, Hong Kong sees a sharp rise in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases. Clearly, the 3rd wave of the pandemic arrived after an increase in social activities in the territory over the past few weeks. The Hong Kong Medical Association (HKMA) strongly urge the public to stay vigilant, observe every possible anti-COVID-19 precaution such as wearing mask in public places, maintain hand hygiene, and avoid going to crowded places.

In addition, the HKMA have the following recommendations in order to contain the spread.

1. The HKMA supports **more testing** of SARS-CoV-2 for people with mild symptoms. However, problems with the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme are still commonly seen, such as the sample collection points and time, or even the size of the specimen bottles. The information given to private doctors is ever changing without clear indications. For the benefits of the general public, all essential information of the said programme should be made available at the COVID-19 thematic website or App with easy access.
2. We also noted that report waiting time for testing is now as long as 5 to 7 days, which is very unsatisfactory and risks further transmission of the disease in the community. The Government should partner with more **private laboratories** in providing testing service. Having said that, the authority must ensure all participating laboratories comply with the testing standards in Hong Kong. On the other hand, the Government could consider providing "COVID coupon" to Hong Kong citizens of all age groups to subsidize them to seek testing services or for their other health conditions arising from COVID-19 in the private healthcare sector.
3. We understand that the maximum testing capacity in the prevailing setting will be reached very soon as the number of confirmed and suspected cases remains at an alarming level. In this case, the Government should **prioritize testing** for the high risk groups such as elderlies, healthcare providers, members of the servicing industries etc.
4. More efforts must be put on curbing the importation of the virus. **All people entering Hong Kong**, including air and sea crew and other exempted persons, must undergo rapid test and yield negative result before they can leave the border or the designated area. Mandatory quarantine should be strictly observed, or in case of crew members, should be restricted from visiting public places.
5. Medical practitioners, both in public and private sector, have higher chance of getting infected as they are in close contact with patients every day. The Government should ensure sufficient provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) in Hong Kong. In view of the recent outbreak in **old aged homes (OAH)**, the Government and OAH management should provide PPE and proper gowning and de-gowning facilities for visiting doctors. Community Geriatric Assessment Team (CGAT) should assist by visiting OAH to help set up proper hygienic procedures for staff. Moreover, the Government should provide assistance to those doctors who contracted the illness with clear advice.


We survived through the hard times in 2003, Hong Kong shall overcome COVID-19 as well.



香港醫學會
The Hong Kong Medical Association

FOUNDED IN 1950 INCORPORATED IN 1960 AS A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
MEMBER OF WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND CONFEDERATION OF MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS IN ASIA & OCEANIA

5th Floor, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2527 6285 (6 lines) Fax: (852) 2565 0943 E-mail: hkma@hkma.org Website: www.hkma.org
香港軒尼詩道十五號達芬公爵社會服務大樓五樓



100週年

27 August 2020

PRESS RELEASE

**The Hong Kong Medical Association
Advices on COVID-19
and the Universal Community Testing Programme**

1. The Hong Kong Medical Association (HKMA) calls on the Hong Kong Government to take sufficient infection control measures when conducting combined nasal and throat swabs for COVID-19. Protecting health and safety of test participants and health care workers is paramount; cross infection preventions must be adequately implemented.
2. One-off massive screening cannot replace regular viral testing for high risk individuals. The Hong Kong Government should tighten border control, and provide free, voluntary, regular testing for high risk individuals such as health care and old age home workers, drivers, service industry professionals, cleaners and foreign domestic helper.
3. Provisions should be made for the consequence of a possible "fourth outbreak". The Hong Kong Government should prepare logistics such as manpower for contact tracing, isolation services, maintaining hygiene in wet markets and inspecting restaurants. On resuming business, commercial sectors must put in place measures to assure safe conditions for customers and employees. Schools should be provided with more resources so that no underprivileged students are left out for online teaching.
4. Even if citizens receive negative results in the massive screening, they can still be infected after the screening. The HKMA encourages citizens to maintain good personal hygiene and social distancing.
5. As the fight against COVID-19 has persisted for some time, the HKMA is concerned about the mental well-being of the Hong Kong people. The HKMA will work with the Hospital Authority in Public-Private Partnership in the area of mental health. A joint Certificate Course in Mental Health for doctors is under discussion as a step to strengthen services for managing mood disorders.

Interview by the media

- The HKMA Council Members and Co-chairpersons of the HKMA Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases are interviewed by various media



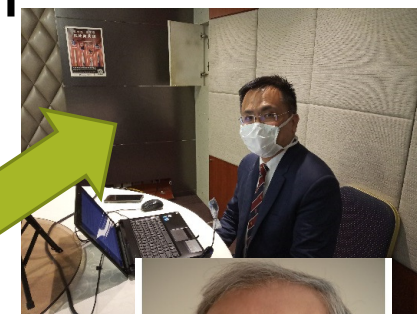
Dr. LEUNG Chi Chiu, our past chairperson of HKMA Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases was interviewed by CGTN on 4th April 2020



Dr. TSANG Kay Yan, our co-chairperson of HKMA Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases was interviewed by RTHK on 25th Aug 2020 regarding Covid-19

Organizing Continue Medical Education lectures on Covid-19 to keep doctors updated

Date	Topic	Speaker
28 February 2020	Update in COVID-19	Dr. Wilson LAM
28 April 2020	Streptococcus Pneumoniae & COVID-19	Dr. WONG Tin Yau
18 June 2020	COVID-19 & Cardiovascular Diseases	Dr. CHAN Kit
30 June 2020	Managing heart failure patients during the COVID-19 period	Dr. Adrian CHEONG
1 August 2020	Sexuality in COVID-19 Era	Prof. Emmanuele A. Jannini
13 August 2020	Updates on Management of ADHD in Adolescent and Adult during COVID-19 Pandemic	Dr. WONG Yu Ming, Sharon
10 September 2020	Usual Care and Special Care of Asthma in the Era of COVID-19	Dr. KWONG Kwok Chu

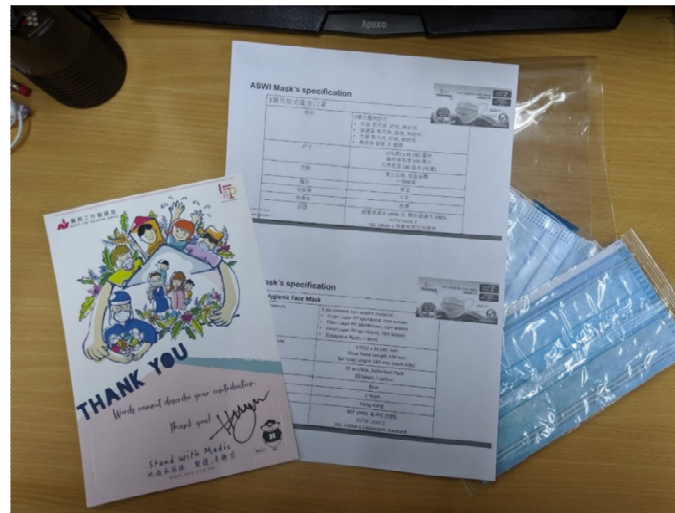
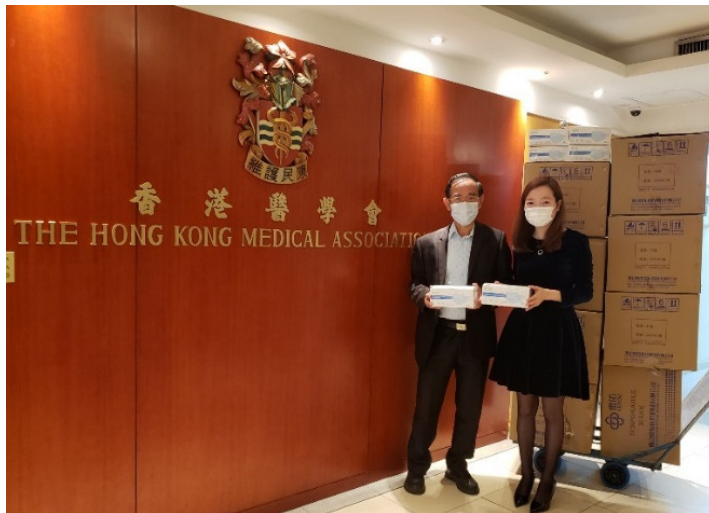


Overseas speaker

- The lectures are accredited
- Online Live Lecture with Q&A session

Sourcing & donation of PPE for doctors / selling of PPE at cost

The HKMA has been sourcing PPE for doctors (*free of charge or sales at cost*)



Allocating the mask to the needy and producing educational materials to educate the public

➤ <http://www.hkma.org/communityhealthacademy/indexc.htm>

The HKMA has its Community Service Committee and the Committee has organized different programs (face-to-face when allowed; via online platform to continually support the elderly during the Covid-19 Pandemic.



Allocating the mask to the needy and producing educational materials to educate the public

- Distribution of sanitary set
- Shooting of educational video to teach the elderly on proper hygiene

YouTube series: **“Three ways of Preventing the epidemic”**

i) *How to mask properly*

https://youtu.be/b_gsupyNQYw

ii) *How to use soap to wash your hand*

https://youtu.be/x2zzuNisX_w

<https://youtu.be/OXch2QJLxb4>

iii) *How to use hand sanitizer?*

https://youtu.be/_iqFeZuEyiA



Sharing

Song Production 《疫境同行》 to Support Medical Profession and Community

- The Law Society of Hong Kong has initiated the song production in April 2020, hoping to promote love and caring through music and cheer for the Hong Kong society as well as frontline healthcare personnel. The Hong Kong Medical Association has joined hands with other professional societies in producing the song.



Sharing: 蓋世寶 / 陳以誠 —— 擊退病毒

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3L2APRwKmTQ>

Dr. CHAN Yee Shing, Alvin has collaborated with a TV star Ms. LuLu, KAI Sai Po to sing a Children Song “Combating the virus” to encourage the public when combating Covid-19 pandemic.