



香港醫學會  
THE HONG KONG  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

# REPORT ABOUT THE COUNTERMEASURES AGAINST COVID-19

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*Prepared on 11 Aug 2021*

# Update of Local Situation

- As of 11 Aug 2021

| Confirmed/Probable | Local Cases | Hospitalized | Critical | Death |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| 12,020             | 0           | 40           | 0        | 212   |

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

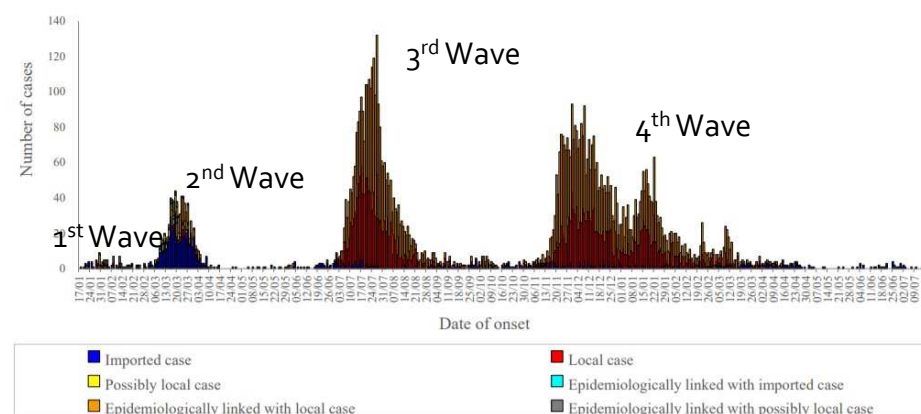
# A Brief Timeline of Local Condition

## Key Events:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 2020 Q4 | <p>The fourth wave of COVID-19 outbreak with over 600 cases linked to the dance club cluster</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hong Kong's Education Bureau announced the closure of all schools until 2021</li> <li>Initiative in a mobile app format to track untraceable infections</li> <li>Tightened social distancing restrictions</li> </ul>  |
| 2021 Q1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hong Kong implemented mandatory lockdown in the restricted area</li> <li>Hong Kong Government began the rollout of the mass vaccination program – including SinoVac &amp; BioNTech</li> <li>Release of the 599G Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation</li> <li>Suspended operation of the list of scheduled premises, such as Bars and nightclubs</li> </ul> |
| 2021 Q2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Hong Kong vaccination programme expanded to cover people aged 16 to 29.</li> <li>Kicked off the Outreach Vaccination Arrangement for Residential Care Homes (RCHs)</li> <li>Expanded the vaccination programme to include Mainland residents staying in Hong Kong for a period of time.</li> </ul>   |
| 2021 Q3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of private firms in Hong Kong offer various lotteries and prizes for Hong Kong residents that have received both vaccination shots.</li> </ul>  |

Epidemic curve of confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Hong Kong (as of 14 Jul 2021)

Number of confirmed and probable cases = 11956



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

# Outline

Hong Kong Government's Response  
to COVID-19

The HKMA's Commitment

# Hong Kong Government's Response to COVID-19

- Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap 599)
- Leavehomesafe Mobile App
- Border Control and Quarantine Restriction for Inbound Travelers
- “Designated Hotel for Quarantine” Scheme
- Community Vaccination Service
- AEFI Fund

# Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap 599)

## **Cap. 599F (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation**

- The prohibition on group gatherings of more than four persons in listed businesses and premises.
- Persons responsible for carrying on catering businesses and managers of scheduled premises that contravene the statutory requirements under Cap. 599F would have committed a criminal offence.
- Offenders are subject to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for six months.

## **Cap. 599G (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation**

- The prohibition on group gatherings of more than four persons in public places.
- Any person who participates in a prohibited group gathering; organizes a prohibited group gathering; owns, controls or operates the place of the gathering; and knowingly allows the taking place of the gathering, commits an offence.
- Offenders are liable to a maximum penalty of a fine \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months.

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

# Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap 599) (Cont'd)

## **Cap. 599I Prevention and Control of Disease (Wearing of Mask) Regulation**

- A person must wear a mask at all times when the person is boarding or onboard a public transport carrier, is entering or present in an MTR paid area, or is entering or present in a specified public place.

## **Cap. 599J Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation**

- The Government may specify a person to undergo compulsory testing under the ordinance.
- Such as household members of close contacts of confirmed cases or high-risk groups like border staff.
- The ordinance also empower registered medical practitioners to require, by a compulsory testing direction, any person whom the medical practitioner attends to in the course of professional practice and clinically suspects to have contracted COVID-19 to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test.

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

# "LeaveHomeSafe" Mobile App

- Launching the "LeaveHomeSafe" COVID-19 exposure notification mobile app in mid-November 2020.
- Tapping technology to record visits.
- The app aims to encourage the public to keep a more precise record of their whereabouts.
- Users also receive notification if they were at the same venue at about the same time with a recently confirmed COVID-19 patient.



# Border Control and Quarantine Restriction for Inbound Travelers

- The boarding and quarantine arrangements applicable to a person arriving at Hong Kong depend on:
  - Whether the person arriving at Hong Kong is a Hong Kong resident (HKR)
  - What places the person arriving at Hong Kong has stayed in on the day of boarding for/arrival at Hong Kong, or the 21 days before that day
  - Whether the person arriving at Hong Kong is fully vaccinated
  - Whether the vaccinated person possesses positive result proof of a recognised serology antibody test conducted within the past three months (if applicable)

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

## Border Control and Quarantine Restriction for Inbound Travelers (Cont'd)

- All inbound travellers are required to present prior to boarding proof of a negative COVID-19 nucleic acid test result conducted within 72 hours before the aircraft's scheduled departure time and confirmation of a room reservation at a designated quarantine hotel in Hong Kong.
- Upon arrival, they will be subject to the test-and-hold arrangement at the airport. Upon confirmation of negative test results, they must proceed to the designated quarantine hotels for compulsory quarantine via designated transport arranged by the Government.
- The Government has categorised overseas places into 3 different risk groups according to the relevant risk-based boarding and compulsory quarantine requirements.

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

# Border Control and Quarantine Restriction for Inbound Travelers (Cont'd)

## **Group A** (High-risk):

- Only fully vaccinated Hong Kong residents are allowed to board flights for Hong Kong from high-risk places.
- Must undergo a 21 day compulsory quarantine and will be subject to 4 tests to be conducted during the period.
- Followed by a 7 day self-monitoring period.
- Compulsory testing on the 26th day of arrival.

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

# Border Control and Quarantine Restriction for Inbound Travelers (Cont'd)

## Group B (Medium-risk):

- Only Hong Kong residents and fully vaccinated non-Hong Kong residents are allowed to board flights for Hong Kong.
- Fully vaccinated travellers are subject to a quarantine period of 14 days.
- Additionally, travellers who hold proof of a positive serology antibody test result are also allowed to have a shortened quarantine period of 7 days, followed by a 7 day self-monitoring period.

## Group C (Low-risk):

- Fully vaccinated travellers from are subject to a quarantine period of 7 days.

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

# Exemption: “Return2hk” Travel Scheme

- Return2hk – Travel Scheme for Hong Kong Residents Returning from the Mainland or Macao without being subject to quarantine.
- Hong Kong residents under the Return2hk scheme will be exempted from the 14-day compulsory quarantine requirement when returning to Hong Kong from 29 April 2021 onwards.
- Relevant travelers would need to apply for a quota for a specific date and boundary control point. As of 29 July 2021, the daily quotas for the scheme is 5,000.
- Upon their entry into Hong Kong, they must present a valid proof of negative result of RT-PCR nucleic acid test issued by one of the recognised medical institutions.

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

# “Designated Hotel for Quarantine” Scheme

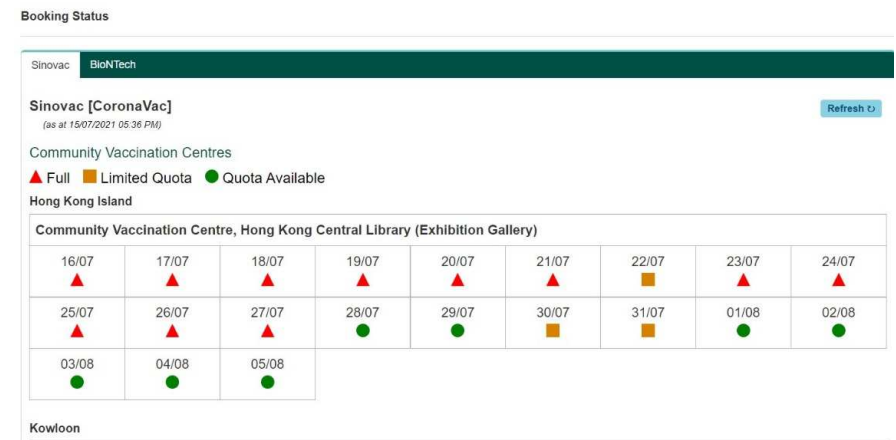
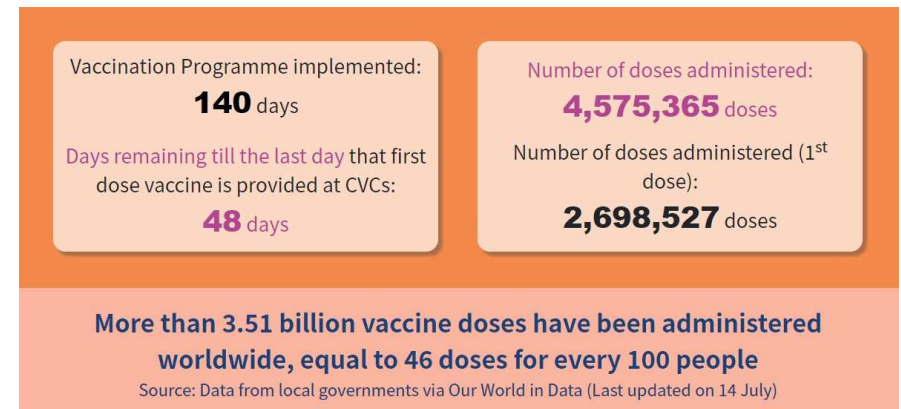
- Fully implemented on 22 December 2020, requiring all arrivals from specified places to undergo compulsory quarantine at designated quarantine hotels.
- The latest cycle (20 June to 31 August, 2021) featured a total of 34 hotels and provided about 10,700 rooms.
- Designated quarantine hotels are required to observe the following strict requirements, including:
  - All designated hotels have to be inspected by relevant departments so as to ensure the design, facilities and operations of the hotels meet the Government’s infection control requirements;
  - Designated hotels should not accept non-quarantine guests during the period when joining the Scheme;
  - Public should not be allowed to have access to the hotel premises, except for areas in lobby and carpark which have been properly segregated;
  - Hotels should take all reasonable procedures to ensure that persons undergoing quarantine will not leave their rooms during the quarantine period and no visitations to these persons should be allowed;
  - Hotels should step up cleansing and infection control as well as security arrangements and arrange for its relevant staff to attend COVID-19 test every 7 days.

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

# Community Vaccination Service

COVID-19 Vaccination scheme started in February 2021, providing the public with the following vaccines:

1. **Inactivated virus technology platform** - by Sinovac Biotech (Hong Kong) Limited
  2. **mRNA technology platform** - by Fosun Pharma in collaboration with the German drug manufacturer BioNTech (BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine)
- The Hong Kong government has established vaccination centers in every districts in Hong Kong with sufficient supply, in order to meet the huge demand of local population.



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

# Community Vaccination Service (cont'd)

- The Vaccination Scheme **has expanded to aged 12-15** on 11 June 2021 to cover teenagers for COVID-19 vaccination.
- On 27 July 2021, the Government launched Walk-in Vaccination Scheme to streamline the reservation process for the elderly.
- To further boosting the vaccination uptakes, on 2 Aug 2021, the Government announced that the following groups would be subject to vaccination in lieu of regular testing.
  - Government employees
  - Hospital Authority staff
  - Elderly home staff
  - Kindergartens, primary, secondary & special school staff
- Under the new arrangement, should the aforementioned personnel choose not to receive vaccination, they must undergo PCR nucleic acid tests every two weeks at their own expense.

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

# Community Vaccination Service (cont'd)

- As of 11 Aug 2021

| Total Doses Administered | Total Population with 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose | Total Population with 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| 6,315,522                | 3,565,452 (52.4%)                          | 2,750,070 (40.4)                           |

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

# Indemnity Fund for Adverse Events Following Immunization with COVID-19 Vaccines

- The Government has set up the Indemnity Fund for Adverse Events Following Immunization with COVID-19 Vaccines (AEFI Fund) to provide financial support to eligible individuals who have suffered unexpected serious adverse events (SAE) associated with a COVID-19 vaccine.
- If an SAE is certified by a Registered Medical Practitioner and the Expert Committee on Clinical Events Assessment Following COVID-19 Immunisation (Expert Committee) has concluded its causal relationship with the vaccination, the Administrator will propose a payout based on the conclusion of causal relationship, the information provided by the relevant medical institutions and the severity assessment scheme.
- As of June 10, 2021, 74 applications for the AEFI Fund were received, 3 cases were approved with a total of HKD \$450,000 allocated.

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

# The HKMA 's Commitment

- Lobbying the Government
- CME Lectures: COVID-19
- Supporting Medical Fraternity
- Aiding the Elderly Group
- Media Coverage
- Promotion on Social Media

# Lobbying the Government

- Meeting with the Government and relevant Officials has arranged to discuss the pandemic situation and provide professional advice from the medical sector. Discussed policies included:
  - Universal Community Testing Programme
  - Compulsory Testing Scheme
  - Community Vaccination Scheme
  - Quarantine arrangement
- As well as participated in various Government consultations to express the concerns of the medical sector.



## Continue Medical Education Lectures on COVID-19

- The HKMA has arranged a list of CME lectures to provide the most up-to-date information of COVID-19 development to fellow doctors.

| Date              | Topic  | Speaker                    |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 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         |
| 10 October 2020   | Update on COVID-19 Situation in Hong Kong                                      | Prof. Ivan HUNG            |
| 25 November 2020  | Influenza And COVID-19 Management At Primary Care                              | Dr. WONG Tin Yau, Andrew   |



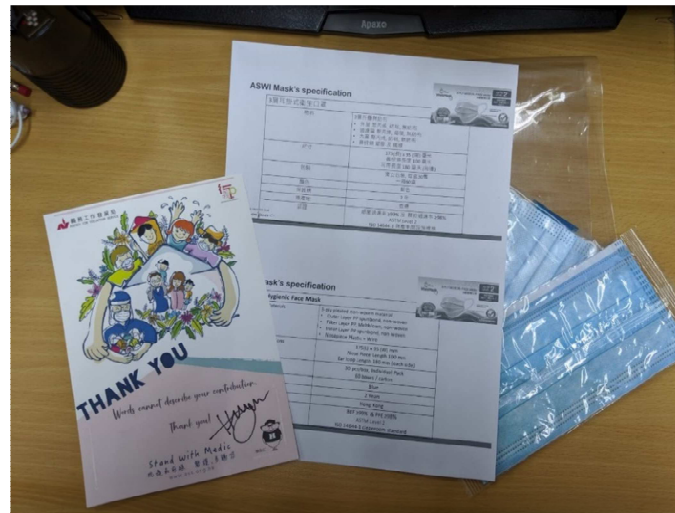
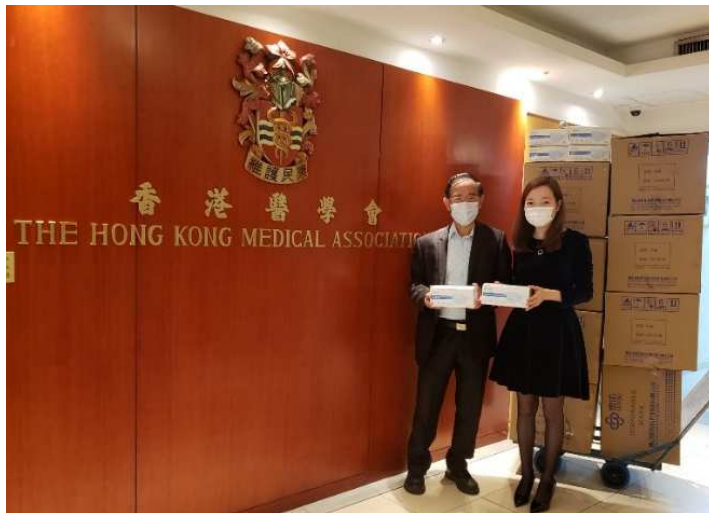
## Continue Medical Education Lectures on COVID-19 (cont'd)

| Date              | Topic  | Speaker                    |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 8 January 2021    | Coping With Allergic Rhinitis In Winter & Tips For AR Control In COVID                           | Dr. CHOW Siu Wah, Jennifer |
| 5 February 2021   | What Should We Know About The Coming Covid-19 Vaccines In Hong Kong?                             | Dr. TSANG Kay Yan          |
| 1 April 2021      | Update On Clinical Evidence And Real-World Data Of COVID Vaccine In Hong Kong                    | Dr. Wilson LAM             |
| 2 June 2021       | COVID Vaccine & Patients With Chronic Diseases: Evidences From Clinical Trials & Real-World Data | Dr. Lars POHLMEIER         |
| 22 July 2021      | COVID-19 and Update on the Management of Hypertension with Vasodilating Beta-Blockers            | Dr. WONG Bun Lap, Bernard  |
| 20 August 2021    | Application of COVID-19 Vaccines in the Teenage Population                                       | Dr. LUK Chi Kong, David    |
| 14 September 2021 | Spirit of Understanding and Parenting Skills for ADHD Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic      | Dr. CHONG King Yee         |



# Supporting Medical Fraternity

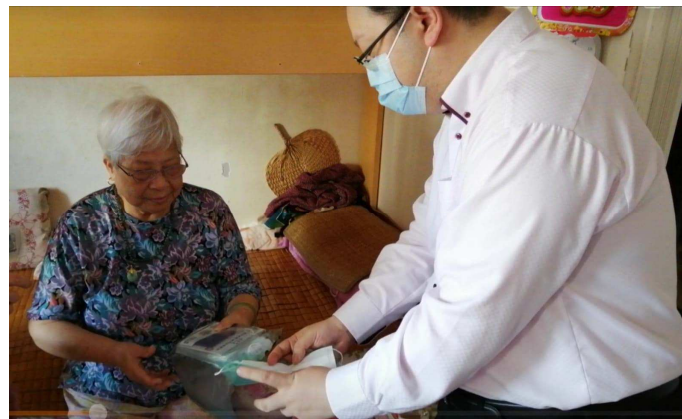
- The HKMA also distributed surgical masks to members from July to September 2020 to help colleagues in the private sector to tide over the shortage.



# Aiding the Elderly Group

➤ <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 support the elderly during the Covid-19 Pandemic continually.



# Aiding the Elderly Group (Cont'd)

- 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](https://youtu.be/b_gsupyNQYw)

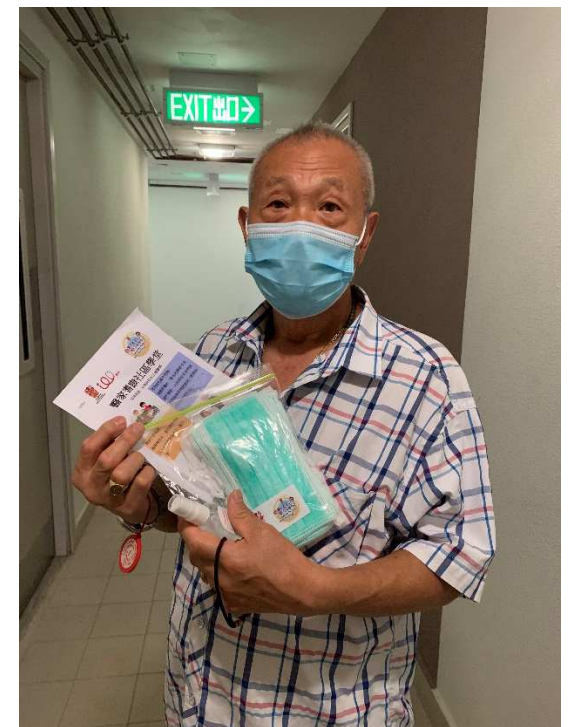
*ii) How to use soap to wash your hand*

[https://youtu.be/x2zzuNisX\\_w](https://youtu.be/x2zzuNisX_w)

<https://youtu.be/OXch2QJLxb4>

*iii) How to use hand sanitizer?*

[https://youtu.be/\\_iqFeZuEyiA](https://youtu.be/_iqFeZuEyiA)



# Media Coverage: HKMA Press Releases on Covid-19

| Post Date  | Title   |
|------------|---|
| 2020-07-23 | Combating the 3rd wave of COVID-19  |
| 2020-08-27 | HKMA Advices on COVID-19 and Universal Community Testing Programme                                    |
| 2020-11-06 | The Hong Kong Medical Association Opinions on Influenza Vaccination and Control Measures for Covid-19 |
| 2021-02-10 | The HKMA's Recommendations on COVID-19 Vaccines   |
| 2021-05-07 | The HKMA's opinions on the prevention of the influx of COVID-19 variant                               |
| 2021-05-12 | HKMA Responds to the Call of Vaccination  |
| 2021-06-15 | Support Vaccination Together, Build Herd Immunity, Protect Loved Ones                                 |

# Media Coverage:

## Press Conferences and media interviews regarding COVID-19



(Source: HK01)

HKMA Press Conference on COVID-19 Vaccines



(Source: Sky Post)



HKMA representatives on radio & TV interviews about Covid-19 disease.

# Promotion on Social Media

香港醫學會 The Hong Kong Medical Association - HKMA  
2 June · 🌐

響應接種新冠疫苗

See translation



Vaccination demonstration video by HKMA's President Dr. CHOI Kin

香港醫學會 The Hong Kong Medical Association - HKMA

18 May · 🌐

[香港醫學會響應接種新冠疫苗]

See translation



香港醫學會 The Hong Kong Medical Association - HKMA added 3 new photos.  
3 November 2020 · 🌐

今年我哋經歷咗2019冠狀病毒病大流行，由最初因對病毒認知唔多而感到徬徨，到每位市民做足預防措施，應對每一波嘅疫情。不過，坊間仍有不少對2019冠狀病毒嘅傳聞。我哋特別製作咗一系列共6段嘅「2019冠狀病毒小知識短片」，由醫生現身說法，深入淺出咁講解呢個病毒同埋日常生活上要注意嘅重點，拆解坊間嘅謬誤，以正確嘅方法同態度繼續抗疫。

依家即刻睇吓第一至第三段短片先啦，去片！

See translation



COVID-19 themed videos for public education

香港醫學會 The Hong Kong Medical Association - HKMA added 3 new photos.  
7 December 2020 · 🌐

本港正面對2019冠狀病毒病大流行第四波疫情，大家必須要做好防疫措施，切勿鬆懈！喺上月我哋推出咗「2019冠狀病毒小知識短片」第一至三章，為大家講解2019冠狀病毒病，澄清坊間謬誤，以及日常生活上要注意嘅重點。今個月我哋再邀請三位醫生，為我哋拍攝「2019冠狀病毒小知識短片」，繼續為大家釐清坊間謬誤，以正確嘅方法齊心抗疫！

See translation



THANK YOU

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