



Address: 5/F, Shaueiwan Jockey Club Clinic, 8 Chai Wan Road, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2560 8528 Fax: 852) 2560 4154
Website: <http://www.aids.org.hk/> Email: hkaf@hkaf.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HKAF's Testing Week to be held during 12-18 June

A total of 202 additional cases of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infections were reported in the first quarter of 2017 by the Centre for Health Protection, Department of Health, setting a high record for a single quarter. The cumulative number of Human Immunodeficiency Virus ("HIV") infections now hitting 8,612 as of 31 March, 2017. The Hong Kong AIDS Foundation will organise a testing Week from 12 to 18 June to provide free, anonymous and confidential HIV anti-body tests and counselling services for the public with a view to calling on the public to have a thorough understanding of their health.

In addition, the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) published the Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong (2017-2021) on May 22. One of the main focuses of the Strategies will be about the prevention education as well as the regular HIV testing. We are pleased to share the same thought with ACA and therefore will strengthen our work and help reinforce the public on safe sex behaviour and right attitude towards HIV/AIDS prevention with new angles.

All in all, HIV antibody testing should be considered part of a regular checkup. HKAF is now calling on those who have a history of unsafe sex to contact the Foundation at 2513 0513, or via the mobile application LINE (ID: hivtesting) for a voluntary counselling and anonymous HIV and syphilis testing service, which should be conducted three months after [unprotected sexual exposure/possible HIV exposure]. The Foundation has facilities in Lai Chi Kok, Central and Shaueiwan.

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