



# **Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS**



**Report**  
**August 2018 – July 2020**

## *Preface*

Since the beginning of the AIDS pandemic in 1981, countries around the world have adopted diverse strategies to control and mitigate its impact on their population. These include promoting condom use, expanding HIV testing, enhancing linkage to care, and increasing anti-retroviral therapy (ART) uptake and adherence. Recently, the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) has emerged as another powerful tool for HIV prevention. Until there is a safe and effective HIV vaccine, adopting a combination prevention strategy will be key to controlling the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Hong Kong.

With the concerted efforts of the Government, health professionals, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the number of new HIV infection and AIDS-related deaths have declined in recent years. While good progress has been made, the continued risk of HIV infection among vulnerable groups warrants our continual attention.

Over the years, The Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) has continued to work relentlessly to fulfill its role in advising the Government on policy relating to the prevention, care and control of HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong. The Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies (2017-2021) provide a framework for concerted effort by various key players in the community to achieve greater impact.

Strategic information is essential for guiding the HIV response. The Department of Health (DH)'s HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) continues to receive invaluable contributions from NGOs in reaching out to target population to collect information on their perception and risk behaviour. It is also recognized that mental health problems, including substance use, are prevalent among men who have sex with men (MSM) and serve as important drivers of HIV risk. DH has conducted a mental health survey targeting MSM and the findings were presented to ACA and Community Forum on AIDS (CFA) for deliberation.

To better utilise the CFA platform, the Secretariat has arranged a roster for its Members to present their progress and achievements at each meeting to encourage sharing of experiences and expertise. I hereby encourage all community stakeholders to contribute in your different roles and capacities, and work together to achieve our shared goals in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

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# 1. HIV/AIDS Situation in Hong Kong

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is caused by HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), and in the absence of treatment, approximately half of the HIV-infected people will progress to AIDS in 10 years' time. The main routes of HIV transmission are: sexual, injecting drug use, blood-borne and from mother to child. Hong Kong's first HIV cases were reported in 1984. Similar to the trend in many other developed countries, the early HIV infections mainly arose from blood or blood products transfusion. Later, sexual transmission, including heterosexual and homosexual contacts, became the commonest route of HIV transmission. It accounted for 79% of all reported HIV cases in Hong Kong as at 30 June 2020.

2. Monitoring and understanding the current HIV/AIDS situation is crucial for the planning and implementation of prevention and care. HIV/AIDS surveillance comprises a framework of systematic and consistent monitoring, encompassing the key components of collection, collation and analysis of HIV/AIDS data, followed by the interpretation and dissemination of the relevant information. Timely information derived from this HIV/AIDS surveillance is indispensable for developing effective prevention and control programmes.

## HIV/AIDS Surveillance

3. The Special Preventive Programme of the Department of Health (DH) maintains the HIV/AIDS surveillance system. To provide a detailed description of the local HIV/AIDS situation, this system comprises five major programmes, namely (a) voluntary HIV/AIDS case-based reporting; (b) HIV prevalence surveys; (c) sexually transmitted infections (STI) caseload statistics; (d) behavioural studies; and (e) HIV-1 genotyping studies.

4. The surveillance definition of AIDS for adults and adolescents was drawn up by the Scientific Committee on AIDS in 1995. The most commonly reported AIDS defining illnesses have been *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia (previously named *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia) followed by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection.

5. Based on the associated HIV risks, target populations for seroprevalence surveillance are grouped under three categories – (1) community with predisposing risk factors; (2) community without known risk factors; and (3) community with undefined risk.

### A. Voluntary Reporting

6. The voluntary HIV/AIDS reporting system has been in place since 1984. This is an anonymous reporting system under which laboratories and medical practitioners report newly

diagnosed HIV infections and AIDS cases to the DH through the special HIV/AIDS report form DH2293.

7. As at 30 June 2020, 10 550 HIV infections had been reported to this system. Among them, 2 176 had progressed to AIDS. The number of new HIV cases has dropped for the third consecutive years when compared with the peak of 725 cases recorded in 2015. The drop was mainly contributed by a decrease of cases transmitted via homosexual/bisexual route (MSM) (average of 117 MSM per quarter in 2015 vs 90 in 2018). On the other hand, the annual number of reported AIDS cases in 2018 is 139, as compared to 91 cases in 2017. It is a record high number of yearly AIDS cases recorded since 1985.

8. HIV infection affects more males than females with the ratio in the region of 4.5:1 as of June 2020.

9. The majority (69.7%) of reported HIV infections in Hong Kong belong to ethnic Chinese as of June 2020.

10. Sexual transmission remains the major mode of transmission, accounting for 79.3% among the reported cases in Hong Kong as of June 2020. Cumulatively, MSM accounted for 46.8% and heterosexuals accounted for 32.5% of all reported cases as of June 2020. As at June 2020, the number of HIV infections related to injection drug use remains low at 368 cases (3.5%) while the total number of perinatal HIV transmission cases now stands at 35.

#### **B. Unlinked Anonymous Screening**

11. The Unlinked Anonymous Screening programme in Hong Kong was started in November 1990. In 2018, the HIV prevalence of drug users attending inpatient drug treatment centres/institutions was 0.4%, and that of inmates newly admitted into correctional institutes was 1.03%. In 2019, the HIV prevalence of drug users attending inpatient drug treatment centres/institutions was 1.2%, and that of inmates newly admitted into correctional institutes was 0.95%.

#### **C. Seroprevalence in Selected Populations**

12. The positive HIV antibody detection rate was 0.002% and 0.001% from all the blood donations in 2018 and 2019 respectively carried out by the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service. The positivity rate among Social Hygiene Clinic attendees was 0.379 % and 0.387% in 2018 and 2019 respectively.

13. The Universal HIV Antibody Testing Programme was introduced in 2001 in all antenatal clinics of the Hospital Authority and Maternal and Child Health Clinics of DH. In 2018, 45 530 tests were performed of which four were found positive, indicating a prevalence of 0.01%. In 2019, 42 670 tests were performed of which three were found positive, indicating a prevalence of 0.01%.

**Table 1. Antenatal HIV Testing**

	No. of tests	HIV+	%	Opt-Out (%)
<b>2001 (Sep to Dec)</b>	12 965	7	0.05	3.4
<b>2002</b>	41 932	8	0.02	2.8
<b>2003</b>	36 366	6	0.02	3.1
<b>2004</b>	41 070	6	0.01	2.1
<b>2005</b>	42 750	5	0.01	1.9
<b>2006</b>	43 297	9	0.02	2.0
<b>2007</b>	47 472	11	0.02	2.6
<b>2008</b>	51 737	2	0.00	1.8
<b>2009</b>	51 227	7	0.01	1.7
<b>2010</b>	54 360	10	0.02	1.4
<b>2011</b>	55 984	6	0.01	1.2
<b>2012</b>	53 117	9	0.02	1.4
<b>2013</b>	48 871	7	0.01	1.5
<b>2014</b>	51 263	2	0.004	1.7
<b>2015</b>	51 338	5	0.01	1.5
<b>2016</b>	51 519	9	0.02	0.01
<b>2017</b>	48 500	7	0.01	0.01
<b>2018</b>	45 530	4	0.01	0
<b>2019</b>	42 670	3	0.01	0

***D. Universal HIV Antibody (Urine) Testing Programme in Methadone Clinics***

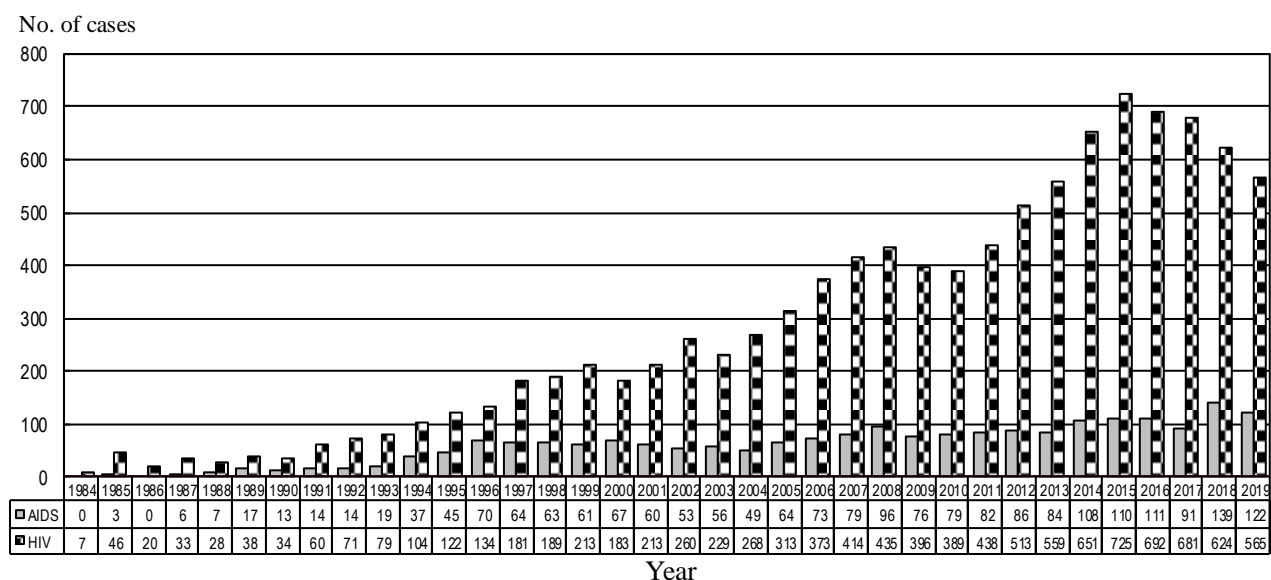
14. The Universal HIV Antibody (Urine) Testing Programme (MUT Programme) was piloted in 2003 and rolled out to all Methadone Clinics of DH in 2004. In 2018, 43 out of 4 730 samples tested HIV positive, equivalent to 0.91%. In 2019, 42 out of 4 184 samples tested HIV positive, equivalent to 1.00%.

**Table 2. Methadone Clinic Testing**

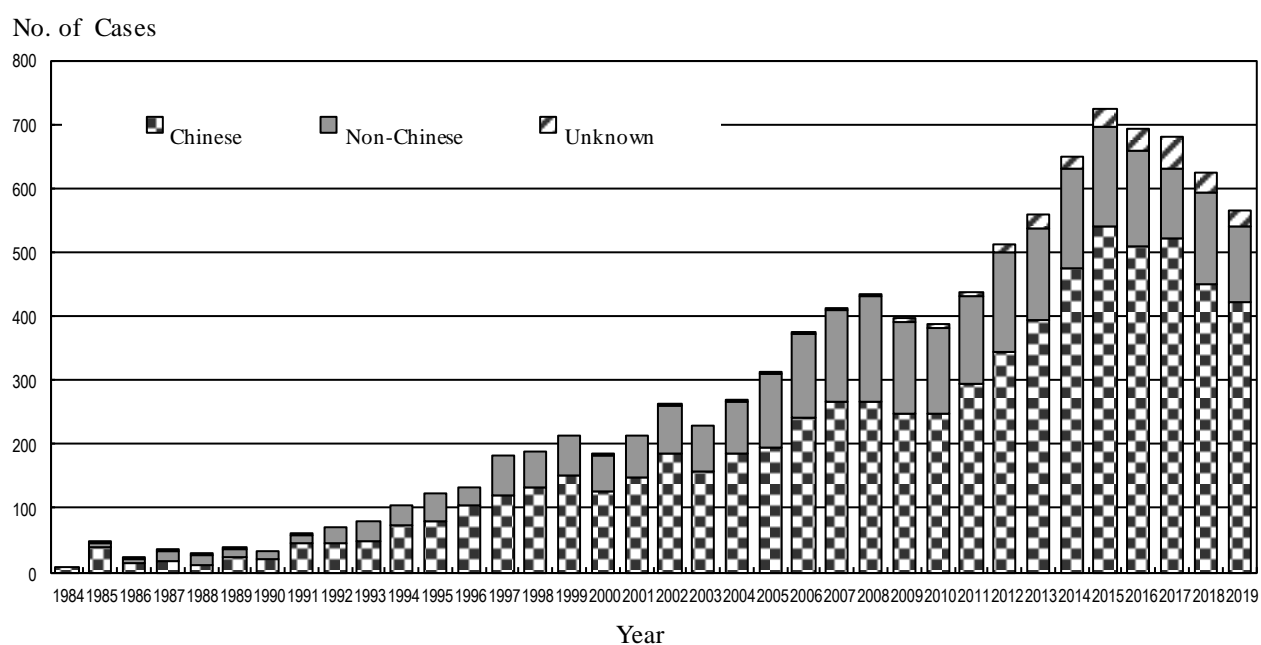
	No. of tests	HIV+	%
<b>2003 (Jul – Sep)</b>	1 834	9	0.49
<b>2004</b>	8 812	18	0.20
<b>2005</b>	8 696	28	0.32
<b>2006</b>	7 730	28	0.36
<b>2007</b>	7 314	26	0.36
<b>2008</b>	7 955	37	0.47
<b>2009</b>	7 765	38	0.49
<b>2010</b>	7 445	36	0.48
<b>2011</b>	6 960	37	0.53
<b>2012</b>	6 742	42	0.62
<b>2013</b>	6 925	47	0.68
<b>2014</b>	6 527	53	0.81
<b>2015</b>	6 056	61	1.01
<b>2016</b>	5 066	57	1.13

	No. of tests	HIV+	%
2017	4 913	41	0.83
2018	4 730	43	0.91
2019	4 184	42	1.00

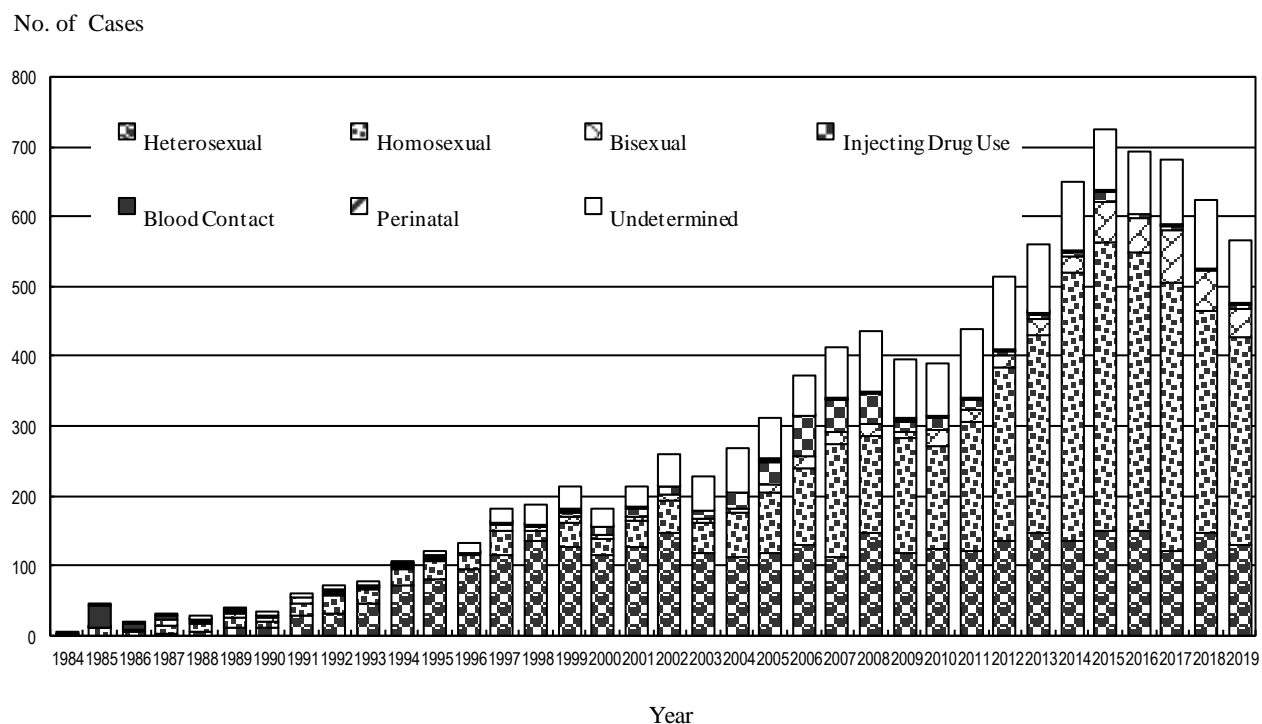
**Figure 1 : Annual Reported HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong  
1984 – 2019 (N = 10 280 / 2 118)**



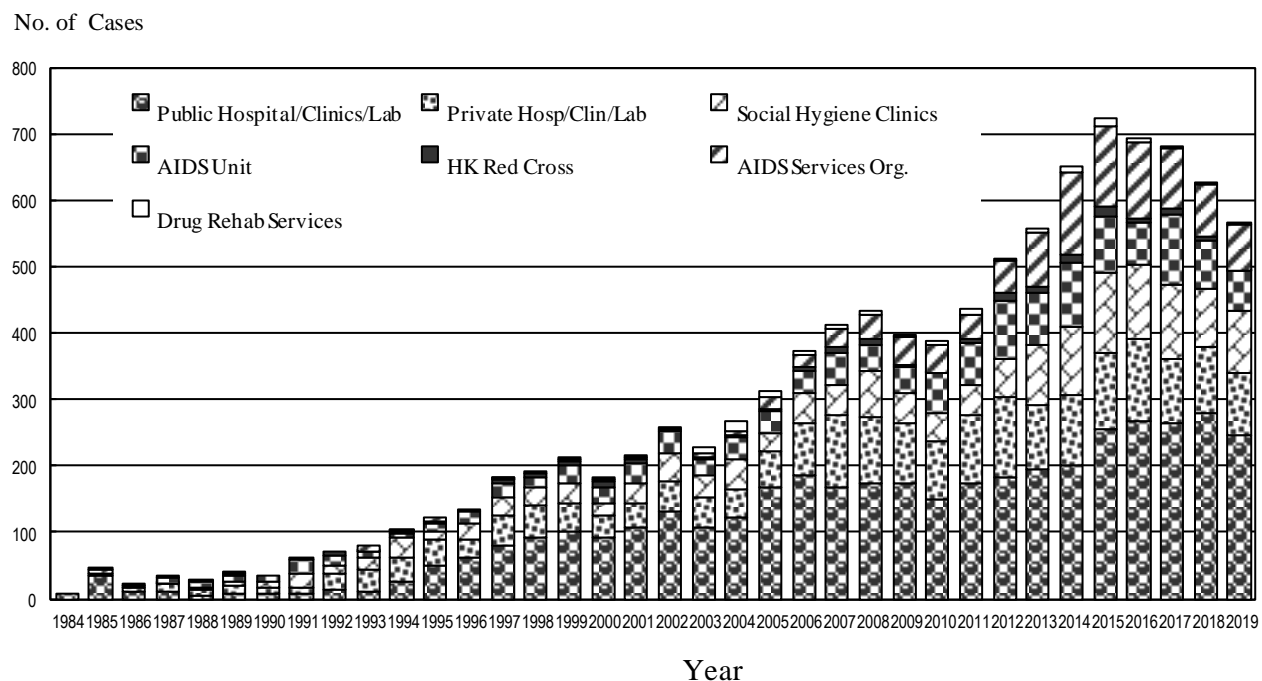
**Figure 2 : Ethnicity of reported HIV infection in Hong Kong  
1984 – 2019 (N = 10 280)**



**Figure 3 : Routes of transmission of HIV infection in Hong Kong  
1984 – 2019 (N = 10 280)**

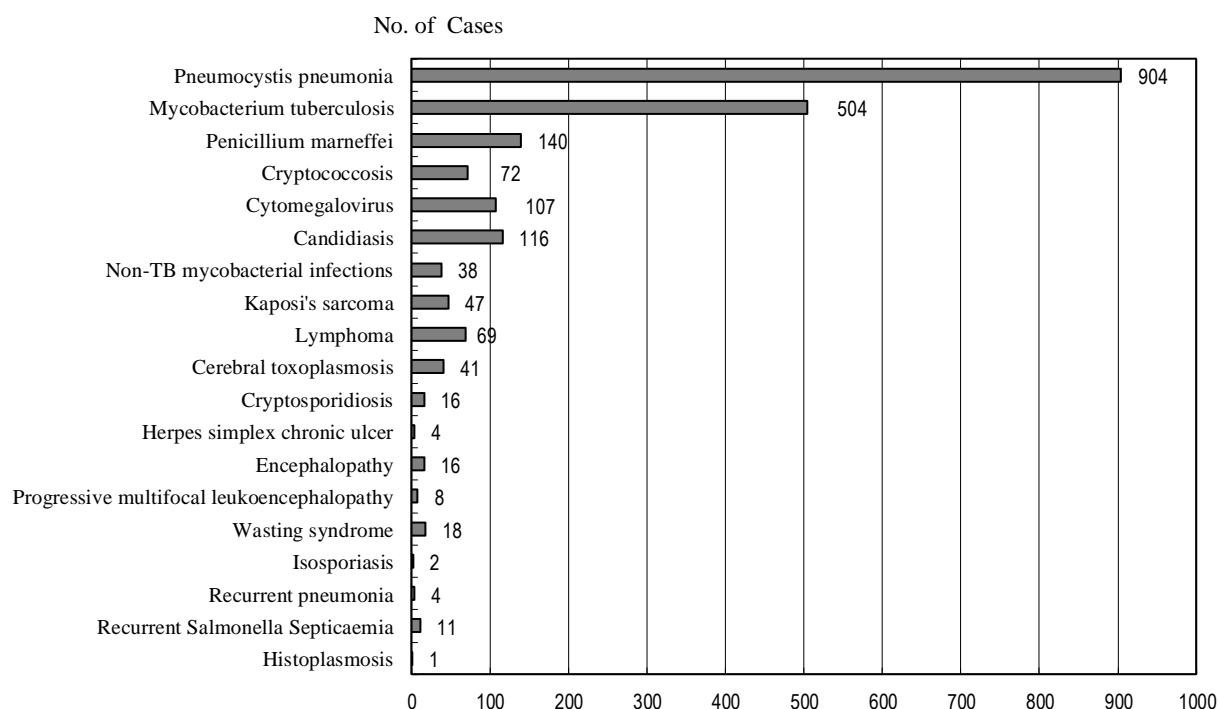


**Figure 4 : Sources of referral of HIV infection in Hong Kong  
1984 – 2019 (N = 10 280)**

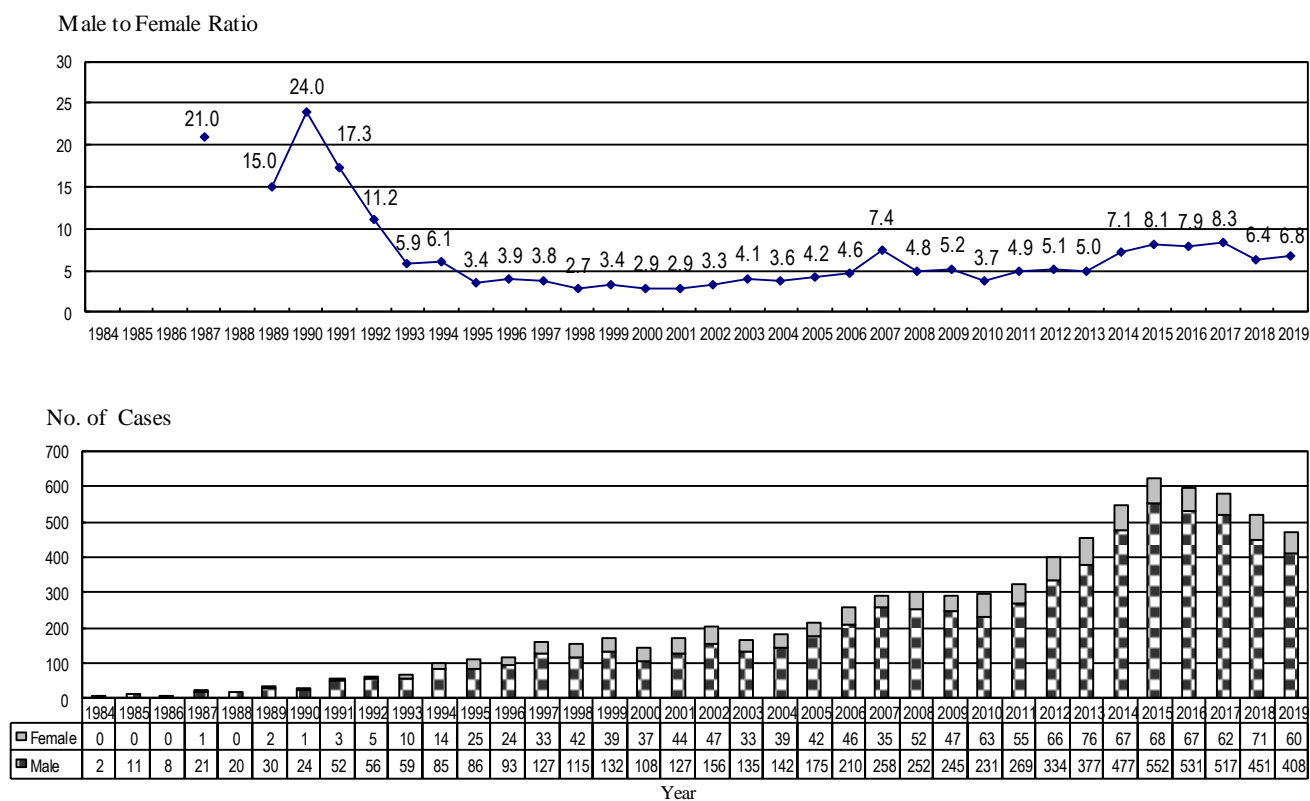




**Figure 5 : Primary AIDS-defining illnesses of reported AIDS in Hong Kong  
1985 – 2019 (N = 2 118)**



**Figure 6 : Reported HIV Infection through Sexual Transmission\* by sex in Hong Kong  
1984 – 2019 (N = 8 152)**



\* Sexual transmission refers to that relating heterosexual, homosexual and bisexual contact

## 2. HIV/AIDS Programme in Hong Kong

15. HIV/AIDS programmes in Hong Kong are developed in response to changes in the epidemic and needs of various populations. They closely follow the direction set by the Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong issued by the ACA. Over the years, there have been significant changes concerning the organisations involved in planning and implementing HIV/AIDS programmes, their respective roles and functions, and the scope of HIV prevention, treatment and support. The historical development of HIV/AIDS Programme is set out in **Appendix A**.

16. Currently the main types of organisations involved in HIV/AIDS programmes are – A) advisory bodies; B) Department of Health; C) other governmental departments or public organisations; and D) non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

### **A. Advisory bodies**

17. The two major Government-appointed advisory bodies involved in HIV/AIDS are –

- (1) **The Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA)** – reviews the latest developments and provides policy advice on all aspects of HIV infection; and
- (2) **The Scientific Committee on AIDS and STI (SCAS)** under the Centre for Health Protection of DH – formulates technical guidance and recommendations on public health and clinical practice.

18. The ACA is underpinned by the CFA which provides a platform for sharing and exchange among community stakeholders, and for dialogue with ACA members.

### **B. Department of Health**

19. **The Special Preventive Programme (SPP)** of DH serves the following four areas –

- (1) *Clinical service* – includes the AIDS Hotline, AIDS Counselling and Testing, clinical consultation and treatment, nursing care and psychosocial support;
- (2) *Health promotion at community level* – mainly delivered through the Red Ribbon Centre (RRC), by collaborating with both local and regional health authorities and community agencies to undertake education projects and epidemiological surveys, and provide training and technical support for non-governmental organisations;
- (3) *Policy development* – provides secretariat and operational support to ACA and its CFA; and

- (4) *Surveillance and research* – monitors the local HIV situation through a range of surveillance systems in collaboration with various stakeholders, and announces the most updated HIV situation every quarter.

20. **Other related DH services include -**

- (1) *Social Hygiene Service* – provides STI prevention, counselling and treatment;
- (2) *Tuberculosis and Chest Service* – manages HIV/TB co-infection;
- (3) *Public Health Laboratory Services Branch* – provides HIV and related laboratory services;
- (4) *Methadone Clinics* – provides Methadone Treatment Programme and other harm reduction activities for opioid dependent persons; and
- (5) *Family Health Service and Student Health Service* – provides sexual and reproductive health services to women of reproductive age and school students respectively.

C. **Other governmental departments and public organisations**

21. **Government departments / policy bureaux** with active involvement in the HIV/AIDS programme include -

- (1) *Correctional Services Department* – involved in health education and sentinel surveillance;
- (2) *Education Bureau* – involved in sex/AIDS education and professional development of teachers;
- (3) *Information Services Department* – involved in mass communication on HIV prevention; and
- (4) *Social Welfare Department* – involved in subvention of social and rehabilitation services related to HIV prevention among marginalized populations and support of people living with HIV (PLHIV).

22. **Hospital Authority and Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service** provide hospital-based clinical service and ensure supply of safe blood and blood products. Infected adults may receive care by the Special Medical Service at Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital, while affected children are managed by the Paediatrics units of Queen Mary Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

23. **AIDS Trust Fund (ATF)** provides financial support to those living with HIV infection and haemophilia, and to agencies working on HIV/AIDS prevention, patient support and for research activities. Over the years, the NGOs have been active in raising funds for their operation and services to support community-based projects. From 2010 to 2020, a total of 159 programmes or projects were funded by ATF, amounting to a total of HK\$324 million.

***D. Non-governmental organisations***

24. **AIDS NGOs** are heavily involved in the implementation of AIDS programme and related activities, in particular –

- (1) *Conducting HIV preventive activities at the front-line* – including venue and on-line outreach, publicity and education, community programmes, condom distribution, and media advocacy; some also provided HIV testing and counselling services;
- (2) *Providing support services to PLHIV and their carers* – through visits, home care, referral, free transport and escort to clinic follow-up, counselling, support groups, and rehabilitation programmes;
- (3) *Partnership with the government* – participating in community-based surveys such as (a) HIV Prevalence and Risk behavioural Survey of Men who have sex with men in Hong Kong (PRiSM) and HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS); (b) formulating guidelines; and (c) advocacy; and
- (4) *Fund raising* – for their operation and services to support community-based projects.

### 3. Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS

25. The Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) was formed in 1990. The terms of reference of the ACA in the current term are –

- (1) to keep under review local and international trends and development relating to HIV infection and AIDS;
- (2) to advise Government on policy relating to the prevention, care and control of HIV infection and AIDS in Hong Kong; and
- (3) to advise on the co-ordination and monitoring of programmes on the prevention of HIV infection and the provision of services to people with HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong.

26. ACA members are drawn from diverse sectors of the community, particularly professionals and community leaders. The membership between August 2018 and July 2020 is shown in **Appendix B**.

27. The major issues and papers examined and reviewed by the ACA in the period covered by this report are in **Appendix C**. During the ACA Meeting held in October 2014, all members supported listing the overall attendance rate of the meetings in the ACA report. In this connection, the overall attendance rates of the 22/23 gazetted members in the past seven ACA Meetings are shown in **Appendix D**.

28. A two-tier system of interaction has been adopted since 2005 in which the functions of coordinating agencies working on HIV prevention and care and promoting acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS were taken up by the CFA.

#### AIDS Policy

29. In 1994, the ACA published its first policy document titled “Strategies for AIDS Prevention, Care and Control in Hong Kong”. Regular reviews of local AIDS situation and programmes have been conducted thereafter, with five more Strategies issued, namely *AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 1999-2001*, *Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2002 to 2006*, *Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2007 to 2011*, *Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2012-2016* and the latest *Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong (2017 – 2021)*.

## **Building Community Partnership**

30. ACA participated in the World AIDS Campaign 2018 Kick-off Ceremony organised by the Department of Health on 1 December 2018 at Metroplaza, Kwai Fong, with Chairperson of ACA as one of the officiating guests. The Ceremony was also officiated by Under Secretary for Food and Health, Director of Health, Chairman of the Council for the AIDS Trust Fund, Chairperson of the Red Ribbon Centre Management Advisory Committee, Controller of the Centre for Health Protection and guests from Mainland and Macau.

## **Website**

31. The ACA Newsfile, a monthly bulletin of the ACA, keeps ACA and CFA members posted on the most updated HIV/AIDS situation, the development of local programmes, highlights of discussion in ACA and CFA, and HIV/AIDS related news and activities. Launched in January 1994, a total of 319 issues have been published up to July 2020.

32. Other HIV related publications produced by the Department of Health are also distributed to ACA and CFA members, including Red Ribbon Bulletin, AIDS Newsletter, the Node, and Networking Voice.

33. The ACA homepage is a bilingual website accessible to the public at <https://www.aca.gov.hk>.

34. Information uploaded onto the ACA website during the reporting period included –

- (1) ACA Newsfile (24 issues);
- (2) Report of Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (August 2017 – July 2018);
- (3) Agenda of eight ACA meetings; and
- (4) Agenda of seven CFA meetings.

## 4. Community Forum on AIDS

35. The CFA was formed in 2005 to replace two previous committees, namely – (1) the AIDS Prevention and Care Committee (APCC), which was established in 1999 to enhance the quality of HIV prevention and care activities in Hong Kong; and (2) the Committee on Promoting Acceptance of People Living with HIV/AIDS (CPA), which was formed in 1999 to coordinate and recommend strategies for promoting acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS.

36. The CFA provides a platform where the views and expertise of organisations and individuals involved in HIV/AIDS advocacy, education and services can be directly shared and collected, to support strategy formulation at the ACA level.

37. The CFA has the following terms of reference in the current term –

- (1) to enhance communication between the Council and frontline HIV/AIDS service delivery organisations and workers;
- (2) to examine needs and identify gaps in the community;
- (3) to recommend measures conducive to promoting acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS;
- (4) to provide a platform for collaboration in combating HIV/AIDS epidemic and facilitate dialogue with other stakeholders in related fields;
- (5) to enhance the quality of HIV/AIDS service through development of best practices and indicators; and
- (6) to advocate and facilitate capacity building with other relevant parties.

38. The CFA comprises members drawn from agencies specialising in HIV prevention and care; mainstream NGOs whose activities encompass HIV/AIDS; representatives of communities vulnerable to HIV/AIDS; individuals with expertise in related fields, and ACA members. The membership of the 5<sup>th</sup> term of CFA (2017-2020) is shown in **Appendix E**.

39. An Observer system was introduced in the 25<sup>th</sup> CFA meeting on 14 June 2012. Members of the public may register with the CFA Secretariat to attend CFA meetings.

40. The major issues and papers examined and reviewed by the CFA in the period covered by this report can be seen in **Appendix F**.

## **5. Highlights (August 2018 to July 2020)**

### **Update of HIV related guidelines and surveys by DH**

41. The fifth round of HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) was carried out in 2018 to keep track of the behavioural risk factors annually through the assistance of AIDS NGOs. The survey findings were reported in the 49<sup>th</sup> CFA meeting and 107<sup>th</sup> ACA meeting. Factsheets containing summary of findings were uploaded to the DH website in May 2019.

42. To enlighten members' knowledge and insight, DH also shared the recommendations on the use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) against HIV and the recommended clinical guidelines on the prevention of perinatal HIV transmission endorsed by the Scientific Committee on AIDS and STI (SCAS). Other topics including HIV self-testing as well as mental health of MSM, their substance use and sexual health profile in the ACA meetings.

### **Sharing of studies by academia**

43. Professor LEE Shui-shan from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, presented "In search of an applicable model for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in Hong Kong – lessons from piloting 2 PrEP studies" in the 104<sup>th</sup> ACA meeting.

44. Dr. Travis KONG and Dr. Sky LAU from the University of Hong Kong together with The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (BGCA) presented the study on drug taking behaviours of gay men in Hong Kong in the 105<sup>th</sup> ACA meeting.

### **Experience sharing by NGOs**

45. Different NGOs shared their valuable experiences to members in ACA and CFA meetings.

46. In the CFA meetings this term, Hong Kong AIDS Foundation and The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (SARDA) presented first sex and sexual health survey and results of Street Addict Survey 2018 in the 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> meetings respectively. In the 51<sup>st</sup> meeting, AIDS Concern introduced its HIV self-test service While Hong Kong Christian Service shared the experience in establishing a drug rehabilitation service for chemfun users.

47. Tung Wah Group of Hospitals also introduced Pride Line Services, its support to sexual minorities and people with HIV in the 107<sup>th</sup> ACA meeting.



## **Capacity building and networking**

48. ACA Chairperson and members attended various HIV/AIDS prevention seminars and activities, such as the World AIDS Campaign 2018 Kick-off Ceremony on 1 December 2018.

49. On 9 November 2018, ACA Chairperson was invited to give an opening address and to chair a round-table discussion at the Conference - “The New Horizons in HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care” organised by C.H.O.I.C.E. Local and overseas speakers from the Mainland China and Thailand also attended the Conference.

## 6. A Gallery

### “The New Horizons in HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care” organised by CHOICE on 9 November 2018

50. A symposium, “The New Horizons in HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care” was held by CHOICE on 9 November 2018. Dr. Patrick LI, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS, was invited to give an opening address and to chair a round-table discussion. Dr. Kenny CHAN from the Department of Health presented “HIV in Hong Kong - A Status Report”. Other speakers included HIV experts from the UNAIDS China, Thailand and Hong Kong.





## World AIDS Campaign 2018 Kick-off Ceremony on 1 December 2018

51. The World AIDS Campaign 2018 Kick-off Ceremony organised by the Department of Health was held at Metroplaza, Kwai Fong on 1 December 2018. It was officiated by the Under Secretary for Food and Health, Director of Health, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS, Chairman of the Council for the AIDS Trust Fund, Chairperson of the Red Ribbon Centre Management Advisory Committee, Controller of the Centre for Health Protection and guests from Mainland China and Macau S.A.R.



## Appendix A : Historical Development of Hong Kong's AIDS Programme (since 1984)

The development of Hong Kong's AIDS programme can be broadly divided into the following phases –

### 1. The Initial Response Phase (1984 – 1986)

- **Expert Committee on AIDS** was set up within the then Medical and Health Department In November 1984 to discuss and review the medical aspects of AIDS and to work out a plan necessary for monitoring and managing the disease;
- **Scientific Working Group on AIDS (SWG)** was formed subsequently in 1985 to initiate and implement medical, surveillance and public health activities in HK; **AIDS counselling clinic** and a hotline was established;
- Safeguarded supply of **safe heat-treated blood products** through blood-screening by the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service (HKRCBTS);
- **The HIV/AIDS surveillance system** was initiated;
- **HIV antibody testing service** was provided to people at risk of infection.

### 2. Enhanced Public Education Phase (1987 – 1989)

- **Committee on Education & Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS)** and a publicity working group were formed by the Medical and Health Department to initiate, implement and co-ordinate publicity and educational programmes;
- **The AIDS Counselling and Health Education Service** of DH was expanded to become an operational arm of the committee to organise activities;
- **Public education** was systematically introduced with Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) on television and radio to arouse public awareness.

### 3. Consolidation Phase (1990 – 1993)

- **The Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA)** was established in March 1990;
- **First two AIDS NGOs** were formed : AIDS Concern (1990) and the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation (1991);
- **The AIDS Trust Fund (ATF)** was set up in 1993 by the Government to provide ex-gratia payment to HIV-infected haemophiliacs and transfusion recipients, and to finance education and AIDS care projects;
- **Unlinked anonymous screening (UAS)** was started in 1990, and has since been included into the HIV/AIDS surveillance system;
- The **AIDS Unit** of the Department of Health was established, which was evolved from the original counselling service.

#### 4. Wider Community Participation Phase (1994 – 1997)

- The ACA's **first official strategy document**, "*Strategies for AIDS Prevention, Care & Control in Hong Kong*" was published in 1994;
- **More new NGOs** involved in HIV prevention were founded – Action for REACH OUT, Society for AIDS Care, AIDS Memorial Quilt Project, HIV Information & Drop-In Centre of the St John's Cathedral, and the Teen AIDS;
- **Traditional organisations incorporated AIDS programmes** in its conventional activities through new initiatives, e.g. the Community Charter on AIDS by the Lions Club International District 303 Hong Kong and Macao;
- **Education programmes** on awareness and prevention were expanded with the participation of more NGOs and the re-organised CEPAIDS.

#### 5. Expanded Response Phase (1998 – 2001)

- **The Hong Kong Coalition of AIDS Service Organizations (HKCASO)** was formed in 1998. It provides a platform for collaboration and experience sharing among various NGOs working in HIV-related areas;
- **The AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 1999-2001** was published by ACA in 1998, after incorporating the result of a review done in 1998;
- **Ten targets**, ranging from early targets, through-period targets, and end-of-period targets were set up in the new Strategy. The key foci were -
  - (a) **Focus on Prevention on the vulnerable groups** through community's participation and the promotion of acceptance to people living with HIV/AIDS;
  - (b) **Ensure Quality Care** is provided to meet the needs of people with HIV/AIDS, and in promoting HIV testing; and
  - (c) **Strengthen Partnership** through setting of a common programme direction, expanding responses through Community Planning, conducting evaluations to check the progress, and strengthening surveillance system.

#### 6. Building on Success Phase (2002 – 2005)

- The ACA published its **Strategies 2002 to 2006** in a background of low prevalence of HIV (< 0.1%) in the general population;
- **The Community Forum on AIDS (CFA)** of the ACA was set up in 2005 to provide a platform for sharing and exchange of ideas and for direct dialogue with ACA members.
- The Scientific Committee on AIDS was subsumed under the scientific advisory structure of the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of DH since August 2005, and the committee took sexually transmitted infections (STI) on board, subsequently renamed as Scientific Committee on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (SCAS).

## 7. Enhanced Targeted Response Phase (2006 – now)

- ATF launched a two-year Special Project Fund between December 2006 and August 2008 in view of rising number of HIV cases transmitted through MSM, and revised its funding priorities accordingly;
- The ACA published its ACA's Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2007-2011 with MSM first listed as the top priority area of action;
- Enhanced community-based surveillance for at-risk populations;
  - (a) Roll-out of the first HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) in 2013;
  - (b) Roll-out of the first community-based survey for Transgender women in 2017;
  - (c) Roll-out of the first EM sexual health survey in May 2019;
  - (d) The first local mental and sexual health survey of sexual minority (GBT) was conducted in Pride Parade 2018;
- ATF has received an additional injection of HKD350 million in 2013 to sustain its funding and support for HIV prevention programmes and HIV-related researches;
- The first survey on HIV/AIDS and sex education in junior secondary level in Hong Kong was conducted in 2013;
- Roll-out **life skills-based education programme** on HIV/AIDS and sex in secondary schools in 2014;
- The first internal audit of voluntary counselling and testing services (VCT) in community settings was launched in 2014;
- Enhanced **capacity building for healthcare workers** - the first HIV pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis workshop for NGO workers was held in 2016;
- The first territory-wide **HIV self-testing programme targeting MSM** with online ordering of test kits was commenced in 2019.



## Appendix B : ACA Membership List

August 2018 – July 2020

### **Chairperson :**

Dr. LI Chung-ki, Patrick, B.B.S., J.P.

### **Vice-Chairman :**

#### ***Department of Health:***

Dr. CHAN Hon-yee, Constance, J.P.

### **Members :**

Mr. CHAN Siu-hung, J.P.

Dr. CHENG Mei-ching, Joanne

Mr. CHEUNG Tat-ming, Eric

Mr. CHU Muk-wah, Daniel

Mr. FUNG Hing-wang, S.B.S.

Ms. HO Pik-yuk, Shara

Mr. KAM Hugh Alexander Tsun-ting (*from 1 August 2019*)

Dr. KONG Shiu-ki, Travis

Mr. KWOK Lap-shu

Dr. LAM Ming

Mr. LEE Wai-kwong, Sunny, J.P.

Mr. LEUNG Ka-ki, Nickson (*from 1 August 2019*)

Dr. LUI Chung-yan, Grace

Mr. MUI Wai-keung, Moses

Ms. SUN Hau-kei, Binky

Mr. TONG Tak-fai, Edmond

Ms. WONG Wai-kwan, Loretta (*up to 14 June 2019*)

Dr. YAM Wing-cheong

***Education Bureau :***

Secretary for Education or Representative

***Food and Health Bureau :***

Secretary for Food and Health or Representative

***Hospital Authority :***

Chief Executive of Hospital Authority or Representative

***Social Welfare Department :***

Director of Social Welfare or Representative

**Secretary :**

***Department of Health :***

Dr. CHAN Chi-wai, Kenny

**Council Secretariat :**

***Department of Health :***

Senior Medical and Health Officer (Special Preventive Programme) 3

Senior Executive Officer (Special Preventive Programme)

Assistant Clerical Officer (Special Preventive Programme)

Clerical Assistant (Special Preventive Programme) 1



## Appendix C : Topics / Issues Discussed at ACA Meetings

Date of Meeting	Topics / Issues Discussed at ACA Meetings
104 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 12 October 2018 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In search of an applicable model for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in Hong Kong – lessons from piloting 2 PrEP studies (ACA Paper No. 12/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. HIV treatment cascade 2016 (ACA Paper No. 13/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Highlights of the 22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018), Amsterdam, Netherlands (ACA Paper No. 14/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>
105 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 11 January 2019 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study on drug taking behaviors of gay men in Hong Kong (ACA Paper No. 15/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Recommendations on the use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) against HIV by the Scientific Committee on AIDS and STI (ACA Paper No. 16/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Highlights of World AIDS Campaign 2018 (ACA Paper No. 17/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>
106 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 12 April 2019 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2018 (ACA Paper No. 18/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Mental health of men who have sex with men, their substance use and sexual health profile (ACA Paper No. 19/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Recommended Clinical Guidelines on the Prevention of Perinatal HIV Transmission by the Scientific Committee on AIDS and STI (November 2018) (ACA Paper No. 20/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>

Date of Meeting	Topics / Issues Discussed at ACA Meetings
107 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 12 July 2019 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction of the Pride Line Services - its support to sexual minorities and people with HIV (ACA Paper No. 21/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. HIV self-testing (ACA Paper No. 22/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Results of the HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2018 - Men who have sex with men, male-to-female transgender and injecting drug users (ACA Paper No. 23/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>
108 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 11 October 2019 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Co-infection of viral hepatitis in people living with HIV (ACA Paper No. 24/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Feasibility of using web-based ordering and result upload to support HIV self-testing among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Hong Kong (ACA Paper No. 25/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Highlights of the 10<sup>th</sup> IAS Conference on HIV Science, Mexico City, Mexico (ACA Paper No. 26/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>
109 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 10 January 2020 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HIV risk behavioural survey for ethnic minorities (Filipinos and Indonesians) in Hong Kong 2019 (ACA Paper No. 27/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Highlights of the 17<sup>th</sup> European AIDS Conference, Basel, Switzerland (ACA Paper No. 28/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Report on the 6<sup>th</sup> National Academic Conference on HIV/AIDS, Hangzhou, China (ACA Paper No. 29/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>

Date of Meeting	Topics / Issues Discussed at ACA Meetings
110 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting By circulation of papers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of the HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2019 - Female sex workers, male clients of female sex workers and people who inject drugs (ACA Paper No. 30/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2019 (ACA Paper No. 31/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Mid-term review on the implementation of ACA Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies 2017-2021 (ACA Paper No. 32/2017-2020)</li> </ol>
111 <sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting 10 July 2020 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preliminary results of the feasibility study of using web-based ordering and result upload to support HIV self-testing among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Hong Kong (ACA Paper No. 33/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Updates on the development of pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention (ACA Paper No. 34/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (1990-2020) (ACA Paper No. 35/2017-2020)</li> <li>4. Report of the Community Forum on AIDS</li> </ol>

## Appendix D : Overall Attendance Rate of the ACA Members

	<b>100<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>101<sup>st</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>102<sup>nd</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>103<sup>rd</sup> Meeting</b>
	<b>20-Oct-2017</b>	<b>12-Jan-2018</b>	<b>13-Apr-2018</b>	<b>13-Jul-2018</b>
<b>Overall attendance / No. of gazetted members</b>	20 / 23	17 / 23	19 / 23	18 / 23
<b>Overall attendance rate (%)</b>	83%	71%	80%	75%

	<b>104<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>105<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>106<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>107<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>
	<b>12-Oct-2018</b>	<b>11-Jan-2019</b>	<b>12-Apr-2019</b>	<b>12-Jul-2019</b>
<b>Overall attendance / No. of gazetted members</b>	12 / 22	19 / 22	20 / 22	17 / 21
<b>Overall attendance rate (%)</b>	55%	86%	91%	81%

	<b>108<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>109<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>110<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>111<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>
	<b>11-Oct-2019</b>	<b>10-Jan-2020</b>	<b>By circulation of papers</b>	<b>10-Jul-2020</b>
<b>Overall attendance / No. of gazetted members</b>	18 / 23	21 / 23	N.A.	18 / 23
<b>Overall attendance rate (%)</b>	78%	91%	N.A.	78%

## Appendix E : CFA Membership List

### Convener :

Mr. CHU Muk-wah, Daniel

### Members :

Mr. CHAN Wai-leung, Charlie	Caritas – Hong Kong
Mr. CHAU Chun-yam	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms. CHEUNG Hiu-wah, Mandy ( <i>up to 1 December 2019</i> )	AIDS Concern
Ms. CHEUNG Wun-ting, Janet ( <i>from 2 December 2019</i> )	Hong Kong Red Cross
Ms. CHO Mei-wah ( <i>from 26 May 2019</i> )	SARDA
Dr. CHU Chung-man, Ferrick	
Ms. Elijah FUNG ( <i>from 16 August 2018</i> )	St. John's Cathedral Life Enrichment Centre
Miss HUI See-yau, Ivy	The Society For AIDS Care
Mr. KWOK Lap-shu, Emil	Heart to Heart/ACA member
Ms. LAI Tak-yin, Debby ( <i>up to 15 August 2018</i> )	St. John's Cathedral Life Enrichment Centre
Ms. LAU Sun-sun, Eris	Hong Kong AIDS Foundation
Mr. LAU Tsz-chun, Jason ( <i>from 2 December 2019</i> )	AIDS Concern
Mr. LEE King-fai ( <i>up to 25 May 2019</i> )	SARDA
Ms. LEUNG Ka-wai, Heidy ( <i>up to 1 December 2019</i> )	Hong Kong Red Cross
Ms. LEUNG Wing-yan, Joanne ( <i>up to 11 July 2019</i> )	Transgender Resource Center
Mr. NGAI Tak-kin	Midnight Blue
Mr. PUI Wing-tai, Beethoven	A-Backup
Mr. SHAM Tsz-kit, Jimmy	Rainbow of Hong Kong
Miss Zenobia SO	
Mr. Henry TSE ( <i>from 12 July 2019</i> )	Transgender Resource Center

Mr. WONG Doon-yee, Charles	
Mr. WONG Lai-yin, Anthony	SRACP
Mr. YEUNG Chu-wing	POZ Positive
Ms. YIK Kwan-pik	Teen's Key
Ms. YIM Kit-sum, Kendy	Action for REACH OUT
Ms. YU Po-chu, Pansy	
Ms. HO Pik-yuk, Shara	CHOICE/ACA member
Ms. SUN Hau-kei, Binky	ACA member

**Secretaries :**

***Department of Health :***

Medical and Health Officer (Special Preventive Programme) 3

Senior Executive Officer (Special Preventive Programme)

## Appendix F : Topics / Issues Discussed at CFA Meetings

Date of Meeting	Topics / Issues Discussed at CFA Meetings
48 <sup>th</sup> CFA Meeting 14 September 2018 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Overseas recommendations on drug rehabilitation service for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender drug users (CFA Paper No. 5/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. A pilot study on mental health, substance use and sexual health of local men who have sex with men (CFA Paper No. 6/2017-2020)</li> </ol>
49 <sup>th</sup> CFA Meeting 13 December 2018 (Thursday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2018 preliminary results (CFA Paper No. 7/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. First sex and sexual health survey</li> </ol>
50 <sup>th</sup> CFA Meeting 15 March 2019 (Friday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of Street Addict Survey 2018</li> <li>2. Preliminary result on MSM mental health, substance use and sexual health survey (CFA Paper No. 8/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2018</li> </ol>
51 <sup>st</sup> CFA Meeting 17 June 2019 (Monday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Experience sharing: Self test Hong Kong by AIDS Concern</li> <li>2. Experience sharing on establish a drug rehabilitation service for Chemfun users</li> </ol>

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Topics / Issues Discussed at CFA Meetings</b>
52 <sup>nd</sup> CFA Meeting 9 September 2019 (Monday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preliminary result of local ethnic minorities sexual health survey 2019</li> <li>2. Introduction of HIV Self-test study by Department of Health (CFA Paper No. 9/2017-2020)</li> <li>3. Highlights of 10th IAS Conference on HIV Science (CFA Paper No. 10/2017-2020)</li> </ol>
53 <sup>rd</sup> CFA Meeting 16 December 2019 (Monday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2019 preliminary results (CFA Paper No. 11/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Report of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Academic Conference on HIV/AIDS (CFA Paper No. 12/2017-2020)</li> </ol>
54 <sup>th</sup> CFA Meeting 2 June 2020 (Monday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2019 (CFA Paper No. 13/2017-2020)</li> <li>2. Update on the recommended use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis against HIV (CFA Paper No. 14/2017-2020)</li> </ol>



### **ACA Secretariat**

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