



## Editorial Board

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## ~ Calendar ~

129<sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting  
20 June 2025

# Agenda of 129<sup>th</sup> ACA Meeting

Date : 20 June 2025 (Friday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Conference Room, Department of Health, 21/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

## Three main items on the Agenda -

- ◆ HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2024
- ◆ Evaluation of the inaugural HIV Testing Month in Hong Kong
- ◆ The re-engineered model for community engagement

## A Summary of the 70<sup>th</sup> CFA Meeting held on 25 April 2025

### HIV Epidemiology in Hong Kong 2024

DH briefed members on the HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2024. There were 365 new cases of HIV infection in 2024, bringing the cumulative total to 12 403. The number of new cases has declined for nine consecutive years from the peak of 725 cases in 2015 by a total of 49.7%. The rate of decline in the number of new MSM cases has moderated in recent years, and the decline has ceased in 2024. Among heterosexuals, the number of new cases has declined at a slower rate and the proportion of late presenters has been higher than that among MSM. Late presenters were generally older, more likely to belong to the heterosexual high-risk group (especially heterosexual men), and diagnosed in the public setting. The proportion of non-key population also shows an increasing trend over the past 10 years from 26.1% in 2015 to 33.9% in 2024. Besides, a total of 74 AIDS cases were reported in 2024, bringing the cumulative number of cases to 2 557. DH would keep monitoring the epidemiology of local HIV and strive to coordinate the efforts in combating the HIV epidemic.

### HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey 2024 for Female Sex Workers

DH updated members on the latest situation relating to transmission risk of HIV and STIs among female sex workers (FSWs) in Hong Kong by analysing data collected from the HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) conducted between mid-November 2024 and end-January 2025. The study recruited a convenient sample of 275 FSWs with the support of four NGOs, namely Action for Reach Out, Community Health Organisation for Intervention (C.H.O.I.C.E), Care and Empowerment, SideBySide and Teen's Key. The positivity rate of HIV among FSW respondents was 0.73%. Overall, the percentage of condom use during last sex was generally satisfactory, with 99% of respondents using condoms when having sex with non-regular clients. However, respondents' knowledge of HIV and STIs and awareness of HIV/STI prevention have room for improvement. In particular, respondents who were newer to the industry were less knowledgeable about HIV/STI, less likely to consistently use condoms, and had lower HIV/STI testing rates. This indicated the existing gaps in health literacy, awareness towards HIV/AIDS, and awareness towards access to testing services, and highlighted the need for continued advocacy and education efforts among this population.

### Experience sharing by (i) Midnight Blue; (ii) Gay Harmony

Midnight Blue, formerly known as the "Male Sex Worker Group" under 紫藤, is an organisation that focuses on the rights of sex workers. Since becoming an independent NGO in 2006, it has targeted on protecting the rights of male and transgender sex workers, promoting gender equality, and advocating for the rights of sexual minorities. It has been receiving funding from the AIDS Trust Fund (ATF) to carry out HIV prevention work in the community since its establishment. Its main work includes sexual health and safety risk interventions, community support, legal support, public education.

Gay Harmony was established in February 2009 to serve and support the gay community. Its main work are divided into two categories: 1. For the gender-diverse community, it mainly provides sexual health education, mental and physical health information, identity recognition and community rights advocacy; 2. for general youth and the public, it promotes public education on sexual health, gender diversity and human rights. The organisation has been funded by ATF to implement projects since March 2019.

## Arrangement for attending CFA as observers

The following arrangement was agreed during the CFA Meeting held in March 2012 -

- a. Upon the Convener's invitation/agreement, people who are interested to take part as observer might attend the whole or certain sessions of the meeting and speak up in the meeting at the Convener's discretion;
- b. The CFA Secretariat would announce the agenda on the ACA's website (in the ACA Newsfile) prior to each CFA Meeting. Interested parties could put up their requests to the CFA Secretariat for consideration;
- c. In case of over subscription, the CFA Secretariat would work out the list of participants by adopting a fair procedure deemed appropriate;
- d. Despite of this new administrative arrangement, the meeting would continue to be conducted in Cantonese only; and
- e. At the same time, the CFA Secretariat could invite relevant stakeholders to attend the meeting if deemed appropriate.

## 71<sup>st</sup> CFA Meeting

Date : 29 August 2025 (Friday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Activity Area, Red Ribbon Centre  
2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic  
200 Junction Road East, Kowloon

### Three main items on the Agenda

- ◆ The HIV Testing Month: Evaluation and Way Forward
- ◆ The Re-engineered Model for Community Engagement in Local HIV Responses
- ◆ Experience sharing by non-governmental organisations
  - (i) Quarks
  - (ii) The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (BGCA)

## Invitation

Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 71<sup>st</sup> CFA Meeting to be held on 29 August 2025, please complete the application form (available for download from [https://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa\\_observers\\_form.pdf](https://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa_observers_form.pdf)) and send the completed form to the CFA Secretariat by **15 August 2025**. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

CFA Secretariat



## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Sexually Transmitted Infection Research Seminar

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Sexually Transmitted Infection Research Seminar was successfully held in Guangzhou from May 21 to 22, 2025.

The discussions covered various important topics, including the epidemiology of major STIs in our neighbouring region and its prevention and control strategies, vaccine efficacy, drug resistance surveillance monitoring, and applications of artificial intelligence.

Representatives from the DH attended the meeting and presented “HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey 2024 for Female Sex Workers” and “Sexually Transmitted Infection Care and Incidence in Hong Kong”. The seminar strengthened communication and collaboration among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in the joint prevention and control of STIs and aimed at enhancing public health development in the region.





## Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) 2025

CROI 2025 was held in San Francisco, the United States of America from 9th to 12th March, 2025. The conference provided a comprehensive update about treatment of HIV, treatment of sexual transmitted disease, common co-morbidities and co-infections, as well as the prevention of STI and care delivery model to people living in HIV. There were both verbal and poster presentations on the recent advances and research findings internationally.

A representative from the DH attended the conference to obtain updates in recent advances in the field. The conference has equipped our colleague with updated knowledge and provided insights into ways to further streamlining the HIV clinical service in SPP.





## Training Workshop on Basic Knowledge of HIV/AIDS & STIs for NGO Staff 2025

To share updated knowledge on HIV/AIDS and STIs and their associated conditions, Red Ribbon Centre organised the annual NGO training workshop on 17 June 2025. This one-day training workshop was held in hybrid mode with over 70 attendance.

The morning session covered basic knowledge of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections, as well as a brief introduction of clinical services provided by Special Preventive Programme. Speakers included Dr NG Siu-tim and Ms CHAN Mei-ling from the Kowloon Bay Integrated Treatment Centre, Dr Zenith WU from the Viral Hepatitis Control Office, Ms WONG Kit-sum from the Yau Ma Tei Integrated Treatment Centre and Dr CHENG kim-fung from Social Hygiene Service.

The afternoon session covered HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis and post-exposure prophylaxis, NGO sharing and embracing a compassionate approach in supporting individuals living with or at risk of HIV. Speakers included Dr Alfred SIT from the Yau Ma Tei Integrated Treatment Centre, Dr Alex CHAN, Mr Lokman LEUNG & Ms Koala WONG from the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation, and Dr Carmen NG from the Kowloon Bay Integrated Treatment Centre.

