

# ACA NEWSFILE

(Publication of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS)



## Editorial Board

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Department of Health

**HIV Testing Service**

**AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211**

[www.hivtest.gov.hk](http://www.hivtest.gov.hk)

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## ~ Calendar ~

131st ACA Meeting  
3 March 2026

## 全球同抗愛滋病運動 2025 WORLD AIDS CAMPAIGN 2025

# HIV 測試月 Testing Month



Following the success of last year's initiative, the Department of Health (DH) launches “**HIV Testing Month 2025**” this December to raise public awareness of HIV prevention and promote the normalisation of HIV testing.

The inaugural campaign in 2024 recorded encouraging outcomes: around **40% of participants were first-time testers**, and **eight HIV infections were identified**, including **two late presenters**. Building on this momentum, DH is continuing the campaign in collaboration with 26 partner organisations under the theme “*For Your Health, Get Tested for HIV.*” To enhance accessibility, a **testing calendar** has been introduced on the HIV Testing website. This calendar consolidates testing schedules from DH and NGOs, providing the public with convenient access to a wide range of testing services.



## World AIDS Campaign 2025

The first day of December each year marks “*World AIDS Day*”, dedicated to raising public awareness of HIV and support for people with HIV. This year, the **Red Ribbon Centre (RRC)** organised a health exhibition themed “*Insights into HIV/AIDS and Real Stories*” on 27-28 December at Central Market.

The exhibition featured interactive panels introducing essential facts about HIV, alongside strong community elements:

- A “**Messages wall**” showcasing real stories from people living with HIV, their friends and families, as well as reflections from frontline AIDS service workers.
- “**Art displays**” contributed by community organisations, fostering deeper understanding and acceptance of people living with HIV.

Through these diverse formats, the campaign sought to strengthen public knowledge, encourage empathy, and promote inclusivity in support of those affected by HIV/AIDS.



## Partnership Programme for Community Engagement

In line with the 2025 directive to restructure the funding support framework for HIV-related preventive and care services, DH will launch the Partnership Programme for Community Engagement in 2026 to strengthen collaboration with NGOs in service delivery.

Under this initiative, two pilot programmes will be introduced:

- Priority Populations Testing and Counselling Programme
- PLHIV Support Services Programme

To brief NGOs on programme details and application procedures, DH conducted a briefing session on 18 November 2025, which attracted 28 participants from 15 NGOs, reflecting strong interest from the community sector. Formal invitation documents will be issued shortly to NGOs for proposal submission.



## The 8<sup>th</sup> AIDS Forum of Beijing, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan

The 8<sup>th</sup> AIDS Forum of Beijing, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan was held in Macau from 6 to 7 December 2025. This biennial forum provided a platform for UNAIDS officials, government representatives and NGO partners from the four regions to review and discuss the experiences from the latest HIV programmes. The event also fostered networking opportunities with community stakeholders and UNAIDS officials, contributing to Hong Kong's ongoing efforts to strengthen community engagement in HIV prevention and care.

The Forum addressed a wide range of topics, including: the current landscape of HIV prevention and control across four regions, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), person-centred approach in HIV care, integrated support for PLHIV and the use of artificial intelligence in HIV response.

Hong Kong representatives played an active role in the programme:

- Dr Bonnie WONG, Consultant (SPP)/DH, officiated at the event and delivered a presentation on the current landscape of HIV prevention and control in Hong Kong.
- Prof SUEN Yiu-tung, ACA member, presented “*rethinking PrEP and Stigma*”.
- Dr Donald KWAN, ACA member, shared insights on “*The Application of Artificial Intelligence to the Epidemiological Analysis of HIV/AIDS*”.



Kick-off ceremony



Dr Bonnie WONG, Con(SPP), exchanged views with Dr CHEN Zhongdan, Senior Technical Officer of the WHO Office in China, on Hong Kong's progress in achieving triple elimination.



Dr Bonnie WONG, Con(SPP), presented the current landscape of HIV prevention and control in Hong Kong.



Prof YT SUEN enlightened the audiences on the various dimensions of PrEP stigma.

## “HIV/AIDS conference 2025: Reframing HIV Prevention and Care” organised by C.H.O.I.C.E.

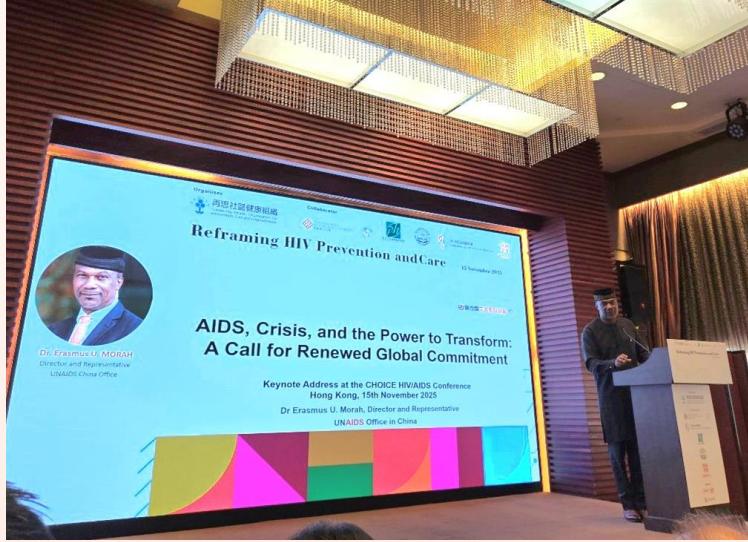
The 2025 HIV/AIDS Conference themed “*Reframing HIV Prevention and Care*”, was held on 15 November 2025. Organised annually by C.H.O.I.C.E., the conference brought together local and regional experts to exchange insights on the latest developments in HIV prevention and care.

The programme opened with remarks by Dr KM HO, Chairman of ACA, followed by an opening address from Dr Edwin TSUI, Controller of the Centre for Health Protection, DH. Key presentations included:

- Dr Heather TO, Senior Medical and Health Officer (SPP), DH - “*People-centred HIV prevention and care – where are we now?*”
- Dr Jacky CHAN, ACA member - “*Living and thriving with HIV: The Power of Modern Medicine*”.

The conference also featured contributions from HIV experts in Hong Kong, alongside representatives from the **UNAIDS Office in China and Guangzhou**, who shared insights on the latest HIV/AIDS prevention and care strategies to enhance patient care.





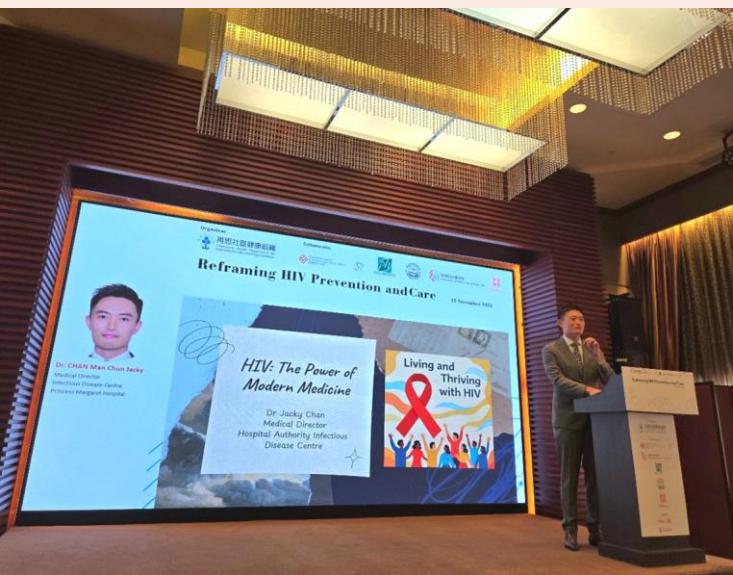
Dr Erasmus U Morah, Director and Representative of the UNAIDS China Office, presented the keynote speech, "From Crisis to Opportunity: Sustaining the Global HIV Response Through Unity and Innovation."



Dr Edwin TSUI, CCHP of DH, exchanges views with Dr Erasmus MORAH from the UNAIDS Office in China on advancing HIV response.



In her presentation "People-centred HIV prevention and care – where are we now?" Dr Heather TO presented the DH's initiatives, including The Commons, a one-stop sexual health service for sexual minorities.



Dr Jacky Chan presented "Living and thriving with HIV: The Power of Modern Medicine", outlining the journey of medical advances in HIV medicine.

## Hong Kong Pride Parade 2025

The current HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong remains characterised by a **men who have sex with men (MSM)** concentrated epidemic, with MSM accounting for **over half of newly reported HIV cases in 2024**. This underscores the importance of sustained HIV prevention efforts targeting this community.

To raise awareness of HIV testing and promote “**The Commons**”, the one-stop sexual health services for sexual minorities, RRC hosted a health education booth at the “**Hong Kong Pride Parade 2025**”- one of the largest LGBT+ events in Hong Kong - held at *The Wave, Kwun Tong* on 23 November 2025.

The booth featured an interactive tic-tac-toe game designed to enhance participants’ understanding of HIV/AIDS, HIV testing, and the “*U=U*” concept, while dispelling common misconceptions through engaging activities. The response was highly positive, with over 500 educational giveaway items distributed and a total attendance of 2 300 recorded.



# ACA NEWSFILE

## The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Network on Ethnic Minorities Services

With the kind assistance of ACA member Mr Eugene CHAU, DH established a connection with the **Hong Kong Council of Social Service** to participate in the **4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Network on Ethnic Minorities Services** on 5 November 2025. The network brought together frontline NGOs serving ethnic minority communities.

During the meeting, DH presented **the latest HIV situation among ethnic minorities in Hong Kong**, while participating NGOs shared experiences on culturally competent education and outreach strategies. The dialogue was instrumental in strengthening collaboration and advancing efforts in community engagement and empowerment.

