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Global AIDS Strategy 2026–2031

The Department of Health (DH) briefed members on the *Global AIDS Strategy 2026–2031: Towards Ending AIDS*, released by UNAIDS in February 2026. The strategy sets the goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 and building a sustainable response for the future. Members noted the broad alignment between global and local strategies and discussed how integration, sustainability, innovation, and data-driven monitoring could be strengthened in Hong Kong's next HIV/AIDS strategy on prevention and control measures.

HIV Epidemic Modelling for Local Strategy Development

The Special Preventive Programme (SPP) of DH has commissioned the S.H. Ho Research Centre for Infectious Diseases of The Chinese University of Hong Kong to update Hong Kong's HIV epidemiology annually over the next three years. Members were briefed on the latest modelling results, which provided updated epidemic estimates and outbreak projections. The discussion focused on sustaining antiretroviral therapy (ART) coverage to prevent a projected upsurge in new infections, and on addressing gaps among general-risk individuals to ensure a comprehensive response.

Strengthening HIV Prevention: Insights from Yau Ma Tei Integrated Treatment Centre

Since its commencement in November 2023, the Yau Ma Tei Integrated Treatment Centre (YMTITC) has served as a central hub for delivering comprehensive HIV prevention services. SPP of DH shared with members their programme experience over the first two years, highlighting the strengths of the model in providing one-stop services through *The Commons*, the AIDS Counselling and Testing Service (ACTS), and the Therapeutic Prevention Clinic (TPC).

Members acknowledged the role of YMTITC, and endorsed and commended the one-stop sexual health service provided by *The Commons* in effectively addressing the diverse needs of sexual minorities, as highlighted in the press release issued on the same day (<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202606/23/P2026062300771.htm?fontSize=1>). They further appraised the setup of the clinic as an innovative, people-centred, and pioneering service model, recognising its role in advancing inclusive HIV prevention and care.



The discussion also focused on priority directions for further optimisation, potential expansion, and strengthening linkages with community-based services and other clinical settings.

Conclusion of the 12th ACA Term

This was the last meeting of the current (12th) ACA term. Chairperson Dr KM HO expressed appreciation to members for their valuable contributions and steadfast support throughout the past three years, noting that their collective efforts had strengthened Hong Kong's HIV prevention and control framework and laid a solid foundation for the next phase of strategy development.



ACA members attending the 132nd meeting on 23 June 2026



ACA members and Secretariat staff attending the 131st meeting on 3 March 2026

02 Summary of the 73rd CFA Meeting on 24 April 2026

At the 73rd meeting of the Community Forum on AIDS (CFA), DH presented Hong Kong's HIV epidemiology for 2025. The data showed that new HIV cases have continued to decline for ten consecutive years, now standing at less than half of the 2015 peak, with the most pronounced reduction among men who have sex with men (MSM).

Members requested DH to continue providing breakdowns by place of infection (local versus non-local), maintain consistent quarterly reporting, and compile more detailed statistics on non-Chinese ethnic groups. They also asked DH to expand demographic breakdowns, where feasible, to better support research and programme planning by tertiary institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Two NGOs shared their frontline experiences. The Hong Kong AIDS Foundation introduced its *Peer Power Sexual Health Programme*, which targeted non-Chinese ethnic groups in Hong Kong. The programme delivered HIV testing, sexual health education, counselling, and outreach through partnerships with NGOs and consulates. Over the past six months, the Foundation identified five new HIV cases, underscoring the value of peer-led and culturally sensitive approaches in reaching hidden and vulnerable populations.



Teen's Key briefly introduced its services for young women under 29 who faced sexual and reproductive health crises, including young female sex workers and other vulnerable youth. Its work spanned crisis intervention, support for unintended pregnancies, counselling for intimate partner violence, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and empowerment activities. Many clients experienced financial hardship and limited social support, which heightened their vulnerability.

Over the past two years, nearly 29% of its clients tested positive for STIs, mainly gonorrhoea and trichomonas, while awareness towards HPV infection and cervical screening remained low. Members noted that Teen's Key's youth-friendly, peer-driven model had proved effective in reaching young women who did not perceive themselves as being at high risk for HIV/STI infections. They emphasised the importance of handling minors with sensitivity and strengthening collaboration between NGOs and public services to ensure comprehensive care.

@TEENSKYHONGKONG

TEEN'S KEY
HONG KONG



03 Review of the works of CFA 2023-2026

Over the course of the 2023–2026 term, CFA carried out a wide range of activities that were proven to be both fruitful and impactful:

■ Knowledge and experience sharing

Members benefited from regular presentations by DH and experience sharing by 15 AIDS NGOs, fostering mutual learning and strengthening collaboration across sectors.

■ Community-wide surveys

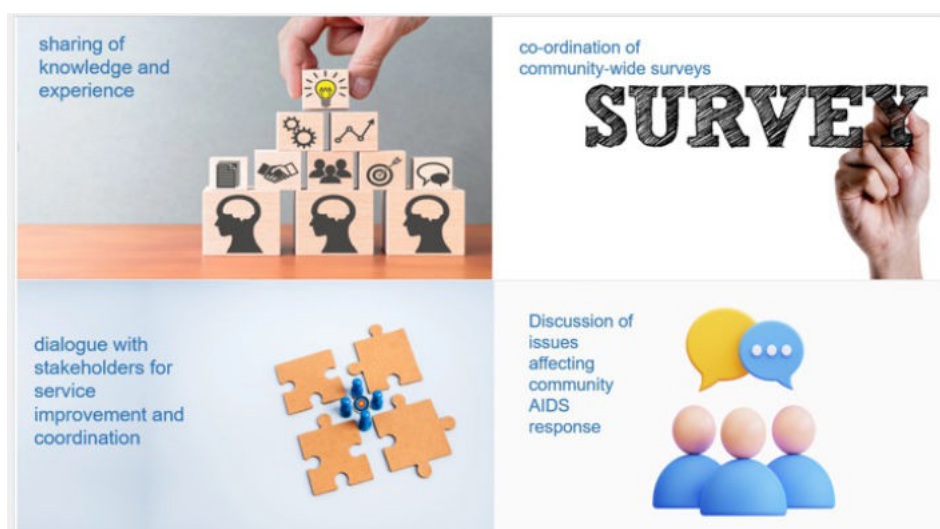
As important stakeholders in the HIV field, CFA member organisations actively participated in several major studies, including HARiS for female sex workers in 2024, the Street Addicts Survey from 2023 to 2025, and a study on the development and utilisation of an electronic sex diary. These surveys provided valuable insights into behavioural trends and service needs.

■ Dialogue with stakeholders

Engagement with stakeholders helped improve service coordination, with initiatives such as the launch of the HIV Testing Service website in 2023, the introduction of *The Commons* in 2024, HIV Testing Month, and the re-engineered model for community engagement.

■ Discussion of key issues

Members deliberated on matters affecting the community AIDS response, including medical fee reform, updates on the AIDS Trust Fund, and the implementation of the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Ordinance (Cap. 650).



ACA members attending the 132nd meeting on 23 June 2026



04 Familiarisation Visit to YMTITC, YMT Male Social Hygiene Clinic and YMT Methadone Clinic in June 2026

On 16 June 2026, ACA conducted its fifth familiarisation visit to the YMTITC, which houses ACTS, TPC and *The Commons*, alongside the Yau Ma Tei Male Social Hygiene Clinic and the Yau Ma Tei Methadone Clinic. ACA Chairman Dr KM HO, members Dr Mona LAM and Dr Donald KWAN, together with Secretariat staff, joined the visit to gain deeper understanding of integrated frontline HIV and STI services and their linkage with drug treatment programmes.

During the visit, participants were briefed on the operations of ACTS and TPC, including anonymous and confidential HIV testing, counselling, clinical follow-up and preventive interventions. At *The Commons*, staff introduced the community-oriented environment designed to provide psychosocial support, health education and engagement activities for people at risk of HIV infection. The team also observed services at the Male Social Hygiene Clinic and the Methadone Clinic, learning more about the Methadone Universal Testing Programme 2.0 (MUT 2.0).

This visit fostered closer exchange between the ACA and DH frontline colleagues on the prevention and treatment of STIs and HIV, and also provided the Council with a platform to offer suggestions and share policy directions.



Dr Heather TO, SMO(SPP)/DH, introduced the operations of YMTITC.



ACA Chairman, Members and DH staff at the waiting area of YMTITC.



Social worker of SARDa (NGO staff) briefed attendees on the counselling work carried out at methadone clinics.



Dr Barry TAM, SMO (Narcotics and Drug Administration) Kowloon, briefed attendees the operations of the methadone clinic.



Dr Francis IP, Consultant Dermatologist i/c, and Dr NG Shun-chin, Consultant Dermatologist, introduced the work of YMT Male Social Hygiene Clinic.



RRC held its annual seminar for NGO staff on 9 June 2026, continuing its tradition of equipping newly joined workers in the field with updated knowledge on HIV/AIDS and STIs. Conducted in hybrid mode, the one-day training attracted over 200 participants, with 76 participating on-site.

Morning session - Clinical updates

Medical doctors from the Kowloon Bay Integrated Treatment Centre (KBITC) and the Viral Hepatitis Control Office / SPP, and the Social Hygiene Service of DH provided overviews of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, and STIs. Nursing officers from SPP introduced HIV testing and clinical services, and explained the updated referral procedure for individuals with positive HIV testing results.



Afternoon session – Prevention and counselling

Medical doctors from the Red Ribbon Centre (RRC) of SPP shared the latest developments on pre-exposure (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP). Nursing staff of YMTITC, SPP introduced the sexual health services provided by *The Commons*. The seminar concluded with clinical psychologist Mr Dino Wong, who delivered a session on applying *LGBT+ Affirmative Therapy*.



Impact and significance

The seminar demonstrated RRC's commitment to strengthening NGO capacity and fostering collaboration in HIV prevention and sexual health promotion. It highlighted the importance of equipping frontline NGO staff with basic clinical knowledge and culturally sensitive counselling approaches.



The 3rd Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Sexually Transmitted Infection Research Seminar was convened in Macau on 3 June 2026. Following the success of the previous seminars held in Hong Kong in 2024 and in Guangzhou in 2025, this iteration brought together public health officials, medical clinicians, and researchers across the Greater Bay Area (GBA) to exchange scientific knowledge and strengthen cross-border regional networks.

DH representatives actively participated in this Seminar, featuring clinical experts and public health advocates who shared critical local data and innovative interventions:

■ Community-based Prevention:

Dr Bonnie WONG, Con(SPP), and Dr Lisa YIP, SMO(SPP)/DH, presented on “香港社区参与模式对加强艾滋病及性病预防控制的实践 (*The Practice of Hong Kong's Community Engagement Model in Strengthening HIV and STI Prevention and Control*)”. They highlighted Hong Kong's success in leveraging strong partnerships between DH and local NGOs to expand testing coverage, reduce stigma, and streamline early intervention pathways.

■ Biomedical Prevention Strategies:

Dr Heather TO, SMO(SPP)/DH, delivered a presentation titled “壹同性健康服务就 DoxyPEP 使用现况的观察及分享 (*Sharing on the Current Status of DoxyPEP Usage – Observations from The Commons, a Sexual Health Service Unit*)”. The session provided first-hand clinical insights and community data on the uptake, adherence, and efficacy of Doxycycline Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (DoxyPEP) against bacterial STIs among high-risk groups in Hong Kong.

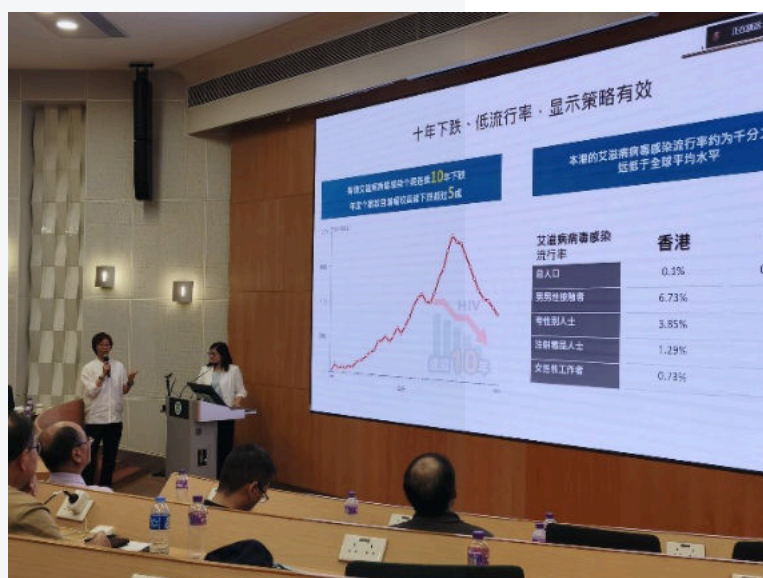
■ Epidemiological Surveillance:

Dr Brian CHENG, SMO(SHS)/DH, presented “香港社会卫生服务性传播感染发生率的更新报告 (*Updated Report on the Incidence of Sexually Transmitted Infections in Hong Kong Social Hygiene Service*)”. This session detailed the latest statistical trends and shifting patterns of major STIs (such as syphilis and gonorrhoea) within local public clinics, emphasising the vital need for robust tripartite joint-surveillance across Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macao.

The seminar successfully deepened professional synergy and strategic alignment among the three regions, reinforcing a unified public health front against STIs and HIV across the Greater Bay Area.



Speakers of the 3rd Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Sexually Transmitted Infection Research Seminar, convened in Macau on 3 June 2026.



Presentation by Dr Bonnie WONG, Con(SPP), and Dr Lisa YIP, SMO(SPP), of DH.



Presentation by Dr Heather TO, SMO(SPP), of DH.

Hosted by Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) and the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation (HKAF), an art exhibition themed "*Love - Acceptance - Self-Compassion*" was held at HKBU from 31 May to 4 June 2026. Featuring collaborative artwork aimed at fostering inclusion, self-care, and breaking prejudices, the exhibition provided a creative platform to promote understanding and compassion.

The opening ceremony on 31 May featured a keynote speech by Dr Bonnie Wong, Con(SPP)/DH, entitled "*ART and HEART, What Medicine Teaches Us about Love, Acceptance and Self-Compassion*". In her address, Dr WONG shared that care for people living with HIV (PLHIV) went beyond offering antiretroviral treatment (ART) alone, and explained how providers could express empathy to promote understanding, acceptance and support for PLHIV. She emphasised the importance of self-compassion, which help individuals stay connected to care, meet challenges without shame, and view themselves as worthy of dignity.

Other distinguished guests also gave speeches at the opening ceremony:

- Dr the Hon Edward LEONG Che-hung, GBM, GBS, JP
Former Chairman of HKAF
- Dr LAM Wai-shun, Wilson
Chairman of HKAF
- Prof HUNG Suet-lin, Shirley
Associate Director, Division of Health and Human Development, HKBU
- Prof CHAN Siu-wing, Alex
Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, HKBU

ACA member Ms CHAN Shan also shared meaningful reflections on the theme of love and the concept of acceptance, reinforcing the exhibition's message of compassion and inclusivity.

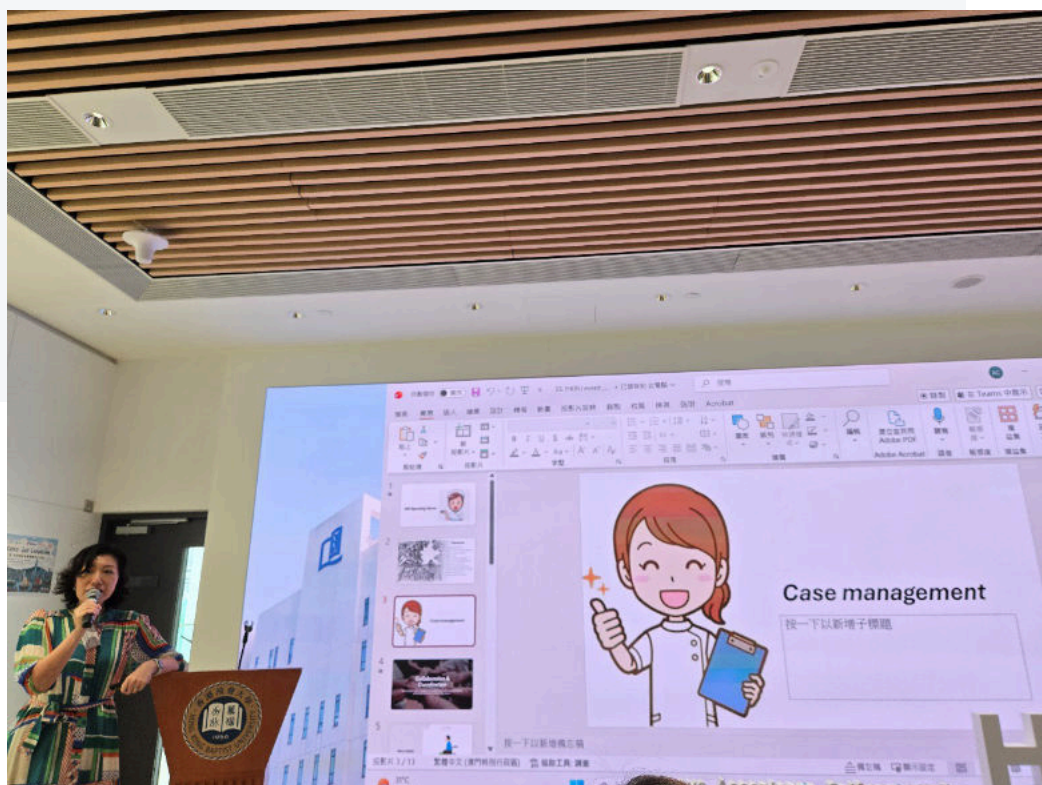


Guests attending the opening ceremony of the "Love – Acceptance – Self Compassion" art exhibition at HKBU.





Opening Remarks by Dr Bonnie WONG, Con(SPP)/DH



Sharing by ACA Member, Ms CHAN Shan, Advanced Practice Nurse and Clinic nurse-in-charge of HIV Clinical Service in Queen Elizabeth Hospital.