

## **A confirmed case of COVID-19 who is also a Senior Staff Quarters resident**

Monday, Mar 1, 2021, 17:45PM

Dear Members of HKUST,

We were informed by a CBE emeritus professor who is living in Senior Staff Quarters Tower 7 that he has been found preliminary positive for COVID-19. His wife, who is an ECE faculty member has become a close contact. Both of them have not developed any symptoms. The patient is now hospitalized, and the spouse and domestic helper will move into Conference Lodge waiting for transfer to quarantine center.

In the past week, the couple has worked in their offices daily. They usually have lunch at home, and they had lunch at University Bistro on Saturday (27 Feb). The CBE professor played tennis with friends in Sunday afternoons (28 Feb and 21 Feb), and used the LG4 gym in the evenings of Friday (26 Feb) and Tuesday (23 Feb). CMO is arranging special cleaning in the offices and other relevant campus areas, CSO will also help arrange special cleaning of University Bistro.

With the recent intensification of testing following confirmed cases, it is likely the Government will require residents in the same tower, and co-workers of the patient to have mandatory testing. We should hear from the Government very soon about the requirement. However, any member who is concerned and without related symptoms can have a COVID-19 test at the Community Testing Center, which is open every day including holidays. The one closest to campus is in the Hang Hau Community Hall. More information is available at this link <https://www.communitytest.gov.hk/en/>. Information about other testing options, including free testing at Government clinics can be found here <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html>. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should NOT go to the testing centers but should seek medical assistance at once. During weekends and holidays, campus residents who have medical needs should go to Tseung Kwan O Hospital.

Colleagues who are asked by the Government to do a COVID-19 test should work from home for 14 days, even if the result is negative. If they must come back to work after getting a negative result, they should strictly observe mask-wearing, hand hygiene, and avoid crowded places for 14 days.

Even though vaccination has started, the recent fluctuation in number of confirmed cases is a stark reminder that we must not relax any anti-epidemic measures at this time. Let us all persevere, until we overcome this pandemic.

Kind regards,

Mark Hodgson, Vice-President for Administration and Business  
Samuel Yu, Director of Health, Safety and Environment