

A confirmed case, an update on Government requirements and a reminder about prevention during the holidays

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Dear Members of the University,

We have been informed earlier today a DSTO contractor who worked at Global Graduate Tower was confirmed to have contracted COVID-19. A special cleaning has been arranged for GGT this afternoon. Contractor colleagues who have worked with the patient have been asked to take the COVID-19 test and would not come to work until results are known. More details about the case are available at the university COVID webpage <https://covid19info.ust.hk/latest-figures>

Although the infection risk is considered low, if any GGT residents are concerned and without symptoms, they can have a COVID-19 test at the Community Testing Center in the Hang Hau Community Hall, which is open every day including holidays. 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 symptoms should NOT go to the testing centers but should seek medical assistance at once. As many clinics are closed during the holidays, campus residents who have needs should go to the Tseung Kwan O Hospital.

At the same time, the Government has announced new quarantine requirements for all travelers, except those from Mainland, Taiwan and Macau, to undergo 21 days of quarantine at designated hotels <https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/en/component/k2/1567054-20201225.htm>. A travel ban has been put in place for United Kingdom and South Africa, and Canada has been added to the list of high risk region <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/high-risk-places.html>.

The new confirmed case on campus, the tightened Government regulations, as well as news reports about new strains of the COVID-19 virus which are more capable to cause infection, are all reminders that we should remain alert and strictly follow preventive measures during the holidays. The virus would not take a break, instead it would take advantage of any group gathering or relaxation to cause even more infections. Let us all remain vigilant and patient.

Under this most unusual situation, may we wish everyone a peaceful and safe Christmas.

Kind regards,

Mark Hodgson, Vice President for Administration and Business

Samuel Yu, Director of Health Safety and Environment