

[For Immediate Release]

## HKBCF Lymphoedema Care Centre Officially Opens Providing Pioneering One-Stop Care

(Hong Kong, 8th March, 2023) **Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation** proudly announces the opening of the Lymphoedema Care Centre to meet with the city's increasing demand for lymphoedema care services. The centre pledges to provide professional physical and psychological support to breast cancer patients and survivors suffering from the condition.

Established since 2005, HKBCF strives to provide holistic care services to breast cancer patients and their loved ones on their road to recovery. Lymphoedema is a common side-effect of breast cancer treatment, affecting about 30% of breast cancer patients as HKBCF has found. Breast surgery and radiotherapy can cause damage to the lymph nodes, causing lymphoedema. Patients are often troubled by swollen and painful upper limb, and even loss of confidence in body image with one arm bigger than the other. Seeing the physical and psychological pain associated with the condition, HKBCF became the first ever non-profit organisation in Hong Kong to introduce professional and holistic lymphoedema care services in 2010.

Lymphoedema care services offered by HKBCF's Breast Cancer Support Centre has developed rapidly in the past 13 years. Initially providing only lymphoedema education and exercise, the team has grown to provide a wide range of services, including lymphoedema index measurement, bandaging treatment, compression sleeve measurement and purchase, and patient support group. HKBCF's holistic lymphoedema care services, from prevention, early intervention to symptoms management, are widely recognised by society. In 2019, HKBCF stepped up to organise Hong Kong's first lymphoedema care course tailored for nurses and successfully trained nine qualified lymphoedema therapists to serve the city.

As of February this year, HKBCF has provided 67,888 sessions of lymphoedema care services to 5,896 patients. With the city's demand for such services on the rise, HKBCF decided to set up the Lymphoedema Care Centre, allocating more resources and introducing state-of-the-art equipment to perfect our lymphoedema education and care services.

Speaking at the Lymphoedema Care Centre opening ceremony today, **Chairman of HKBCF Dr. Eliza Fok** thanked members of society for their continuous support: "This year's International Women's Day marks the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HKBCF, and the opening of the Lymphoedema Care Centre adds to this special day. As a service pioneer, HKBCF pledges to provide one-stop lymphoedema care services at the centre, bringing hope and strength to patients."

**Founder of HKBCF Dr. Polly Cheung** said, "The opening of the Lymphoedema Care Centre is a milestone of HKBCF's service. The team will continue its hard work on lymphoedema prevention and management, striving to improve patients' quality of life bridging the gap

between the public and private medical sectors.”

Situated in HKBCF’s Hong Kong Centre (22/F, Jupiter Tower, 9 Jupiter Street, North Point, Hong Kong), the Lymphoedema Care Centre is run by health professionals including qualified lymphoedema therapists and nurses, providing education, assessment, treatment and psychological support to patients. For more, please visit [www.hkbcf.org](http://www.hkbcf.org) or call the centre at 2525 6033 / 2597 3251.

**Please click this link for the event press release and photos:**

<https://bit.ly/3IWutdH>

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