



**The Official Opening of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation
Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon)
“Providing Breast Screening and Breast Cancer Patient Support Services for Women
in Kowloon and the New Territories”**

With its official opening on 8 March, the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) will provide more convenient and comprehensive breast screening and breast cancer support services for women in Kowloon and New Territories. It is a fitting day for celebrating women’s health as it is also International Women's Day and the 13th anniversary of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation (HKBCF).

When the Officiating Guest, **Mrs Carrie LAM CHENG Yuet-ngor, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR**, spoke at the Opening Ceremony, she praised the HKBCF for mitigating the threat of breast cancer in Hong Kong over the years through raising breast cancer awareness, promoting breast health education and breast screening, as well as providing support services for breast cancer patients and their families. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in Hong Kong, and therefore the Government attaches great importance to preventing breast cancer and promoting breast awareness. With the opening of HKBCF Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon), women living in Kowloon and the New Territories will benefit from more accessible breast screening services and breast health educational activities. The Government and the medical profession need to collect more research studies and data to examine the suitability of introducing a population-based breast cancer screening for asymptomatic women in Hong Kong. Before reaching a conclusion, screening service providers need to explain in details the benefits, risks and limitations to women who consider a breast screening so as to enable them to make an informed decision.

Sir C K CHOW, Steward of The Hong Kong Jockey Club said, “The Club is one of the world’s top ten charity donors and has been a staunch supporter of community health and medical development in Hong Kong, donating over HK\$1.5 billion to cancer-related projects in the past decade. The Club believes that prevention is better than cure. We have been working closely with the Foundation since 2010, and have donated



over HK\$100 million for setting up the Breast Health Centres in North Point and Ngau Chi Wan to promote breast health and screening services.”

With the support of The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the construction of Kowloon Centre has finally completed. Following the construction would be the launch of ‘Jockey Club Breast Care for You Programme’. Over a period of three years, the Programme will reach 36,000 women, including providing free mammography screening services for 5,000 women in low-income group or with financial difficulties.

Mrs Eliza FOK, Chairman of the HKBCF, remarked at the ceremony the importance of prevention and control in Hong Kong’s cancer strategy, “Early detection saves lives. As the treatments and care for early stage breast cancer are simpler, early detection helps reduce trauma and medical expenses and increase survival rate.”

Mrs Fok suggests the Government to review the feasibility of running population-wide breast cancer screening in Hong Kong. To remove the bottleneck in breast cancer diagnostic services in public hospitals, the HKBCF also put forth the Public-Private partnership model to provide cancer patients with community diagnostic services, e.g. services given by Breast Health Centre of HKBCF, and thus reduce the waiting time for diagnosis and medical treatment. She also encouraged breast cancer patients and their families to seek help from the Breast Cancer Support Centre of the HKBCF.

Nurturing A Breast Health Culture in Kowloon and the New Territories

Other than the existing North Point Centre, the Kowloon Center located in Ngau Chi Wan is the second one-stop service centre the HKBCF operates. According to the latest figures of the HKBCF, nearly 60% of the respondents lived in the New Territories when they were diagnosed with breast cancer and 23% in Kowloon. There was hardly a significant breast screening habit among them as well. Over 40% had never undertaken a breast self-examination before diagnosed and 70% a mammogram. The rates were significantly higher than the corresponding figures of 30% and 50% among the patients living on Hong Kong Island.

Figures from 2011 also reveal that among breast cancer patients who resided in districts with lower household income, 80% of them had never undertaken mammography and many of them when diagnosed with breast cancer were already at more advanced stages. Taking the patients in Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong, North District



and Sham Shui Po as an example, 14% to 18% of them were diagnosed with breast cancer at advanced stages.

The HKBCF's plan to set up a service centre in Kowloon three years ago was actualized by the HKSAR Government's grant of a short term lease and the funding support from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The HKBCF Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon), which is a two-storey structure built on the current site in Ngau Chi Wan, aims to provide professional, timely and affordable breast screening and patient support services for women.

The Kowloon Centre is equipped with mammography and ultrasound machines operated by healthcare professionals, and doctor consultation will be arranged as necessary. The second floor of the Kowloon Center houses the Breast Cancer Support Center, where breast cancer patients and their families/ caregivers receive support services and also share their experiences in fighting the disease. In addition, lymphoedema index measurement and care services are also available at the centre. There is also a volunteer room for breast cancer survivors to provide support services such as manning our hotline to share their experience in fighting breast cancer with other patients.

For the past 13 years, the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation...

- Provided support services to breast cancer patients and their families for more than 117,736 times;
- Gave educational talks to 81,153 attendances;
- Provided breast cancer risk assessment, breast health examinations, doctor consultation services and diagnostic procedures 48,603 times, including free screening for 19,025 women; and detected 888 cases of breast cancer;
- Collected data from 20,333 local breast cancer patients/survivors for analysis to facilitate local patients, medical professionals, the public and the government to better understand the disease and its impact in Hong Kong

(The figures above are as of 28 February 2018)

Event photos:



The Grand Opening Ceremony of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) coincided with the 13th Anniversary of the Foundation and the International Women's Day. The Foundation was honoured to have the city's first female Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, to officiate at the ceremony and to celebrate with nearly 100 guests. Mrs Lam signed on the signature wall to commemorate the meaningful moment.





The Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) in Ngau Chi Wan officially opened on March 8, providing accessible and comprehensive breast cancer screening and patient support for women living in Kowloon and the New Territories. Chief Executive Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, Secretary for Food and Health Professor Sophia Chan Siu-chee, and Hong Kong Jockey Club Steward Sir Chow Chung-kong officiated at the Grand Opening Ceremony in the company of Dr Edwin Leong, Patron of the Foundation, Dr Polly Cheung, Founder and Mrs Eliza Fok, Chairman of the Foundation.



Chief Executive Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor toured the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) in the company of Dr Polly Cheung, Founder, and Mrs Eliza Fok, Chairman of the Foundation. She was shown different services and facilities designed to help and support breast cancer patients, survivors and their families. Mrs Lam was particularly touched by the wall of blessing cards filled with warm and heartfelt encouragement and support.



The Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Ambassadors, Ms Connie Chan Po-chu, Dr Agnes Chan, and Ms Qi Qi attended the Grand Opening Ceremony of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) today, calling for women to take good care of themselves and raising awareness for breast health. They also encouraged all to use Kowloon Centre's breast screening service and patient support.