

Annex

**Number of new cases of Eye Specialist Out-Patient Clinics under various triage categories in each hospital cluster of the Hospital Authority (HA) from 2019-20 to 2023-24**

Year	Hospital cluster	Number of new cases of Eye Specialist Out-Patient Clinics		
		Priority 1	Priority 2	Routine
2019-20	HKEC	5 090	1 837	6 802
	HKWC	3 196	1 598	4 530
	KCC	8 114	4 779	13 476
	KEC	5 416	738	11 712
	KWC	6 432	5 600	7 067
	NTEC	5 823	3 127	13 962
	NTWC	8 977	2 864	8 794
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>43 048</b>	<b>20 543</b>	<b>66 343</b>
2020-21	HKEC	4 449	2 062	6 345
	HKWC	3 263	1 461	4 391
	KCC	7 269	5 364	12 328
	KEC	5 233	2 662	9 164
	KWC	6 157	6 206	6 133
	NTEC	6 170	3 349	13 152
	NTWC	9 487	2 651	7 733
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>42 028</b>	<b>23 755</b>	<b>59 246</b>
2021-22	HKEC	4 613	2 488	7 501
	HKWC	3 136	1 583	5 464
	KCC	6 689	6 749	13 753
	KEC	5 448	4 494	9 628
	KWC	6 537	7 742	6 533
	NTEC	6 555	3 147	15 656
	NTWC	9 839	4 966	7 401
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>42 817</b>	<b>31 169</b>	<b>65 936</b>
2022-23	HKEC	4 482	3 041	7 584
	HKWC	2 454	1 777	6 669
	KCC	6 983	6 604	10 388
	KEC	5 520	5 238	10 786
	KWC	6 194	5 886	9 144
	NTEC	6 635	4 053	15 941
	NTWC	10 901	3 449	8 243
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>43 169</b>	<b>30 048</b>	<b>68 755</b>
2023-24	HKEC	4 817	3 799	8 817
	HKWC	2 433	1 714	6 607
	KCC	7 328	6 380	13 655
	KEC	5 764	5 464	12 707
	KWC	6 357	4 887	7 961
	NTEC	7 005	3 444	18 595
	NTWC	11 555	6 686	8 051
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>45 259</b>	<b>32 374</b>	<b>76 393</b>

**Number of cataract surgery cases performed  
in each hospital cluster of the HA from 2019-20 to 2023-24**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Hospital cluster</b>	<b>Number of cataract surgery cases performed</b>
2019-20	HKEC	1 838
	HKWC	3 416
	KCC	5 710
	KEC	2 756
	KWC	2 198
	NTEC	3 513
	NTWC	2 870
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>22 301</b>
2020-21	HKEC	1 713
	HKWC	2 731
	KCC	3 960
	KEC	1 243
	KWC	1 694
	NTEC	4 319
	NTWC	2 385
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>18 045</b>
2021-22	HKEC	2 402
	HKWC	2 996
	KCC	5 574
	KEC	2 985
	KWC	2 288
	NTEC	4 059
	NTWC	2 594
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>22 898</b>
2022-23	HKEC	2 309
	HKWC	2 664
	KCC	5 621
	KEC	2 699
	KWC	1 809
	NTEC	4 595
	NTWC	3 169
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>22 866</b>
2023-24	HKEC	3 417
	HKWC	3 115
	KCC	6 186
	KEC	2 821
	KWC	2 703
	NTEC	4 643
	NTWC	3 594
	<b>HA overall</b>	<b>26 479</b>

**Waiting time for cataract surgery under various triage categories of  
the HA from 2019-20 to 2023-24**

HA overall	2019-20			2020-21			2021-22			2022-23			2023-24		
	Priority 1 (P1)	Priority 2 (P2)	Routine (R)	P1	P2	R	P1	P2	R	P1	P2	R	P1	P2	R
Median waiting time (months)	1	6	16	1	6	22	1	6	22	1	7	22	1	7	26
90th percentile waiting time (months)	2	12	29	3	13	35	2	13	34	3	14	42	2	14	53

**Waiting time for cataract surgery in each hospital cluster  
of the HA from 2019-20 to 2023-24**

Median waiting time (months) for patients who underwent the surgery in the past 12 months					
Hospital cluster	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
HKEC	10	17	19	15	20
HKWC	7	9	10	13	11
KCC	23	11	19	12	31
KEC	8	9	17	17	14
KWC	10	11	12	13	14
NTEC	21	22	22	20	11
NTWC	12	13	12	12	13
<b>HA overall</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>

90th percentile waiting time (months) for patients who underwent the surgery in the past 12 months					
Hospital cluster	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
HKEC	18	28	29	38	39
HKWC	10	13	15	19	18
KCC	26	32	34	38	36
KEC	12	18	21	23	28
KWC	29	36	40	47	52
NTEC	25	26	26	25	26
NTWC	33	40	45	56	57
<b>HA overall</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>40</b>

Note:

The waiting time for cataract surgery is the median waiting time and the 90th percentile waiting time for patients who have their cataract surgeries completed in the preceding 12 months.

In view of the COVID-19 epidemic in Hong Kong in early 2020, the HA has adjusted its services to cope with the outbreak. This should be taken into consideration when comparing the service capacity of the HA in previous years. With the subsiding of local COVID-19 epidemic situation and cessation of anti-epidemic measures in early 2023, the HA has been gradually resuming provision of all of its public healthcare services to tie in with the Government's normalcy measures.

The Hong Kong Eye Hospital is located in the KCC and provides secondary and tertiary ophthalmology services to the general public through referral. As a result, the Ophthalmology team of the KCC serves a large number of patients, including those who need to undergo cataract surgeries. Hence when the KCC adjusted its services in response to the COVID-19 epidemic, more patients were also affected, resulting in a relatively large number of backlog cases as compared with other clusters. During the COVID-19 epidemic, the KCC focused efforts to handle Priority 1 and Priority 2 cases for cataract surgery. The median waiting time of patients for such surgery was between 11 and 19 months. With the subsiding of the epidemic situation, the Ophthalmology team of the KCC has been actively handling backlog cases for cataract surgery during the epidemic (mostly cases under the Routine category), in addition to Priority 1 and Priority 2 cases for cataract surgery. In fact, a total of 6 186 cataract surgeries were performed in the KCC in 2023-24, which is the most among all clusters. At the same time, such arrangement (i.e. handling more cases under the Routine category for cataract surgery) is also reflected in the median waiting time of patients who have undergone surgeries in the past year, resulting in a relatively higher median waiting time for patients who underwent surgeries.

#### Abbreviations

HKEC – Hong Kong East Cluster

HKWC – Hong Kong West Cluster

KCC – Kowloon Central Cluster

KEC – Kowloon East Cluster

KWC – Kowloon West Cluster

NTEC – New Territories East Cluster

NTWC – New Territories West Cluster