

## **Tuberculosis in the school setting in Hong Kong from July to December 2024**

For tuberculosis (TB) in the school setting in Hong Kong , data as of 15 February 2025 shows that from July to December 2024, there were 3 TB cases studying in the same tertiary institution. On further analysis, the genomic sequencing did not show bacteriological linkage among 2 of the cases, while the remaining case had no appropriate sample for the same analysis.

From July 2024 to December 2024, the Department of Health (DH) received notification of 1 620 (provisional figure) TB cases. Among which 44 cases, aged 3 to 24 years (the usual school age), accounted for 2.72% of the total notified cases in the second half of 2024. The corresponding proportion of TB cases for the age group 3 to 24 in the second half of 2022 and 2023 were 4.12% and 2.95% respectively.

DH will continue to promote awareness of TB and its prevention in schools, the general community as well as the health care sector so as to facilitate early diagnosis and effective control of this airborne infectious disease at its very source.

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