



Press Release

For Immediate Release

Hospital Authority and HKSTP Formally Launch Data Platform to support Scientific Research for Tech Enterprises in Science Park

(Hong Kong, 28 March 2024) - The Hospital Authority (HA) and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) announced today (March 28) that the 'Data Collaboration Lab' at the Science Park is now officially open to eligible innovation and technology (I&T) enterprises in Science Park for applications to use HA clinical data for research and development purposes. The HA and HKSTP will fully support the I&T companies in Science Park to enhance clinical research in Hong Kong for the benefits of patients.

The HA and HKSTP signed a collaboration agreement in September last year to commence a pilot programme. This initiative has led to the first and, at present, the only platform in Hong Kong that facilitates access to the HA's clinical data for purposes beyond academic research and development. The Science Park's two pioneering biotechnology enterprises have engaged in a trial of HA's medical data. The feedback from these two companies has been overwhelmingly positive, with a high level of satisfaction reported concerning the quality of data, the robustness of the technology platform, and the overall user experience. They have also acknowledged the considerable value of the data for research purposes.

The HA and HKSTP will officially provide access to the data platform for all eligible research institutions in Science Park – mainly biotech and healthcare companies. They can access to the HA's data platform, which contains anonymised data of around 200 000 patients from the HA database, via remote connection at designated location. The data includes patients' demographic characteristics, attendance records to hospitals or clinics, clinical diagnosis, procedures, medication to examination results etc.

Mr Dennis Lee, Senior Systems Manager of the HA, said, "Further opening of the HA data platform is an important step in promoting the development of clinical research. It allows research institutions to fully explore the potential of the clinical data in Hong Kong, and investigate the possibilities of life science research in the future. The HA will fully collaborate with the Government's policy in promoting scientific research, rendering vigorous support to scientific research development and driving the potential use of healthcare data by more scientific research institutions, in order to enhance healthcare quality and benefits the patients."

Dr Grace Lau, Head of Institute for Translational Research of HKSTP said, "Data plays a pivotal role in advancing innovation and technological development. We are immensely pleased to collaborate with the Hospital Authority to establish the HKSTP HA Data Collaboration Lab. This initiative is highly beneficial for innovative technology enterprises seeking to advance their R&D efforts, and it also promotes the translation of scientific research into tangible public benefits. We will continue to maintain close ties with government, industry, academia, and research institutions, providing the necessary support to foster the growth of the entire innovation and technology ecosystem."



The HA and HKSTP has attached great importance to the safety of patient data and privacy and there is a robust mechanism to protect the data. All personal identifiers have been completely removed. Science Park will ensure that institutions comply with the requirements of the HA when using the data and that the data will only be used with authorisation.

HKSTP has also established a Clinical Research Ethics Committee and a Data Governance Committee to ensure that when I&T enterprises utilise data, they comply with all matters related to data protection and privacy, as well as clinical research ethics. The HKSTP has embedded a series of stringent security measures to protect data security and privacy. The network is isolated from the internet to prevent unauthorised access. In addition, there are onsite personnel, surveillance systems, and a dedicated room for exclusive access.

The HA and HKSTP will continue to support the Government's policy to support and promote scientific research, and to support the research institutions so as to enhance the quality of scientific research in Hong Kong.



Photos 1: The Hospital Authority (HA) and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) announced today (March 28) that the "Data Collaboration Lab" is now officially opened to eligible innovation and technology enterprises in Science Park to use HA clinical data for application on research and development. Photo shows (left) the HA's Senior System Manager Dennis Lee and (right) HKSTP's Head of Institute for Translational Research Dr Grace Lau at the press conference.



Photos 2: Access to the “Data Collaboration Lab” at the Science Park will be provided to eligible research institutions in the Park via remote connection at designated location. They can access to the HA’s data platform, which contains anonymised data of around 20,000 patients from the HA database.

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About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) was established in 2001 to create a thriving I&T ecosystem grooming 12 unicorns, more than 14,000 research professionals and over 1,700 technology companies from 26 countries and regions focused on developing healthtech, AI and robotics, fintech and smart city technologies, etc.

Our growing innovation ecosystem offers comprehensive support to attract and nurture talent, accelerate and commercialise innovation for technology ventures, with the I&T journey built around our key locations of Hong Kong Science Park in Shatin, InnoCentre in Kowloon Tong and three modern InnoParks in Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long realising a vision of new industrialisation for Hong Kong, where sectors including advanced manufacturing, micro-electronics and biotechnology are being reimaged.

Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch in Futian, Shenzhen plays positive roles in connecting the world and the mainland with our proximity, strengthening cross-border exchange to bring advantages in attracting global talent and allowing possibilities for the development of technology companies in seven key areas: Medtech, big data and AI, robotics, new materials, microelectronics, fintech and sustainability, with both dry and wet laboratories, co-working space, conference and exhibition facilities, and more.



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Through our R&D infrastructure, startup support and enterprise services, commercialisation and investment expertise, partnership networks and talent traction, HKSTP continues contribute in establishing I&T as a pillar of growth for Hong Kong.

More information about HKSTP is available at www.hkstp.org.

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