



新界西專責 Cluster Office

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28 April 2004

Miss Flora TAI
Clerk to Select Committee
Legislative Council

Dear Miss TAI,

**Select Committee to inquire into the handling of
the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak by
the Government and the Hospital Authority**

I refer to your letter ref CB2/SC2 dated 19 April 2004 regarding the above subject.


After Dr. William IIO's letter dated 17 March 2003, NTWC had measures to reduce non-urgent elective admissions and operations to correspondingly reduce ICU demands in anticipation of SARS patients intake. These measures had been implemented before the opening of SARS wards.

However, emergency and essential services to patients with urgent conditions such as cancer had to be maintained. The demands of these patients for ICU care could not be anticipated and had to be provided when need arose.

It is the responsibility of NTWC to cater for the needs of all patients, SARS or non-SARS, requiring ICU care.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,


(Dr W. L. CHEUNG)
Cluster Chief Executive
New Territories West Cluster
Hospital Authority