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## For Immediate Release

## Hong Kong Genome Institute Publishes "Annual Report 2021-22"

(Hong Kong, 19 December 2022) The <u>Hong Kong Genome Institute</u> (HKGI) publishes its inaugural annual report. Themed "*Laying the Foundation for Better Health with Genomic Medicine*", this Annual Report 2021-22 encapsulates the many remarkable milestones HKGI has achieved in advancing genomic medicine in Hong Kong during its first year of full operations.

Indeed, genomic medicine is at the frontier of science. It is where the future of medicine lies. Understanding of our genome allows treatment plans and disease prevention to be tailormade in a highly personalised and precise manner. With the vision to *avail genomic medicine* to all for better health and well-being, HKGI has been forging ahead with impressive strides. During the year, it had:

- Established robust corporate governance under the leadership of world-renowned experts and industry veterans, defining corporate vision and strategic plan to drive long-term success.
- Jumpstarted operations from ground zero, bringing on board a dedicated team of multidisciplinary professionals, building talent pool, infrastructure, and capacity on all fronts.
- Pioneered Hong Kong's first city-wide genome project with the launch of the Hong Kong Genome Project, setting precedents for end-to-end operations that range from obtaining informed consent from patients to setting protocols and bioinformatics pipelines, managing data and more.
- Catalysed talent development for genomic medicine, enhancing genetic and genomic knowledge of healthcare professionals while attracting both local and international talents to join our rank.
- Built up network with local community and global counterparts through proactive engagement, publicising HKGI's work and facilitating exchange of knowledge and best practices.

The full "Annual Report 2021-22" is available on HKGI website (link).

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## **About Hong Kong Genome Institute**

The Hong Kong Genome Institute (HKGI), established and wholly owned by the Hong Kong SAR Government, commenced full operations in 2021. With the vision "to avail genomic medicine to all for better health and well-being" and supported by the Health Bureau, HKGI works in close collaboration with the Department of Health, Hospital Authority, medical



schools of local universities and other stakeholders to accelerate the development of genomic medicine in Hong Kong along four strategic foci: integrate genomics into medicine, advance research, nurture talents and enhance public genomic literacy.

As the first step towards achieving its vision, HKGI launched the Hong Kong Genome Project (HKGP) in 2021. As the city's first large-scale genome sequencing project, HKGP serves as a catalyst to benefit patients and their families with more precise diagnosis and personalised treatment through whole genome sequencing. It also aims to establish genome database of the local population, testing infrastructure and talent pool to address the healthcare needs of Hong Kong in the long run.

For more information, please visit www.hkgp.org/en.

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