

## **China announces new collaboration on innovative drug development for infectious diseases**

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### **Marks a crucial step in finding innovative solutions for combating major infectious diseases**

The Department of Microbiology at the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and Shanghai Institute of Infectious Disease and Biosecurity (SIIDB) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The MoU sets the foundation for the establishment of the United Research Center of Innovative Drugs for Major Infectious Diseases at SIIDB, focusing on innovative drug development for infectious diseases.

This collaboration aims to strengthen the strategic partnership between the parties and enhance cooperation through joint research projects, seminars, academic conferences, and various student exchange and experiential learning activities.

Under the MoU, Professor YUEN Kwok-yung, Chair of Infectious Diseases in the Department of Microbiology at HKU is appointed as Honorary Dean of SIIDB for a three-year term in accordance with the agreement. Professor Yuen also serves as the Henry Fok Professor in Infectious Diseases and Co-Director of the State key Laboratory for Emerging Infectious Diseases at HKU.

This initiative builds on the Department of Microbiology's collaboration with the HKU-Shenzhen Hospital in combating diseases like COVID-19, generating an impact in the Greater Bay Area.