

“HA Risk Alert” latest issue published

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The 51st issue of "HA Risk Alert" was published today (October 26) by the Hospital Authority (HA). The publication is a risk management and communication initiative to further strengthen the reporting and monitoring of medical incidents in public hospitals.

In the second quarter of 2018 (April – June) four Sentinel Events were reported, comprising a case of retained instrument after surgery/interventional procedure, two cases of inpatient suicide and a case of wrong side procedure. Among the 10 reported Serious Untoward Events, nine were related to medication error and one patient misidentification.

"Subsequent to incident review and analysis of root causes of these incidents, important lessons of patient safety are identified, while recommendations are made and shared in this publication to avoid similar events in future," the HA spokesperson said.

The publication has been distributed to all health care professionals in public hospitals for continuous quality improvement purposes. It can also be accessed by the public at www.ha.org.hk/riskalert. "HA Risk Alert" is published on a quarterly basis and posted on the HA website every last working Friday in the months of January, April, July and October. The next issue is scheduled to be published earlier, on January 24, 2019 (Thursday) to dovetail with the publication of the Annual Report on Sentinel and Serious Untoward Events.

CHP investigates outbreak of acute gastroenteritis at kindergarten-cum-child care centre in Tuen Mun

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (October 26) investigating an outbreak of acute gastroenteritis (AGE) at a kindergarten-cum-child care centre in Tuen Mun, and hence reminded the public and management of institutions to maintain personal and environmental hygiene against AGE.

The outbreak involves seven boys and 13 girls aged 2 to 5, as well as one female staff member, who developed fever, diarrhoea and vomiting since October 24. Eighteen sought medical attention and two of them required

hospitalisation for further management. All patients have been in a stable condition.

Upon laboratory testing, the stool specimen of one affected child tested positive for norovirus and sapovirus.

Officers of the CHP conducted a site visit and provided health advice to the staff of the school concerning proper and thorough disinfection, proper disposal of vomitus, and personal and environmental hygiene. The school has been put under medical surveillance.

The CHP's investigations are ongoing.

A spokesman for the CHP advised members of the public to take heed of the following preventive measures against gastroenteritis:

- Ensure proper personal hygiene;
- Wash hands thoroughly before handling food and eating, after using the toilet or after changing diapers;
- Wear gloves when disposing of vomitus or faecal matter, and wash hands afterwards;
- Clean and disinfect contaminated areas or items promptly and thoroughly with diluted household bleach (by adding one part of bleach containing 5.25 per cent sodium hypochlorite to 49 parts of water). Wash hands thoroughly afterwards;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- Pay attention to food hygiene;
- Use separate utensils to handle raw and cooked food;
- Avoid food that is not thoroughly cooked;
- Drink boiled water; and
- Do not patronise unlicensed food premises or food stalls.

The public may visit the CHP's website (www.chp.gov.hk) or call the Health Education Hotline (2833 0111) for more information.

[Illegal worker jailed](#)

An Indian worker holding a recognisance form was jailed at Shatin Magistrates' Courts today (October 26).

Immigration Department (ImmD) investigators received a referral from the Hong Kong Police Force to further investigate an illegal employment case in October. Enforcement officers arrested a male Indian worker, aged 46, who was found performing odd-job work in Kowloon Bay. Upon identity checking, he produced for inspection a recognisance form issued by the ImmD, which

prohibits him from taking employment. Further investigation revealed that he was a non-refoulement claimant. An employer suspected of employing the illegal worker was also arrested and the investigation is ongoing.

The illegal worker was charged at Shatin Magistrates' Courts today with taking employment after landing in Hong Kong unlawfully and remaining in Hong Kong without the authority of the Director of Immigration or while being a person in respect of whom a removal order or deportation order was in force. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment.

The ImmD spokesman warned that, as stipulated in section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, illegal immigrants or people who are the subject of a removal order or a deportation order are prohibited from taking any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or establishing or joining in any business. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to three years' imprisonment. The Court of Appeal has issued a guideline ruling that a sentence of 15 months' imprisonment should be applied in such cases.

The spokesman reiterated that it is a serious offence to employ people who are not lawfully employable. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for three years and a fine of \$350,000. The High Court has laid down sentencing guidelines that the employer of an illegal worker should be given an immediate custodial sentence. According to the court sentencing, employers must take all practicable steps to determine whether a person is lawfully employable prior to employment. Apart from inspecting a prospective employee's identity card, the employer has the explicit duty to make enquiries regarding the person and ensure that the answers would not cast any reasonable doubt concerning the lawful employability of the person. The court will not accept failure to do so as a defence in proceedings. It is also an offence if an employer fails to inspect the job seeker's valid travel document if the job seeker does not have a Hong Kong permanent identity card. The maximum penalty for failing to inspect such a document is imprisonment for one year and a fine of \$150,000.

Under the existing mechanism, the ImmD will, as a standard procedure, conduct initial screening of vulnerable persons, including illegal workers, illegal immigrants, sex workers and foreign domestic helpers, who are arrested during any operation with a view to ascertaining whether they are trafficking in persons (TIP) victims. When any TIP indicator is revealed in the initial screening, the officers will conduct a full debriefing and identification by using a standardised checklist to ascertain the presence of TIP elements, such as threat and coercion in the recruitment phase, and the nature of exploitation. Identified TIP victims will be provided with various forms of support and assistance, including urgent interference, medical services, counselling, shelter, temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments.

[SCS visits Invest Hong Kong \(with photos\)](#)

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Joshua Law, visited Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) today (October 26) to learn more about the work of the department and meet with staff of various grades to exchange views on matters of concern.

Accompanied by the Permanent Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Thomas Chow, Mr Law met with the Director-General of Investment Promotion, Mr Stephen Phillips, and the directorate team to get an update on the department's work in attracting overseas and Mainland direct investment to Hong Kong.

InvestHK has specialists in nine priority sectors, covering both traditional pillars as well as new and emerging industries. Mr Law said he was pleased to learn that the department assisted more than 400 overseas and Mainland companies to set up or expand in Hong Kong in 2017, creating over 5 000 new jobs.

Mr Law then proceeded to the Transport and Industrial Team to better understand how the team attracts and supports overseas and Mainland businesses from this sector to set up business in Hong Kong. He was also briefed by colleagues of the Marketing and Events Teams on their marketing strategy and promotional campaign.

Before concluding his visit, Mr Law met with staff representatives of various grades at a tea gathering to exchange views on matters that concerned them. He encouraged colleagues to continue to step up efforts in promoting Hong Kong's strengths, attracting more overseas and Mainland enterprises to set up business in Hong Kong.





[Fraudulent website related to DBS Bank \(Hong Kong\) Limited](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) today (October 26) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited on fraudulent website, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on [the HKMA website](#) for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the website concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the website should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.