

CHP investigates outbreak of upper respiratory tract infection at residential care home for persons with disabilities

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (August 22) investigating an outbreak of upper respiratory tract infection (URTI) at a residential care home for persons with disabilities (RCHD) in Kwai Chung, and appeals to members of the public and staff of institutions to stay alert and maintain strict personal and environmental hygiene.

The outbreak involves 11 male and five female residents aged 19 to 86, as well as five staff members. They developed symptoms since August 14, and 21 of them sought medical attention. One of them required hospitalisation and tested positive for respiratory syncytial virus upon laboratory testing. All of them are in stable condition.

The CHP has provided preventive advice against URTI to the RCHD, such as advising the centre to arrange cleaning and disinfection, to open windows where appropriate for better ventilation and to separate affected residents from other residents, etc. The residential care home for persons with disabilities has been placed under medical surveillance.

The public should maintain good personal and environmental hygiene against influenza and other respiratory illnesses, and note the following:

- Receive seasonal influenza vaccination for personal protection;
- Surgical masks can prevent transmission of respiratory viruses from ill persons. It is essential for persons who are symptomatic (even if having mild symptoms) to wear a surgical mask;
- For high-risk persons (e.g. persons with underlying medical conditions or persons who are immunocompromised), wear a surgical mask when taking public transport or staying in crowded places. It is important to wear a mask properly, including performing hand hygiene before wearing and after removing a mask;
- Avoid touching one's eyes, mouth and nose;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water properly whenever possibly contaminated;
- When hands are not visibly soiled, clean them with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub;
- Cover the nose and mouth with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissue paper properly into a lidded rubbish bin, and wash hands thoroughly afterwards;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from

work or attending classes at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly; and

- Maintain a balanced diet, exercise regularly, take adequate rest, do not smoke and avoid overstress.

Members of the public, particularly children, the elderly and those with chronic diseases, should consult a doctor promptly if they develop symptoms of respiratory tract infection.

[Civil Service College and Peking University's joint programme holds lecture on Chinese Constitutional System \(with photos\)](#)

The Civil Service College (CSC) of the Civil Service Bureau, in collaboration with the Institute for Hong Kong and Macau Studies, Peking University, launched an in-depth programme on "one country, two systems" and the contemporary China and organised a lecture on the topic of "The Chinese Constitutional System: the Country's Authority Structure". The lecture was delivered by the Director of the Institute for Hong Kong and Macau Studies, Peking University, Professor Chen Duanhong, at the CSC today (August 22).

In addressing the lecture, the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mrs Ingrid Yeung, said the Constitution of the People's Republic of China has established the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the national system. The Constitution has effectively safeguarded national unity, ethnic solidarity and social stability, and promoted socio-economic development and modernisation. In order to be familiar with the country, the civil service must have a correct understanding of the Constitution and the national system it set out. They must also accurately comprehend and safeguard the constitutional order of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region established under the Constitution and the Basic Law. Senior civil servants should seize the opportunity to learn the Constitution of the country, so as to fully, faithfully and resolutely implement the principle of "one country, two systems".

Around 70 civil servants at the rank of Directorate Pay Scale Point 1 and 2 attended the in-depth programme. In addition, about 100 politically appointed officials and other directorate officers enrolled and sat in the programme via video conferencing.

The programme was organised to further strengthen training for senior officials and directorate civil servants. It consists of 12 monthly lectures

in two parts: "one country, two systems" and the contemporary China. It covers a wide range of topics, such as the Communist Party of China and the contemporary China, socialism with Chinese characteristics, the theory and practice of "one country, two systems", as well as developments in contemporary Chinese society, economy, national defence, technology, and more. Distinguished scholars from the Mainland will deliver the programme and engage in in-depth discussions with participants.



[CHP investigates case of severe paediatric influenza A infection](#)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (August 22) investigating a case of severe paediatric influenza A infection and reminded the community to heighten vigilance against influenza.

The case involves a 16-year-old boy with good past health. He has presented with fever, headache, sore throat and shortness of breath since August 18. He visited a family doctor and attended the Accident and Emergency Department of Yan Chai Hospital on August 21, and was transferred to Princess Margaret Hospital for management on the same day. His respiratory specimen was positive for influenza A virus upon laboratory testing. The clinical diagnosis was severe pneumonia with septic shock. He is in serious condition

and is currently admitted to the paediatric intensive care unit.

Initial enquiries by the CHP revealed that the patient had not received seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) for this season and had no travel history during the incubation period. One of his home contacts presented with sore throat and runny nose. The CHP's investigations are ongoing.

A spokesman for the CHP said, "Influenza can cause serious illnesses in high-risk individuals and even healthy persons. Seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) is recommended for all persons aged 6 months or above except those with known contraindications. Persons at higher risk of getting influenza and its complications, including the elderly and children, should receive SIV early. As it takes about two weeks to develop antibodies, members of the public are advised to receive SIV early for protection against seasonal influenza. Please see details of the vaccination schemes on the [CHP's website](#)."

A person who gets influenza and COVID-19 at the same time may be more seriously ill and would have a higher risk of death. It is important to receive both SIV and COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible, in particular for children and elderly persons residing in the community or residential care homes. The public should also maintain good personal and environmental hygiene against influenza and other respiratory illnesses and note the following:

- Surgical masks can prevent transmission of respiratory viruses from ill persons. It is essential for persons who are symptomatic (even if having mild symptoms) to wear a surgical mask;
- For high-risk persons (e.g. persons with underlying medical conditions or persons who are immunocompromised), wear a surgical mask when taking public transport or staying in crowded places. It is important to wear a mask properly, including performing hand hygiene before wearing and after removing a mask;
- Avoid touching one's eyes, mouth and nose;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water properly whenever possibly contaminated;
- When hands are not visibly soiled, clean them with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub;
- Cover the mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissue paper properly into a lidded rubbish bin, and wash hands thoroughly afterwards;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending classes at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly; and
- Maintain a balanced diet, perform physical activity regularly, take adequate rest, do not smoke and avoid overstress.

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â€‹The public may visit the CHP's [influenza page](#) and weekly [COVID-19 & Flu Express](#) for more information.

Suspect returned to Hong Kong Police Force

The Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) received a 34-year-old male suspect from the Mainland authorities at the Shenzhen Bay Port today (August 22). The man was in suspected connection with a "conspiracy to commit arson" case in Wan Chai on September 30, 2019.

After Police investigation, the man was charged with one count of "conspiracy to commit arson with intent" and an alternative charge of "possessing anything with intent to destroy or damage property". The man suspectedly fled Hong Kong and was arrested by the Mainland authorities in Mainland waters in August 2020. He was absent for mention at the District Court on September 8, 2020, and an arrest warrant was issued against him by the Court.

The man was returned to HKPF after conclusion of legal proceedings by the Mainland authorities. The case is handled by Commercial Crime Bureau and the National Security Department. The man will be arranged to appear at the District Court tomorrow (August 23).

HAD opens temporary heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department is opening 19 community halls/community centres as temporary heat shelters today (August 22).

The temporary heat shelters will remain open for people to take refuge from the heat when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force. From 10.30pm to 8am the next day, the temporary heat shelters will also provide bedding and a sleeping place for people in need. The shelters are manned by duty attendants.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Island:

Central and Western –

Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –
Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –
Wah Kwai Community Centre
Wah Kwai Estate, Kellett Bay

Wan Chai –
Wan Chai Activities Centre
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –
Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –
Lai Kok Community Hall
Lai Kok Estate, Cheung Sha Wan

Wong Tai Sin –
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –
Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –
Tung Chung Community Hall
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –

Hang Hau Community Hall
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,
38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –

Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –

Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –

Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –

Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –

Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –

Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

In addition to the above heat shelters, a number of community halls/community centres can also be used for taking refuge from the heat during their operating hours. For their address details, please browse the following

document: www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf.