

CHP investigates COVID-19 preliminary case at Shing Yu House, Tin Shing Court in Tin Shui Wai

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (June 4) said that it is investigating a preliminary local case of COVID-19 with the preliminary test result involving N501Y mutant strain.

The case involves a 17 years old female patient who lives at Shing Yu House, Tin Shing Court in Tin Shui Wai. She developed symptoms including fever, runny nose, headache and loss of smell on June 2 and attended Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre on June 3 where she submitted deep throat saliva for testing on the same day. The sample tested preliminary positive. The positive result was confirmed by the Public Health Laboratory Service Branch of the DH which also found that the sample carried the N501Y mutant strain (but it is negative to E484K and L452R strains).

The patient studies at Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association Tong Kwok Wah Secondary School at 57 Tin Wah Road, Tin Shui Wai and attends tutorial class at Tak Wing Industrial Building at 3 Tsun Wen Road, Tuen Mun. On May 29, she visited the Hong Kong International Education Expo, held at Hall 1C of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. As the patient has not used the LeaveHomeSafe application, the CHP will broadcast messages to visitors of the same venues visited by the patient according to the itinerary provided by the patient.

As N501Y mutant strains carry higher transmissibility, the CHP has to carry out prudent measures on infection control, so as to stop the potential risk of spreading the virus. The CHP will arrange quarantine for 21 days for the patient's household contacts and people identified as close contacts. The Government will make a restriction-testing declaration towards Shing Yu House, Tin Shing Court in Tin Shui Wai. Residents of the building would be subject to compulsory testing on Days 3, 7, 12 and 19 counting from the day on which the case is confirmed.

Moreover, the school attended by the patient and the places she had stayed during the incubation period will be included in a compulsory testing notice. People who had been present at the above venues at specified periods need to undergo compulsory testing on or before June 6, 2021.

The CHP's investigation reveals that the patient and her household members have not received COVID-19 vaccination. Epidemiological investigation and contact tracing of the case will continue.