

Cluster of Candida auris cases in Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital (HKBH) made the following announcement today (August 14):

An 89-year-old male patient in a medicine & geriatrics ward of HKBH was confirmed to be a carrier of *Candida auris* on August 9 without signs of infection. The patient has passed away due to his underlying disease. In accordance with the prevailing guidelines, HKBH has conducted contact tracing and found one more patient, a 90-year-old male in the same ward, carrying *Candida auris* without signs of infection. The patient is now being treated in isolation in Kowloon Hospital with stable condition.

The ward concerned has adopted the following enhanced infection control measures:

1. Enhanced patient and environmental screening procedures;
2. Application of stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene of staff and patients; and
3. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the ward concerned.

The hospital will continue the enhanced infection control measures and closely monitor the situation of the ward concerned. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.