

# Cluster of Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae cases in Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital made the following announcement today (October 20):

An 84-year-old patient in a female palliative care ward was confirmed to be carrying Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) on October 16 without clinical symptoms. In accordance with the prevailing guidelines, the hospital commenced contact tracing and identified two more female patients (aged 85 and 86) to be CPE carriers without clinical symptoms. The patients concerned are being treated under isolation and are in stable condition.

The hospital infection control team has followed up with the departments concerned and the Centre for Health Protection. The following enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted in the ward:

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

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