

# 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 (November 9):

An 84-year-old female patient in a female medical ward was confirmed to be carrying Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) on November 4 without clinical symptoms. In accordance with the prevailing guideline, the hospital commenced contact tracing and identified five more female patients (aged 80 to 99) as being CPE carriers without clinical symptoms. Three patients have been transferred to another hospital and the remaining three patients are being treated under isolation 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.