

Cluster of hand, foot and mouth disease cases in Caritas Medical Centre

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Caritas Medical Centre made the following announcement today (August 30):

Four paediatric patients (three male and one female, aged 15 to 16) in a ward of the Developmental Disabilities Unit have been presenting with symptoms compatible with hand, foot and mouth disease since August 19. Appropriate viral tests had been arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for enteroviruses. The four patients are in stable condition and are being treated in isolation.

Enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted according to prevailing guidelines. Droplet and contact precautions, hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfection of the environment and equipment have also been strengthened. The ward concerned has also suspended visiting arrangements.

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