

Cluster of Human Metapneumovirus cases in Caritas Medical Centre

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson of Caritas Medical Centre made the following announcement today (May 1):

Seven patients (aged 4 to 18) with chronic illnesses residing in Developmental Disabilities Unit of Caritas Medical Centre and four healthcare staff have presented with fever and upper respiratory symptoms since April 20.

Laboratory tests revealed that four patients were positive for Human Metapneumovirus. Two of the four patients' test results were also positive for Influenza A virus. The patients are being treated under isolation. Three healthcare staff are currently on sick leave.

The hospital has informed the relatives of the patients about the situation. Infection control measures of the ward have been enhanced. All other patients and staff in the ward are under close surveillance.

The hospital has reported the cases to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.