

Cluster of Rhinovirus and Enterovirus cases in Kowloon Central Cluster

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for the Hospital Authority Kowloon Central Cluster made the following announcement today (November 30):

Three female patients (aged from seven months to 18 years old) in a paediatric ward of the Hong Kong Children's Hospital have presented with fever and respiratory symptoms since November 22. Appropriate tests had been arranged for the three patients and their test results were positive to Rhinovirus/Enterovirus. They are now treated under isolation with stable condition.

Infection control measures have been stepped up according to the established guidelines, including thorough cleaning and disinfection of the ward concerned, stringent droplet and contact precautions, and enhanced hand hygiene of staff and patients.

Meanwhile, regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of patients confirm with Rhinovirus/Enterovirus infection in a paediatric ward in the Kwong Wah Hospital. One more 10-year-old female paediatric patient of the ward concerned had presented with respiratory symptoms today. Appropriate test had been arranged for the paediatric patient and her test result was positive to Rhinovirus/Enterovirus. The patient is now being treated under isolation with stable condition.

The hospital will continue to adopt the following enhanced infection control measures according to the established guidelines.

1. Enhance medical surveillance and conduct screening of Rhinovirus/Enterovirus to the paediatric patients in the ward concerned;
2. Apply stringent droplet and contact precautions and enhance hand hygiene of staff and paediatric patients;
3. Suspend admission to the cubicle concerned; and
4. Enhance environmental and equipment decontamination of the ward.

The cluster will continue to closely monitor other paediatric patients in ward concerned. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.