

Cluster of Rhinovirus/Enterovirus cases in Siu Lam Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Siu Lam Hospital made the following announcement today (April 17):

Six patients (aged 38 to 72) and two staff members in a female ward for severe intellectual disabilities have presented with respiratory symptoms since April 11. Appropriate viral tests had been arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Rhinovirus/Enterovirus. The patients concerned are being treated in isolation and are in stable condition. One of the staff members is currently on leave, and another staff member has recovered and resumed duty.

In addition, nine patients (aged 49 to 68) and a staff member in a male ward for severe intellectual disabilities have presented with respiratory symptoms since April 10. Appropriate viral tests had been arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Respiratory Syncytial Virus. The patients concerned are being treated in isolation and are in stable condition. The staff member is currently on leave.

Admission to the wards has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the wards are under close surveillance.

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