

Cluster of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci cases at Kowloon Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson of Kowloon Hospital (KH) made the following announcement today (February 19):

An 85-year-old male patient in a male medical convalescent ward in KH was confirmed as carrying Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) on February 10. In accordance with the prevailing infection control guidelines, the hospital has screened the patients who had contact with the index patient. Three more male patients (aged 75 to 82) were confirmed as being VRE carriers without any symptoms of infection. Three of them are being treated under isolation and are in stable condition. The remaining one passed away due to his underlying disease.

Infection control measures at the ward concerned have already been stepped up according to the prevailing guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close medical surveillance.

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