

Cluster of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci cases at Kwong Wah Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH) made the following announcement today (June 27):

An 87-year-old female patient in a medical ward of KWH was confirmed to be a Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) carrier on June 15. In accordance with the prevailing infection control guidelines, the hospital commenced contact tracing. Three more female patients (aged 65, 89 and 96) of the same ward were confirmed to be VRE carriers. Two of the four patients had passed away due to their underlying diseases. The two remaining patients are being treated in isolation and are in stable condition.

The ward concerned has adopted the following enhanced infection control measures:

1. Enhanced hand hygiene and stringent contact precautions;
2. Enhanced attention to contamination-prone procedures; and
3. Enhanced disinfection and cleaning of the ward concerned.

The hospital will continue the enhanced infection control measures and closely monitor the situation of the ward concerned. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health for necessary follow-up.