# Update on cluster of Respiratory Syncytial Virus cases in Castle Peak Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of patients infected with Respiratory Syncytial Virus in a male ward for intellectual disability, the spokesperson for Castle Peak Hospital gave the following update today (June 26):

One more 28-year-old patient in the ward presented with respiratory symptoms. An appropriate viral test was arranged for the patient. The patient concerned is being treated under isolation with stable condition.

Admission to the ward 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 ward are under close surveillance.

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

# Unlicensed food factory in Yuen Long raided (with photo)

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) raided an unlicensed food factory at Shek Wu Wai, Yuen Long, early this morning (June 26).

During the operation, FEHD officers seized about 2 300 kilograms of pig skin intended for human consumption and some tools. A 26-year-old man was arrested and charged with operating an unlicensed food factory and failing to maintain cleanliness of food premises.

"The FEHD will continue to take stringent enforcement action against unlicensed food factory activities. Under the Food Business Regulation (Cap 132X), anyone operating an unlicensed food factory commits an offence and is liable to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for six months upon conviction," a spokesman for the FEHD said.

"Members of the public can report suspected unlicensed food factories by calling the FEHD hotline on 2868 0000."



## CHP investigates case of Legionnaires' disease in elderly home

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (June 26) investigating a case of Legionnaires' disease (LD), and stressed the importance of using and maintaining properly designed man-made water systems and that susceptible groups should strictly observe relevant precautions.

The male patient, aged 81 with underlying illness, who lives in a residential care home for the elderly (RCHE) in Kowloon City District, has developed fever, cough with sputum, runny nose and shortness of breath since June 21 and was admitted to Kwong Wah Hospital for treatment the next day. The clinical diagnosis was pneumonia and he is in a stable condition.

The patient's urine sample tested positive for Legionella pneumophila serogroup 1 antigen upon laboratory testing.

Initial enquiries revealed that the patient had no travel history in the incubation period.

"Epidemiological investigations with the RCHE are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any. Relevant water samples and environmental swabs have been collected from potential sources for testing," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Tracing of contacts including staff and residents in the RCHE where the patient stayed is ongoing and those identified will be put under medical surveillance. The CHP has provided health advice against LD to staff and residents, including those with weakened immunity who should use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing.

Legionellae are found in various environmental settings and grow well in warm water (20 to 45 degrees Celsius). They can be found in aqueous environments such as water tanks, hot and cold water systems, cooling towers, whirlpools and spas, water fountains and home apparatus that support breathing. People may get infected when they breathe in contaminated droplets (aerosols) and mist generated by artificial water systems. They may also get the infection when handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes.

Persons with weakened immunity should strictly observe the health advice below:

- Use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing;
- Avoid using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices. A shower may also generate small aerosols; and
- If using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices, fill the water tank with only sterile or cooled freshly boiled water, and not water directly from the tap. In addition, clean and maintain humidifiers/devices regularly according to manufacturers' instructions. Never leave stagnant water in a humidifier/device. Empty the water tank, wipe all surfaces dry, and change the water daily.

The public, including susceptible groups, should take heed of the general precautions against LD below:

- Observe personal hygiene;
- Do not smoke and avoid alcohol;
- Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be inspected, cleaned, descaled and disinfected regularly or at a frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
- If a fresh water plumbing system is properly maintained, it is not necessary to install domestic water filters. Use of water filters is not encouraged as clogging occurs easily, which can promote growth of microorganisms. In case water filters are used, the pore size should be 0.2 micrometres (µm) and the filter needs to be changed periodically according to the manufacturer's recommendations;
- Drain and clean water tanks of buildings at least quarterly;
- Drain or purge for at least one minute the infrequently used water outlets (e.g. water taps, shower heads and hot water outlets) and stagnant points of the pipework weekly or before use;
- Seek and follow medical advice regarding the use and maintenance of home respiratory devices and use only sterile (not distilled or tap) water to clean and fill the reservoir. Clean and maintain the device regularly according to manufacturer's instructions. After cleaning/disinfection, rinse the device with sterile water, cooled freshly boiled water or water filtered with 0.2-micrometre filters. Never leave stagnant water in the device. Empty the water tank, keep all surfaces dry, and change the water daily; and
- When handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes:

- 1. Water gardens and compost gently using low pressure;
- 2. Open composted potting mixes slowly and make sure the opening is directed away from the face;
- 3. Wet the soil to reduce dust when potting plants; and
- 4. Avoid working in poorly ventilated places such as enclosed greenhouses.

More information is available in the CHP's <u>LD</u> page, the <u>Code of Practice</u> <u>for Prevention of LD</u> and the <u>Housekeeping Guidelines for Cold and Hot Water</u> <u>Systems for Building Management</u> of the Prevention of LD Committee, and the CHP's <u>risk-based strategy</u> for prevention and control of LD.

### Mobile Library 7 resumes service

The services provided by Mobile Library 7 have resumed after completion of urgent repairs to the mobile library van, a Leisure and Cultural Services Department spokesman announced today (June 26).

The service points of Mobile Library 7 are Fung Tak Estate and Chuk Yuen (South) Estate in Wong Tai Sin, Hoi Fu Court in Mong Kok West, Sceneway Garden in Lam Tin and Kai Yip Estate in Kowloon Bay.

For enquiries about Mobile Library 7 services, please call 2926 3056.

### HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 18 temporary night heat shelters tonight (June 26) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's enquiries hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 18 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western -

Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern/Wan Chai —
Causeway Bay Community Centre
Waiting Lobby, 3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern — Lei Tung Community Hall Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

#### Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City -

Hung Hom Community Hall Multi-purpose Room, 1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices 42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong —
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po — Shek Kip Mei Community Hall G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin —
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
Hall, G/F, 45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong — Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

### New Territories Districts:

Islands —
Tung Chung Community Hall
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,
39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing —
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North — Cheung Wah Community Hall

Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung — Hang Hau Community Hall G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin —
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po —
Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan —
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun —
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long —
Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long —
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of the 21 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage:

https://www.had.gov.hk/file\_manager/en/documents/public\_services/emergency\_se
rvices/List\_CH\_CC\_Day\_E.pdf