

WSD Customer Telephone Enquiry Centre service affected due to power interruption

Due to power interruption, the Water Supplies Department (WSD) today (June 28) announced that the service of Customer Telephone Enquiry Centre and WSD Enquiry Hotline 2824 5000 have been affected from 7am this morning. The WSD is making every effort to repair.

Members of the public requiring WSD services may visit the WSD's Customer Enquiry Centres located at Wan Chai, Tai Kok Tsui, Sha Tin, Tai Po and Tuen Mun, or reach the WSD by email (wsdinfo@wsd.gov.hk) or the Enquiry, Complaints and Suggestion Form (www.wsd.gov.hk/en/contact-us/email/enquiry-complaints-and-suggestion-form/index.html) for enquiries.

The arrangement will remain effective until further notice. The WSD apologises for the inconvenience caused.

Very Hot Weather Warning issued

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The Hong Kong Observatory has issued the Very Hot Weather Warning.

To prevent heat stroke, avoid prolonged activities outdoors.

If engaged in outdoor work or activities, wear a wide-brimmed hat and light-coloured, loose-fitting clothes. Stay in shaded areas as much as possible.

Drink plenty of water, and avoid beverages containing caffeine or alcohol.

If you feel sick, consult a doctor right away.

CHP reminds public on precautions against heat stroke during very hot weather

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (June 28) reminded members of the public, particularly those undertaking outdoor activities, to take heed of necessary measures against heat stroke and sunburn in very hot weather.

"The public should carry and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration while engaging in outdoor activities," a spokesman for the CHP said.

"Those engaged in strenuous outdoor activities should avoid beverages containing caffeine, such as coffee and tea, as well as alcohol, as they speed up water loss through the urinary system," the spokesman explained.

"Infants and children, the elderly, pregnant women, those with chronic illnesses such as heart disease or high blood pressure, outdoor/manual workers, and individuals who are overweight are more vulnerable to heat stroke. They should pay special attention," the spokesman added.

The public should adopt the following precautions:

- Wear loose and light-coloured clothing to reduce heat absorption and facilitate sweat evaporation and heat dissipation;
- Avoid vigorous exercise and prolonged activities like hiking or trekking as heat, sweating and exhaustion can place additional demands on the physique;
- Perform outdoor activities in the morning or the late afternoon, if possible;
- For indoor activities, open all windows, use a fan or use air-conditioning to maintain good ventilation;
- Do not stay inside a parked vehicle; and
- Reschedule work to cooler times of the day if feasible. If working in a hot environment is inevitable, introduce shade in the workplace where practicable. Start work slowly and pick up the pace gradually. Move to a cool area for rest at regular intervals to allow the body to recuperate.

â€‹The public should also note the latest and the forecast Ultraviolet (UV) Index released by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO). When the UV Index is high (6 or above):

- Minimise direct exposure of the skin and the eyes to sunlight;
- Wear long-sleeved and loose-fitting clothes;

- Wear a wide-brimmed hat or use an umbrella;
- Seek a shaded area or put on UV-blocking sunglasses;
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen lotion with a minimum sun protection factor (SPF) of 15, preferably higher. Reapply every two hours if you stay out in the sun, and after swimming, sweating or towelling off; and
- While using DEET-containing insect repellents for personal protection against mosquito-borne diseases, apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent.

â€œIf symptoms develop, such as dizziness, headache, nausea, shortness of breath or confusion, rest and seek help immediately, and seek medical advice as soon as possible.

â€œThe public may obtain more information from the DH's Health Education Infoline (2833 0111), [heat stroke](#) page and [UV radiation](#) page; the HKO's Dial-a-Weather (1878 200), latest [weather report and forecast](#), [UV Index](#) and weather information for [hiking and mountaineering](#); and [press releases](#) of the Labour Department on precautions against heat stroke for outdoor workers and their employers when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force.

HKSAR Government strongly condemns Taiwan authorities for smearing Hong Kong's national security laws under pretext of raising travel alert status

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government today (June 27) strongly condemned and strongly opposed Taiwan authorities' political manoeuvre with fact-twisting smears and slanders exposing malicious intentions which, under the pretext of raising so-called travel alert status, smeared that the risks of travelling to Hong Kong had increased after the implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law (NSL) and the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance (SNSO) in Hong Kong.

A spokesman for the HKSAR Government said, "It is the constitutional duty of the HKSAR to safeguard national security. In accordance with international law and international practice based on the Charter of the United Nations, safeguarding national security is an inherent right of all sovereign states. Many common law jurisdictions, including western countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, as well as Singapore, have enacted multiple pieces of legislation to safeguard national security. Taiwan authorities turned a blind eye to the fact, made exaggerated remarks, maliciously smeared and demonised the NSL and

the SNSO, completely unmasking its double standards."

"The legal framework for safeguarding national security in the HKSAR is fully in compliance with the international standard for the protection of human rights. The NSL and the SNSO clearly stipulate that human rights shall be respected and protected in safeguarding national security. The rights and freedoms, including the freedoms of speech, of the press and of publication, and the freedoms of association, of assembly, of procession and of demonstration, enjoyed by Hong Kong people under the Basic Law and the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as applicable to the HKSAR are protected in accordance with the law.

"The offences endangering national security stipulated by the NSL and the SNSO target acts endangering national security with precision, and define the elements and penalties of the offences with clarity. The HKSAR law enforcement agencies have been taking law enforcement actions based on evidence and strictly in accordance with the law in respect of the acts of the persons concerned. The prosecution has the burden to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the defendant had the actus reus and mens rea of an offence before the defendant may be convicted by the court. Ordinary travellers (including travellers from China's Taiwan region) will not engage in acts and activities endangering our national security and will not unwittingly violate the law.

"The offences endangering national security only target an extremely small minority of people who endanger national security and the safety of Hong Kong. Safeguarding national security is fundamentally consistent with the respect for and protection of human rights. Safeguarding national security is for better protecting the fundamental rights and freedoms of HKSAR residents and other persons in the HKSAR and ensuring the property and investments in the HKSAR are protected by the law," the spokesman reiterated.

"The HKSAR Government strongly urges Taiwan authorities to stop smearing the NSL and the SNSO. The despicable manoeuvre with politics is doomed to fail."

Princess Margaret Hospital announces case concerning patient with hepatitis C infection

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) made the following

announcement today (June 27) regarding a patient with hepatitis C infection:

A 24-year-old male patient was admitted to PMH due to head injury on March 21 and transferred to high dependency unit of the Neurosurgery Department for treatment since April 11. The liver enzymes of patient deranged in the mid of June. Therefore the hospital has arranged the patient to undergo hepatitis C viral test on June 15 and the result was positive. However, the result of patient's hepatitis C viral test conducted in mid of April was negative.

The patient has been under treatment in the hospital all along therefore PMH is very concerned about the case and has followed up on possible route of transmission. After investigation, the hospital subsequently found that a 52-year-old hepatitis C carrier had stayed in the same cubicle from April 20 to May 24. Genetic sequencing showed that both patients are infected with hepatitis C with identical genetic sequence. The two cases are epidemiological linked and nosocomial infection of the 24-year-old male patient cannot be ruled out.

PMH has reported the case to the Centre for Health Protection (CHP). The hospital will continue to follow up and investigate the route of transmission with CHP. Hepatitis C virus is mainly transmitted through infected blood or body fluid. For example, sharing use of needles and syringes for drug injection, or equipment used for tattooing and body piercings. Healthcare-associated Hepatitis C virus transmission and outbreaks have also been reported worldwide, which were linked to breaches in infection control practice. The two patients concerned required frequent use of invasive catheters, having frequent blood test and intravenous injection, as well as undergoing wound care procedures due to their underlying diseases during hospitalisation has also increased the risk of infection. The ward concerned has been disinfected thoroughly. The hospital has also reviewed the infection control measures of the unit concerned, enhanced surveillance and infection control training of hand hygiene, environmental cleansing and care procedures are implemented.

PMH has prescribed antiviral drugs to the patient and explained the situation to his family. The patient is now in serious condition due to his underlying disease. Currently, antiviral drugs for acute hepatitis C are highly effective. In general, over 90 per cent of hepatitis C infection can be cured.

As a precautionary measure, the hospital has started contact tracing investigation and found that 16 patients had been admitted to the same cubicle in the same period of time, including the 24-year-old male patient and a patient who had passed away due to underlying disease. The Hospital will contact patients concerned to explain in details and arrange liver function and viral testing as well as health surveillance.

The incident has been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office through the Advance Incident Reporting System.