

# Tseung Kwan O Hospital announces sentinel event

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Tseung Kwan O Hospital (TKOH) announced a sentinel event today (June 5) as below:

A seven-year-old boy attended the Accident and Emergency Department of Tseung Kwan O Hospital for a right thumb injury in the evening of May 31. Following an X-ray examination, it was found that the boy's right metacarpophalangeal joint had a dorsal dislocation. Closed reduction was attempted but was not successful.

He was transferred to the Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine Ward for follow-up treatment the same evening. A closed reduction operation with K-wire fixation was conducted on June 1 morning. He was transferred to the recovery bay after the operation and the doctor found that the fixation procedure was mistakenly performed on the interphalangeal joint, instead of the dislocated metacarpophalangeal joint. Consent from the boy's mother was obtained for a remedial operation immediately.

The result of an X-ray and computed tomography examinations done on June 3 and 4 respectively showed that the clinical outcome was still unsatisfactory. Although it will not affect the joint's future mobility, another operation was suggested.

The hospital is very concerned about the incident. The hospital has met with the family today to explain and extend an apology, while making its best effort to offer follow-up options for the patient. The incident has been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and categorised as a sentinel event. A Root Cause Analysis Panel will be set up to look into the incident to avoid a recurrence. The report will be submitted to the HA within eight weeks.