

Update on Candida auris cases in Princess Margaret Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) gave the following update today (October 21):

Regarding the situation of Candida auris carrier cases, PMH has adopted a series of measures to enhance patient screening. Through the enhanced screening, three more patients (two males and one female, aged 51 to 71) have been confirmed as Candida auris carriers while not having signs of infection. Two patients are in stable condition and the remaining patient is in serious condition due to underlying illness. They are now being treated under isolation.

In accordance with the prevailing guidelines, the hospital will continue the contact tracing for the patients. The following enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted to prevent the spread of Candida auris:

1. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the wards concerned;
2. Enhanced admission screening for patients and environmental screening procedures; and
3. Application of stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene for staff and patients.

The hospital will continue to closely monitor the situation of the patients. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.