

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 31):

Regarding the situation of Candida auris carrier cases, Point Prevalence Survey for eligible patient groups has been carried out in all acute hospitals of the Hospital Authority. During the Point Prevalence Survey, a 93-year-old male patient of Medical and Geriatric Ward in PMH has been confirmed as Candida auris carriers while not having signs of infection. The patient is now being treated under isolation and in stable condition.

In accordance with the prevailing guidelines, the hospital will continue the contact tracing for the patient. A series of enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted to prevent the spreading of Candida auris:

1. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the wards concerned;
2. Enhanced admission screening for patients and environmental screening procedures;
3. Application of stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene for staff and patients;
4. Introduction of PCR rapid test for early identification of virus carrier; and
5. Apply designated patient use equipment to avoid cross infection.

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