

Update on cluster of Candida auris cases in Yan Chai Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on Candida auris carrier cases, the spokesman for Yan Chai Hospital gave the following update today (September 3):

Following contact tracing, two more female patients in a medical ward (aged 78 and 62) were also found carrying Candida auris without signs of infection. One of the patients (aged 78), who was an old age home resident, had been discharged earlier before. The Centre for Health Protection and the Community Nursing Services were informed for follow-up action. The other patient is now being treated in isolation and is in stable condition.

The hospital will continue the contact tracing of close contacts of the patients in accordance with the prevailing guidelines. A series of 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 enhance hand hygiene of staff and patients.

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