

Update on cluster of Human Metapneumovirus in North District Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of patients infected with Human Metapneumovirus in a male medical ward, the spokesperson for North District Hospital made the following update today (July 4):

Two more patients (aged 72 and 81) in the ward have presented with respiratory symptoms. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Human Metapneumovirus. The 72-year-old patient has been discharged after clinical assessment, while the 81-year-old patient is being treated in isolation and is in stable condition.

Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. Droplet and contact precautions, hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfection of the environment and equipment have also been strengthened. All other patients in the ward concerned are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.