

Update on cluster of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci cases at Pok Oi Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) carrier cases in a medical and geriatric ward, the spokesperson for Pok Oi Hospital gave the following update today (October 3):

In accordance with the prevailing infection control guidelines, the hospital commenced a contact tracing investigation. One more 90-year-old female patient was found to be VRE carrier while not having signs of infection. The patient is now being treated in isolation and is in stable condition.

The ward concerned has adopted the following enhanced infection control measures:

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

The hospital will continue the enhanced infection control measures and closely monitor the situation of the ward. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.