

Update on cluster of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci cases in Princess Margaret Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) cases, the spokesperson for Princess Margaret Hospital gave the following update today (March 7):

Following a contact tracing investigation, one more male patient, this one aged 76 years old, and two female patients (aged 73 and 86) in surgical wards were identified as carriers of VRE while not having signs of infection. The patients are now being treated in isolation and are in stable condition.

The wards concerned have adopted the following enhanced infection control measures:

1. Enhanced hand hygiene and stringent contact precautions;
2. Enhanced attention to contamination-prone procedures; and
3. Enhanced disinfection and cleaning of the ward concerned.

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