

# 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 patients confirmed to be carriers of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE), the spokesperson for Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) gave the following update today (July 7):

In accordance with the prevailing infection control guidelines, the hospital has commenced contact tracing and identified five more male patients (aged 57 to 92) to be VRE carriers without clinical symptoms. Two patients are being treated under isolation in PMH with stable condition, while the other three patients have been discharged earlier.

The hospital infection control team has followed up with the departments concerned and the Centre for Health Protection. The following enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted in the wards:

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

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