



社會福利署
Social Welfare Department

Rehabilitation and Medical Social
Services Branch
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213 Queen's Road East
Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Our Ref. : SWD 63/980/57III

Tel. No. : 2892 5378

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14 May 2009

Dear Operators of Special Child Care Centres,

**The Second Imported Case of
Human Swine Influenza in Hong Kong**

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) confirmed a second imported case of Human Swine Influenza (HSI) (Influenza A/H1N1) on 13 May 2009. Please refer to the letter of CHP dated 13 May 2009 for detailed information and advice.

When the first local HSI case occurs (i.e. the occurrence of a confirmed local case that has no identifiable link), the Government, to be prudent, may consider closing all primary schools, kindergartens and child care centres for up to 14 days and the arrangements will be reviewed as appropriate. The Government will make public announcement if there is a need to suspend classes. The Social Welfare Department will also advise parents to have their children stay at home during the period of class suspension. However, all child care centres (including child care centres) should remain open for providing continuous child care support to children and families in need of the service.

The Social Welfare Department will liaise closely with CHP on measures against the spread of HSI. If you notice an increase in respiratory illnesses or absenteeism among your staff or students, please report to the Central Notification Office (Tel: 2477-2772; Fax: 2477-2770) for immediate epidemiological investigations and outbreak control.

For the latest information and health education material on HSI, you may visit the CHP Website (www.chp.gov.hk).

For further enquires, please contact the Child Care Centres Advisory Inspectorate on 2835 2016, or Ms NG Wai-king, Social Work Officer (Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services)1 on 2892 5187.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Agnes LI)

for Director of Social Welfare

c.c. District Social Welfare Officers / SWD
S(CI)/SWD
Hong Kong Council of Social Services
(Attn.: Chief Officer (Rehabilitation))

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (13) in DH SEB CD/8/91/1 Pt 2
來函檔號 Your Ref :
電話 Tel. :
傳真 Fax No. :

13 May 2009

Dear Principal/Person-in-charge,

The Second Imported Case of Human Swine Influenza (HSI) in Hong Kong

I am writing to inform you that we have confirmed the second imported case of HSI (Influenza A/H1N1) today.

The patient is a 24-year-old male Hong Kong resident who developed fever and cough since 6 May 2009 while he was travelling in the United States. He returned from San Francisco to Hong Kong on Cathay Pacific Flight CX879 (row 62) on 11 May 2009. Upon arrival, he was admitted to Princess Margaret Hospital by ambulance for isolation. He remained clinically stable and his respiratory specimens were tested positive for HSI (Influenza A/H1N1) today. The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) is tracing people with opportunities to have contact with the patient.

Young children are particularly susceptible to influenza transmission and school outbreaks are common from North America experience. Spread of HSI, as with most other respiratory viruses, is particularly important in young children. Clinical severity of HSI on young people also remains uncertain.

When the first **local** HSI case occurs (i.e. the occurrence of a confirmed local case that has no identifiable link, such as travel to an affected area in the previous 7 days, or exposure to a confirmed index case with such history or his secondary contacts), the Government may consider closing all primary schools, kindergartens and nurseries for up to 14 days and the arrangements will be reviewed as appropriate.



There are also concerns about overseas students coming back to Hong Kong for

summer break. They are advised to defer their flight if they feel sick. If they develop fever on the plane, they should inform the aircrew so that our port health officials would take care of them upon their arrival. If they fall ill after returning Hong Kong, they should wear a mask and consult a doctor immediately.

The CHP has been working closely with the Education Bureau and Social Welfare Department on measures against the spread of HSI. Schools and pre-primary institutions will be informed at an appropriate time if there is a need to suspend classes. If you notice an increase in respiratory illnesses or absenteeism among your staff or students, please report to our Central Notification Office (Tel: 2477-2772; Fax: 2477-2770) for immediate epidemiological investigations and outbreak control.

For the latest information and health education material on HSI, please see our CHP website at www.chp.gov.hk.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr SK CHUANG)

Consultant Community Medicine (Communicable Disease)
Surveillance and Epidemiology Branch
Centre for Health Protection