

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (33) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.12

10 August 2017

Dear Principal/Persons-in-charge,

Another case of dengue fever

Further to the letter issued on 8 August 2017 regarding the first local case of dengue fever in 2017, we would like to draw your attention to another case of dengue fever (DF) recorded by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health yesterday and to remind schools and institutions to remain vigilant against this disease.

The patient was a 25-year-old female with good past health. She developed fever, headache, muscle pain, retro-orbital pain and skin rash since 2 August 2017. She attended a Chinese medicine practitioner on 3 August, a private doctor on 4 August and another private doctor on 7 and 8 August when she was subsequently referred to the Accident and Emergency Department of Queen Elizabeth Hospital and was admitted for management on the same day. She has been in stable condition. Her blood sample tested positive for dengue virus NS1 antigen and immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibodies upon laboratory testing.

The patient lives in a unit on Boundary Street, Prince Edward and works in Central. Her local movements before onset were mainly within her workplace and residence. Initial enquiries revealed that the patient had travelled to Vietnam during the incubation period. She could not recall mosquito bites both locally and during travel. Given her residence is in close proximity to the first local case in 2017 reported on 7 August with onset date on 29 July, this case is managed as if it is a locally-acquired infection as a precautionary measure. Investigation is ongoing.



CHP is collaborating with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and other organisations to implement anti-mosquito measures. The

public should also take part in mosquito control actions to prevent the spread of the disease.

DF is an acute febrile illness. The disease is transmitted by the bite of infective mosquito and the incubation period ranges from 3 to 14 days. Symptoms include high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, rash, muscle and joint pains. In severe cases, manifestations of bleeding tendency and even death may occur. Schools and institutions are crowded places where we have much concern with the risk of DF. To prevent DF, the following preventive measures should be taken to prevent accumulation of stagnant water and eliminate mosquito breeding sites:-

- Put all used cans and bottles into covered dustbins;
- Change water for plants at least once a week, leaving no water in the saucers underneath flower pots;
- Cover tightly all water containers, wells and water storage tanks;
- Keep all drains free from blockage; and
- Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.

Please also take note of the following measures to protect yourself from mosquito bite:-

- Wear loose, light-coloured, long-sleeved tops and trousers, and apply effective mosquito repellent containing DEET to exposed parts of the body and clothing;
- Use mosquito screens or bed nets when the room is not air-conditioned; and
- Place anti-mosquito devices near entrances such as windows and doors to prevent mosquitoes from entering indoor.

More information on preventive measures could be found in the website of CHP: <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/24/19.html>.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Yonnie LAM)
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health