

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (180) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.VIII

18 September 2015

Dear Principal/Persons-in-charge,

A probable locally acquired dengue fever case

We would like to draw your attention to a confirmed case of dengue fever (DF) and remind schools and institutions to remain vigilant against this disease.

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health confirmed a probable locally acquired case of DF on 17 September 2015. The female patient aged 59 presented with fever, headache and rash on 9 September 2015. She attended the Accident and Emergency Department of the United Christian Hospital on 15 September 2015. The patient was stable all along and is now afebrile.

The patient lives in Sau Mau Ping Estate (秀茂坪邨), Kwun Tong. works in Hiu Lai Court (曉麗苑), Kwun Tong. During the incubation period, the patient stayed at her home or workplace in Hong Kong most of the time and she recalled mosquito bites around her workplace in Hiu Lai Court (曉麗苑), Kwun Tong. According to the patient, she travelled to Huizhou (惠州), Guangdong from 1-2 September 2015. According to Guangdong health authority, although there are local dengue fever cases in some places of Guangdong this year, no known local case has been recorded in Huizhou so far. The possibility of being a locally acquired infection could not be ruled out. The CHP will continue to communicate with the Guangdong health authority.

The 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.



Dengue fever is an acute febrile viral 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 dengue fever. To prevent dengue fever, 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.

The members of the general public are also advised to protect themselves from mosquito bite by taking the following measures:-

1. Wear loose, light-coloured, long-sleeved tops and trousers, and apply effective mosquito repellent containing DEET to exposed parts of the body and clothing;
2. Use mosquito screens or bed nets when the room is not air-conditioned; and
3. Place anti-mosquito devices near possible entrance such as window.

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. SK CHUANG)
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health