

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (3) in DH CDB/9/12/6 Pt.2

January 14, 2020

Dear Principal / Person-in-charge,

**Vigilance against infection of novel coronavirus**

Further to our letter dated January 9, 2020, we would like to inform you that the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health is closely monitoring a new confirmed case of novel coronavirus (nCoV) infection reported by Thailand, and alerting you to remain vigilance.

According to information from the health authority of Thailand, the case involved a patient from Wuhan, Hubei Province in Mainland China, who arrived at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok, Thailand on January 8 and was detected to be having high fever. The patient was subsequently taken to a local medical institute for isolation and management. Laboratory tests there revealed a positive result for the nCoV on January 12. The patient has recovered and there have not been additional cases.

Students and staff should always maintain good personal and environmental hygiene to prevent pneumonia and respiratory tract infection:

- Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes; after touching public installations such as handrails or door knobs; or when hands are contaminated by respiratory secretion after coughing or sneezing.
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water, and rub for at least 20 seconds. Then rinse with water and dry with a disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, hand hygiene with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub is an effective alternative.
- Cover mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, then wash hands thoroughly.
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending class at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.



- Avoid making close contact with patients, especially those with symptoms of acute respiratory infections.
- Avoid touching animals (including game), poultry / birds or their droppings.
- Avoid visiting wet markets, live poultry markets or farms.
- Do not consume game meat and do not patronize food premises where game meat is served.
- Adhere to food safety and hygiene rules such as avoiding consuming raw or undercooked animal products, including milk, eggs and meat, or foods which may be contaminated by animal secretions, excretions (such as urine) or contaminated products, unless they have been properly cooked, washed or peeled.

For the latest updates and prevention measures, please refer to below webpages for more information:

- Webpage on Personal Hygiene  
(<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/healthtopics/content/460/19899.html>)
- Video on "Prevent diseases · Maintain good hygiene"  
(<https://youtu.be/X0OxrsgAP2w>)
- Webpage on “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent”  
(<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/102465.html>)

Please draw the attention of the students and staff in your school to the above. Thank you for your ongoing support in combating communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Albert AU)  
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health