



Communicable Disease Branch

保障市民健康 Protecting Hong Kong's health

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September 29, 2025

Dear Principal/Persons-in-charge,

Vigilance Against Chikungunya Fever

We would like draw your attention to the ongoing Chikungunya fever (CF) outbreaks reported in multiple regions worldwide, as well as in neighboring regions of Hong Kong, including Guangdong Province. We urge you to remain vigilant against the disease, and it is important to remind the staff/students to take precautionary and personal protection measures against mosquitoes, both locally and when travelling outside Hong Kong, especially travelling to affected areas. Avoiding mosquito bites and eliminating mosquito breeding sites are effective ways to prevent CF.

According to the World Health Organization, local transmissions of CF cases have been recorded in 119 countries/regions (mainly in South America, Africa, Indian Ocean countries, and Southeast Asia). As of August, approximately 317,000 cases had been reported in 16 countries/regions worldwide in 2025. Of these cases, about 135 were fatal. Please refer to the following webpage for details on areas with current outbreak or endemic areas (https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/cf_imported_cases_and_overseas_figures_eng.pdf)

In Guangdong Province, the number of cases recorded in Jiangmen City (江門市) has been increasing rapidly in the past few weeks, from less than 10 cases per week before early September, to 2,583 and 2,927 cases in the week ending September 20 and 27 respectively. On the other hand, the outbreak in Foshan City (佛山市) has largely been put under control, with about 80 cases per week in the past one month. As at September 27, Guangdong Province has recorded over 16,700 CF cases since July. All cases were mild, with no severe or fatal cases. Regarding Macao SAR, 20 imported cases and five local cases of CF have been recorded so far this year.



衛生防護中心乃衛生署 轄下執行疾病預防 及控制的專業架構 The Centre for Health Protection is a professional arm of the Department of Health for disease prevention and control A total of 23 CF cases have been recorded in Hong Kong so far this year, all of which were imported cases. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to conduct vector investigations and targeted mosquito control operations and intensify mosquito prevention and control measures at the residences of recently confirmed patients, as well as at locations visited after the onset of symptoms.

CF is transmitted to humans through the bites of infective female *Aedes* mosquitoes. Patients may experience fever and debilitating joint pain. Other common signs and symptoms include muscle pain, headache, nausea, fatigue and rash. Symptoms usually last for a few days, while in some cases joint pain may persist for several months, or even years. Severe symptoms and deaths from CF are rare and usually related to other coexisting health problems. Most patients recover fully. Occasionally, CF can result in severe complications of the eye, heart and nerves. Newborns, the elderly, and persons with underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe disease.

We would like to seek your help in the prevention of CF by taking part in mosquito control actions and adopting personal protective measures against mosquito bites. The following preventive measures should be taken to prevent accumulation of stagnant water and eliminate mosquito breeding sites:-

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
- Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
- Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season; and
- Avoid staying in shrubby areas.

Members of the public are also advised to take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

Staff/students who return from affected areas should apply insect repellent for at least 14 days after arrival to prevent mosquito bites. If feeling unwell e.g. having a fever, the person should seek medical advice promptly, and

provide travel details to the doctor. Members of the public are urged not to self-medicate, particularly with aspirin or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (such as ibuprofen), as these drugs may cause serious side effects, for example increasing the risk of haemorrhage.

For more information on CF, please visit the CHP website at https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/healthtopics/content/24/6122.html.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Albert AU)

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection

Department of Health