

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (143) in DH CDB/8/76/1
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傳真 Fax No. :

18 September 2026

Dear Principal/Persons-in-charge,

The First Locally Acquired Infection of Chikungunya Fever in 2026

We would like to draw your attention to the first local case of chikungunya fever (CF) recorded by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health yesterday (17 September). We urge you to remain vigilant against the disease and remind the staff/students to take precautionary and personal protection measures against mosquitoes. Avoiding mosquito bites and eliminating mosquito breeding sites are effective ways to prevent CF.

Case information

The patient is a 55-year-old woman who lives on Li Tak Street in Tai Kok Tsui. She developed fever, headache, and multiple joint pain at fingers and wrists on 7 September, followed by a rash on her face and body. She sought medical attention at Queen Elizabeth Hospital on 16 September, and was admitted on the same day for treatment in a mosquito-free environment. She is currently in stable condition. Her blood sample was tested positive for chikungunya virus upon laboratory testing.

Epidemiological investigation revealed that she had no travel history during the incubation period. She remained at home for most of the incubation period and frequently had activities in the vicinity of her residence. She had mosquito bites at her residence and in the areas around Cherry Street Park and Lok Kwan Street Park. She has a household contact who remains asymptomatic to date. The CHP, together with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, have conducted site inspections, vector investigations, and



mosquito control measures in the vicinity of patient's residence to minimise the risk of local transmission.

The CHP has set up a health consultation booth on the ground floor of the Tai Kok Tsui Municipal Services Building, where assessments will be provided to residents with relevant symptoms. The service hours of the health consultation booth are 10am to 5pm. The CHP has also set up an enquiry hotline (Tel: 2125 2373) which operates from 9am to 6pm daily. People who reside in or have visited the vicinity of Li Tak Street, Cherry Street Park and Lok Kwan Street Park in Tai Kok Tsui and are experiencing symptoms of CF should seek medical advice promptly or call the hotline for health advice and appropriate follow-up as needed.

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.

Please remind teachers and students to pay attention to mosquito control and eradication, and to take personal preventive measures to protect themselves against mosquito bites in order to prevent CF and other mosquito-borne diseases. The following preventive measures should also 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. If staff or students develop CF symptoms, such as fever, joint pain, and rash, they should promptly seek medical advice. 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.

As of 17 September, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 3 confirmed CF cases this year, including the above local case and 2 imported cases recorded earlier this year. 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