

本署檔號 Our Ref.: (12) in DH SEB CD/8/27/1 Pt.19

4 March 2010

Dear Principal / Person in charge / Teacher,

Apparent increase in seasonal influenza activities in Hong Kong

Most recent surveillance data showed an increasing number of institutional influenza-like illness (ILI) outbreaks. Moreover, there have been increases in the ILI consultation rate among sentinel private doctors and the number of patients with fever/respiratory symptoms attending Designated Flu Clinics. In this regard, I would like to urge you to keep vigilance and implement prompt preventive measures against influenza outbreak at your school/institution.

Kindergartens and schools are collective assembly places and young children are incapable of taking proper personal care. To prevent possible outbreak of respiratory diseases especially influenza, children with fever and respiratory symptoms are strongly advised not to attend school till 48 hours after fever has subsided. Besides, parents should record the body temperature of their children and hand in the temperature record sheet to the school everyday.

In addition, the following measures are also advised:

- Maintaining good personal and environmental hygiene
- Keeping hands clean and wash hands properly.
- Washing hands when they are dirtied by respiratory secretions e.g. after sneezing.
- Covering nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing and dispose of nasal and mouth discharge properly.
- Having a balanced diet, regular exercise, adequate rest, avoid too much stress and passive smoking.
- Avoiding crowded public places where the ventilation is not good.
- To consult doctor for medical advice promptly upon development of influenza-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat and cough.



You are reminded to monitor the sick leave pattern among your students and staff and report promptly to our Central Notification Office (Tel: 2477-2772; Fax: 2477-2770) if there is a suspected outbreak of respiratory infection in your school/institution. Staff with respiratory illnesses who are suspected to be epidemiologically linked to an outbreak should refrain from work.

For the latest information on influenza activity, please see our Swine and Seasonal Flu Monitor at the CHP website (www.chp.gov.hk).

Yours faithfully,



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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*