

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (31) in DH SEB CD/8/91/9
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11 June 2009

Dear Principals/Person-in-charge,

First Cluster of Local Human Swine Influenza (HSI) Cases in Hong Kong

I am writing to update you the latest situation of HSI (H1N1/Influenza A) in Hong Kong.

Over the past two days, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) confirmed the first cluster of local HSI cases in a secondary school involving 12 students. The cases have no identifiable link to any known source. Having assessed the latest situation, the Government's Steering Committee on Pandemic Strategies announced today a 14-day class suspension in all primary schools, kindergartens, kindergartens cum child care centres and special schools from 12 June 2009 to 25 June 2009. The Education Bureau and the Department of Health will closely monitor the development and will decide whether classes to be resumed or continue the suspension after the 14-day period.

We are now entering the early mitigation phase of the disease control strategy for HSI. Class suspension is one the important measures of social distancing to mitigate the progression of HSI pandemic, students should therefore be advised not to go to crowded places during this period unless absolutely necessary.

School management should refer to the "Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Human Swine Influenza in Schools" for measures to be adopted during class suspension and preparations for class resumption. The guidelines are available on the CHP website at:

http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/Guidelines_on_the_Preparation_and_Management_of_HSI_in_School_English_2952009.pdf

During the class suspension period, if it comes to your attention that clusters of



students or staff developed respiratory illnesses or fever, please report to our HSI Hotline 2125 1111 or Central Notification Office (Tel: 2477 2772; Fax: 2477 2770) for immediate epidemiological investigations and outbreak control.

For the latest information and health education material on HSI, please see our CHP website at www.chp.gov.hk.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. SK CHUANG)

Consultant Community Medicine (Communicable Disease)
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Department of Health



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*