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Dear Doctors,

**Update on Human Swine Influenza in Hong Kong  
And Changes of Reporting Criteria for Reporting Suspected Cases**

*Update on Human Swine Influenza in Hong Kong*

From May 1 to June 15, Hong Kong has confirmed 104 cases of human swine influenza. They were 40 males and 64 females with age ranging from 10 months to 56 years old. About 80% were aged < 30 years old. Most of them developed mild fever and respiratory symptoms. A few had vomiting or diarrhoea. None developed complications so far.

Among these 104 cases, 75 (72%) were classified as imported cases. Among them, 47 cases were coming from the North American countries - United States (36 cases) or Canada (10 cases), Mexico (1 case). Twenty-two cases were imported from Asian and Western Pacific countries – Thailand (7 cases), Philippines (7 cases), Korea (6 cases) and Australia (2 cases).

Besides the imported cases, 4 cases were related to second generation transmission of imported cases. There were also 24 local indigenous cases including a cluster of 20 cases identified in a secondary school. We have not yet determined the definite source of one remaining case.



*Changes of Reporting Criteria for Suspected Cases*

The World Health Organization (WHO) raised the level of influenza pandemic alert from phase 5 to phase 6 on June 11. According to the WHO, 76 countries have officially reported 35,928 cases of human swine influenza (Influenza A/H1N1) infection (as of 15 June 2009). The virus has already spread to many parts of the world. In view of the evolving situation, we have revised the reporting criteria (Annex).

The Hospital Authority (HA) set up eight Designated Flu Clinics daily from 9am to 5pm. **Please refer patients that fulfill the reporting criteria to either these Designated Flu Clinics or the Accident and Emergency Departments of acute HA hospitals.** Update on human swine influenza is available on CHP website.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will keep you informed of the latest development.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. SK CHUANG)  
Consultant Community Medicine (Communicable Disease)  
Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health

**Reporting criteria for suspected human swine influenza  
(Revised 17 June 2009)**

***Reporting criteria***

An individual fulfilling both the ***Clinical Criteria AND Epidemiological Criteria***.

***Clinical Criteria***

- person with acute respiratory illness, characterized by fever (temperature >38°C) and cough and/or sore throat, OR
- person with pneumonia, OR
- person died of unexplained acute respiratory illness

***Epidemiological Criteria***

- History of recent travel (7 days before onset of illness) outside Hong Kong, OR
- History of recent contact (7 days before onset of illness) with a confirmed case of human swine influenza