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11 June 2009

Dear Doctors,

Situation Update on Human Swine Influenza in Hong Kong

We would like to keep you updated on the latest situation of human swine influenza. Over the past two days, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) confirmed the first cluster of local human swine influenza cases in a secondary school involving 12 students. No epidemiological linkage to persons with respiratory symptoms coming from affected countries could be identified.

As such, we have migrated from the late containment phase to early mitigation phase. 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 Government will continue to be vigilant, closely monitor developments and will decide whether we can resume classes or continue the closure after the 14-day period.

To enhance the surveillance of local situation and to implement prompt control measures, your support is sought to report **any suspected outbreaks or clusters of influenza-like illness, especially those related to schools and institutions**. Please report to our Central Notification Office by fax (2477-2770) or by phone (2477-2772) or by CENO online (<http://www.chp.gov.hk/ceno>).

Our reporting criteria for human swine influenza remain unchanged at the moment. We shall monitor the epidemiology closely and revise our reporting criteria if situation warrants.



The public is reminded to maintain vigilance on personal and environmental hygiene and updated guidelines are available at our website:
http://www.chp.gov.hk/view_content.asp?lang=en&info_id=16717

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,



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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*

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