

本署檔號    Our Ref. : (150) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.11

20 September 2016

Dear Operator/ Manager/ Infection Control Officer of Residential Care Home,

### **Fourth confirmed local case of dengue fever in 2016**

We would like to draw your attention to the fourth local case of dengue fever (DF) this year confirmed on 19 September 2016 by Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health, and to remind your institution to remain vigilant against this disease.

The female patient, aged 59 with good past health, presented with fever, chills and skin rash since 9 September 2016. She attended a public hospital on 15 September 2016 and was admitted on the same day. The patient remained stable all along and was discharged on 19 September 2016.

The patient lives in Tin Ma Court, Wong Tai Sin. During the incubation period, the patient had no travel history, and mainly stayed at home and went to her workplace on Argyle Street, Kowloon City. She did not take any anti-mosquito measures and could recall mosquito bites at home.

The CHP is collaborating with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and other organisations to implement anti-mosquito measures. The public should also take part in mosquito control actions to prevent the spread of the disease.

DF is an acute febrile viral illness. The disease is transmitted by the bite of infective mosquito and the incubation period ranges from 3 to 14 days. Symptoms include high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, rash, muscle and joint pains. In severe cases, manifestations of bleeding tendency and even death may occur. To prevent DF, the following preventive measures should be taken to prevent accumulation of stagnant water and eliminate mosquito breeding



sites:-

- Put all used cans and bottles into covered dustbins;
- Change water for plants at least once a week, leaving no water in the saucers underneath flower pots;
- Cover tightly all water containers, wells and water storage tanks;
- Keep all drains free from blockage; and
- Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.

Members of the general public are also advised to protect themselves from mosquito bite by taking the following measures:-

1. Wear loose, light-coloured, long-sleeved tops and trousers, and apply effective mosquito repellent containing DEET to exposed parts of the body and clothing;
2. Use mosquito screens or bed nets when the room is not air-conditioned; and
3. Place anti-mosquito devices near entrances such as windows and doors to prevent mosquitoes from entering indoor.

More information on preventive measures could be found in the website of CHP: <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/24/19.html>.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. SK CHUANG)  
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health