

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (24) in DH SEB CD/8/27/6V

來函檔號 Your Ref :

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Dear Doctor,

**Influenza preparedness**

In view of the recent publicity on influenza and avian influenza, you may encounter more patients enquiring about the use of influenza vaccine and antiviral agents against influenza. We provide the following for your easy information and reference.

On the subject of influenza vaccines, the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) recommended the use of influenza vaccine to the following **priority target groups** of people:-

- (A) Elderly persons living in residential care homes
- (B) Long-stay residents of institutions for the disabled
- (C) Elderly persons aged 65 years or above
- (D) Persons with chronic illnesses
- (E) Health care workers
- (F) Poultry workers
- (G) Children aged 6 to 23 months
- (H) Pregnant women (in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester)

The SCVPD also advised all other members of the public to consult their doctors for the need for vaccination for personal protection and/or reducing the risk of transmitting influenza to high risk persons with whom they regularly come into contact.

We have recently liaised with influenza vaccine manufacturers and some expressed that they are making arrangements to seek further supplies.



On the subject of antiviral drugs against ordinary influenza, we provide the following fact sheet resource for your reference:

[http://www3.ha.org.hk/idctc/document/Fact\\_sheet\\_on\\_Antiviral\\_therapy\\_against\\_influ.pdf](http://www3.ha.org.hk/idctc/document/Fact_sheet_on_Antiviral_therapy_against_influ.pdf)

Please be reminded on the **judicious use of antiviral agents** to minimize the occurrence of drug resistance.

Finally, on the subject of antiviral stockpiling for an influenza pandemic caused a novel influenza strain, please refer to CHP's webpage at  
[http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/sas\\_recommendations\\_on\\_antiviral\\_stockpiling.pdf](http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/sas_recommendations_on_antiviral_stockpiling.pdf)  
[http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/grp\\_hp\\_guidelines\\_of\\_draft\\_general\\_guide\\_to\\_doctors.pdf](http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/grp_hp_guidelines_of_draft_general_guide_to_doctors.pdf)

Yours sincerely,



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