

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (54) in DH SEB CD/8/93/1

21 February, 2013

Dear Medical Superintendent,

**Enhancement of Laboratory Surveillance for Severe
Respiratory Disease associated with Novel Coronavirus**

Further to our letter to you yesterday, we would like to inform you to consider further enhancement of the laboratory surveillance for Severe Respiratory Disease associated with Novel Coronavirus (NCoV) in view of the latest development.

Besides promptly notifying individual suspected cases of Severe Respiratory Disease associated with Novel Coronavirus according to reporting criteria (<https://ceno.chp.gov.hk/casedef/casedef.pdf>), please also consider arranging routine laboratory testing for the following groups of patients admitted to your hospital, irrespective of their travel history.

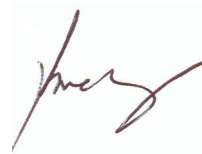
- 1) Cases of pneumonia with unknown cause (not responding to treatment), or
- 2) Pneumonia cases who require intensive care, or
- 3) Clusters of pneumonia, or
- 4) Healthcare workers with pneumonia.

Laboratory testing of NCoV is available in Public Health Laboratory Centre (PHLC) of the Centre for Health Protection. Please contact the Virology Division of PHLC for necessary arrangement.



Thank you for your ongoing support in combating communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'SK CHUANG', is centered below the closing. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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