

監測及流行病學處



Surveillance  
And  
Epidemiology  
Branch

本署檔號 Our Ref.: (66) in DH SEB CD/8/27/1 II

29 June 2007

Dear Doctor,

### Guard Against Seasonal Influenza

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that our local surveillance systems have recently detected a rising trend in influenza activity. This indicated that Hong Kong is entering an influenza season.

The number of confirmed influenza outbreaks in institutions was on the rise in the past two weeks, with 20 outbreaks confirmed between June 18 and 28. Similar rising trends in influenza activity have also been detected in sentinel surveillance networks and our laboratory since week 25 (ending 23 June 2007).

Influenza is highly infectious and capable of causing significant disease burden in some population groups where it is associated with increased risk of complications, especially for extremes of ages who are living in institutions. Therefore, you are kindly reminded to report outbreaks to the CHP should you be aware of respiratory illness in institutional settings.

For the latest information on seasonal influenza, please visit our weekly Flu Express as available at the CHP website ([www.chp.gov.hk](http://www.chp.gov.hk)).

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. SK CHUANG)

Consultant Community Medicine (Communicable Disease)  
Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health



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  
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disease prevention and  
control

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*Annex*

According to the recommendation made by the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) in May 2007, target groups for influenza vaccinations 2007/2008 include the followings:

- Elderly persons living in residential care homes
- Long-stay residents of institutions for the disabled
- Elderly persons aged 65 years or above
- Persons with chronic illnesses
- Health Care Workers
- Poultry Workers
- Children aged 6 to 23 months
- All Pregnant Women

