

本署檔號    Our Ref. : (18) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.VIII

2 June 2015

Dear Doctor,

### **The First Local Case of Dengue Fever in 2015**

We would like to draw your attention to a local case of dengue fever (DF) reported in Hong Kong and to remind doctors to remain vigilant against this disease. A local case of DF was confirmed by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today. The patient was a 58-year-old man who lived in Grandway Garden (富嘉花園) in Tai Wai, Shatin. He worked in a building (長興大廈) in Cheung Wong Road in Tai Kok Tsui.

The patient presented with fever, headache, myalgia, diarrhoea and rash since 25 May 2015. He consulted a general practitioner and attended a General Out-patient Clinic for treatment. He had subsequently attended a private hospital on 31 May and was admitted with blood tests revealed leukopenia and thrombocytopenia. Further blood sample was taken and was confirmed to be positive for dengue IgM and dengue antigen today. The patient was stable all along, became afebrile on 31 May and discharged on 2 June. During the incubation period, he did not travel outside Hong Kong. He recalled frequent mosquito bites near home.

It is highly important to search for other possible local cases in order to define the extent and geographical characteristics of local transmission and guide the government preventive and control measures. We would like to seek your help to report suspected cases presented with symptoms compatible with DF, particularly those with leukopenia and thrombocytopenia, to the Central Notification Office (CENO) of the CHP by fax (2477 2770), by phone (2477 2772), or via the CENO On-line website (<http://www.chp.gov.hk/ceno>). Please also call our Medical Control Officer at 7116 3300 a/c 9179 outside office hour for prompt investigation. Please also arrange blood test for DF. As patient during



viraemia is infectious, please admit febrile patients with DF to hospital for further management.

A telephone hotline (2125 1122) will operate from this evening to offer counselling to persons who frequented Grandway Garden (富嘉花園) in Tai Wai, Shatin or the building (長興大廈) in Cheung Wong Road in Tai Kok Tsui or the nearby places. Laboratory investigation or referral to hospital will be arranged as appropriate.

DF is an acute febrile viral illness characterised by intense headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgia, arthralgia, rash, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, or haemorrhagic manifestations. The disease is transmitted by the bite of infective *Aedes* mosquito, which mostly bites in the daytime. The incubation period ranges from 3 to 14 days. Dengue haemorrhagic fever is a severe and potentially fatal complication of DF. To prevent DF, members of the public should avoid mosquito bites both locally and while visiting DF endemic areas. More information on the disease and further information on DF situation in other areas can be found in the CHP's DF page ([www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/24/19.html](http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/24/19.html)) and the website of DH's Travel Health Service ([www.travelhealth.gov.hk](http://www.travelhealth.gov.hk)).

Thank you for your ongoing support in combating communicable diseases in Hong Kong.

Yours faithfully,



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