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Dear Doctor,

Inclusion of Liberia as Affected Area for Ebola Virus Disease

We are writing to provide you with updated information on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

As reported by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 2 July 2015, there are a total of 27,576 cases and 11,244 deaths with an overall case fatality rate estimated to be 41%.

After Liberia was declared free of Ebola transmission in May 2015, two new cases were recently reported in Liberia. According to WHO, the first case was a 17-year-old male who became ill on 21 June 2015. He attended a healthcare facility and was later discharged. He died on 28 June and was buried the same day. The case was laboratory confirmed with EVD on 29 June. He reported no recent travel history, contact with visitors from affected areas nor funeral attendance. So far, more than 100 contacts have been traced. The source of infection remains unknown at this stage and investigations are ongoing. According to the health authorities of Liberia, a second case who lived in the same village and had been in physical contact with the first case before his death was confirmed. Moreover, a herbalist who had treated the first case had evaded the authorities and was on the run.

In view of the latest development, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) has updated the list of affected areas to include Liberia in the reporting criteria of EVD as follows:

- Guinea
- Liberia
- Sierra Leone



The updated list of affected areas is also available at http://chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/evd_affected_area.pdf.

Patients meeting the reporting criteria (available at <https://ceno.chp.gov.hk/casedef/casedef.pdf>) should be isolated immediately and notified to the Central Notification Office (CENO) of CHP via fax (2477 2770), phone (2477 2772) or CENO On-line (<http://ceno.chp.gov.hk/>). Please also call our Medical Control Officer at 7116 3300 a/c 9179 for prompt investigation and arrangement of transfer of the patient to the Hospital Authority Infectious Disease Centre in Princess Margaret Hospital for isolation, testing and treatment.

For more information about EVD, please visit the following websites of the CHP and WHO: http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/34199.html and <http://apps.who.int/ebola/>. Please draw the attention of the healthcare professionals and supporting staff in your institution/ working with you to the above. Thank you for your continuous support in combating the disease.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr S K CHUANG)

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
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