

本署檔號    Our Ref. : (178) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.VIII

17 September 2015

Dear Doctors,

### **A probable locally acquired dengue fever case**

We would like to draw your attention to a confirmed case of dengue fever (DF) reported in Hong Kong today and to remind doctors to remain vigilant against the disease.

The patient was a 59-year-old woman who lived in Sau Mau Ping Estate (秀茂坪邨), Kwun Tong. She works in Hiu Lai Court (曉麗苑), Kwun Tong. She presented with fever, headache and rash on 9 September 2015 and attended the Accident and Emergency Department of the United Christian Hospital on 15 September 2015. Her blood sample taken on 16 September 2015 was tested positive for dengue IgM and dengue antigen today. The patient was stable all along and is now afebrile.

During the incubation period, the patient stayed at her home or workplace in Hong Kong most of the time and she recalled mosquito bites around her workplace in Hiu Lai Court (曉麗苑), Kwun Tong. According to the patient, she travelled to Huizhou (惠州), Guangdong from 1-2 September 2015. According to Guangdong health authority, although there are local dengue fever cases in some places of Guangdong this year, no known local case has been recorded in Huizhou so far. The possibility of being a locally acquired infection could not be ruled out. The CHP will continue to communicate with the Guangdong health authority.



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. Severe dengue is a life threatening complication of DF characterised by high fever lasting 2-7 days, haemorrhagic phenomena, low numbers of platelets and sometimes circulatory failure.

We would like to seek your help to report suspected cases presented with symptoms compatible with DF 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. Please also advise your patients with suspected DF to take protective measures against mosquito bites, especially when they are febrile.

A telephone hotline (2125 1133) will operate from this evening to offer counselling to persons who frequented Sau Mau Ping Estate (秀茂坪邨) and Hiu Lai Court (曉麗苑) in Kwun Tong or the nearby places. Laboratory investigation or referral to hospital will be arranged as appropriate.

Please draw the attention of the healthcare professionals and supporting staff in your institution/ working with you to the above. Thank you for your unfailing support in prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,



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