

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (91) in DH SEB CD/8/6/1 Pt.27

9 August, 2013

Dear Medical Superintendent,

**A Suspected Case of Human Infection with Avian Influenza A(H7N9)
virus in Guangdong Province**

Further to our letter to you dated 6 May 2013, please kindly be informed that a suspected human case of avian influenza (H7N9) was reported by Guangdong Province on 9 August, 2013.

According to the Guangdong health authority, the 51-year-old woman is from Huizhou of Guangdong Province, who currently is receiving treatment in a hospital and had history of exposure to live poultry. The sample of the patient was tested positive for avian influenza A(H7N9) virus by the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention of Guangdong Province and has been sent to the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention for confirmation. So far, no abnormality was detected among the 36 close contacts of the case.

As of 9 August, there is a total of 133 confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus, including 43 deaths were reported by the National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China. One imported case from Jiangsu Province was also reported by the Centers for Disease Control of Taiwan, making a total of 134 cases. Case fatality ratio is around 32%. The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) has been maintaining close liaison with the World Health Organization and health authorities in the Mainland China to obtain information and monitor the latest development of the disease.



Avian influenza A (H7N9) was detected in two samples of chicken in Dongguan and Zengcheng of Guangdong Province earlier this year. Since May 2013, Guangdong Province has been included in the list of affected areas. Please

kindly be reminded that the list of affected areas is regularly updated and is available at the CHP website:

(http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/global_statistics_avian_influenza_e.pdf).

Hospitals are advised to re-visit their contingency plans against avian influenza infection and to step-up infection control measures. Hospital staff should exercise appropriate infection control measure at all times and are especially reminded to enquire about exposure history in febrile patients. Any suspected case meeting the reporting criteria (<https://ceno.chp.gov.hk/casedef/casedef.pdf>) should be immediately reported to the Central Notification Office of CHP via fax (2477 2770), phone (2477 2772) or CENO On-line (www.chp.gov.hk/ceno). Please also contact the Medical Control Officer (MCO) of DH at Pager: 7116 3300 call 9179 when reporting any suspected case. DH will make arrangement to send the patient to regional public hospitals for isolation, testing and treatment. Please kindly isolate patient to minimize contact/exposure to staff and other patients and advise the patient to wear a surgical mask while waiting for transport.

For updates on the latest situation of avian influenza, please visit CHP website at http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/24244.html. Thank you for your ongoing support in combating communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to be 'SK CHUANG', written in a cursive style.

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