

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (12) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.11

7 September 2016

Dear Operator/ Manager/ Infection Control Officer of Residential Care Home,

Another confirmed local case of dengue fever

We would like to draw your attention to a confirmed case of dengue fever (DF) reported in Hong Kong on 6 September 2016, which is the third local case reported this year, and to remind schools and institutions to remain vigilant against this disease.

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health confirmed a local case of DF on 6 September 2016. The female patient, aged 40 with underlying illness, presented with fever, headache, muscle pain, vomiting and diarrhea since 27 August 2016. She attended a public hospital on 29 August and was admitted on the same day. The patient remained stable all along and was discharged on 6 September 2016.

The patient lives in Conduit Road, Mid-levels. During the incubation period, the patient had no travel history and, same as the previous two local dengue fever cases recorded this year, had been to places in Central. She had frequently visited the market near Graham Street via the Central-Mid-Levels Escalator and Walkway System as well as the Worldwide House in Central. She could not exactly recall recent mosquito bites and did not take any anti-mosquito measures. Please refer to Figure 1 for the residence of the three local dengue fever cases this year.



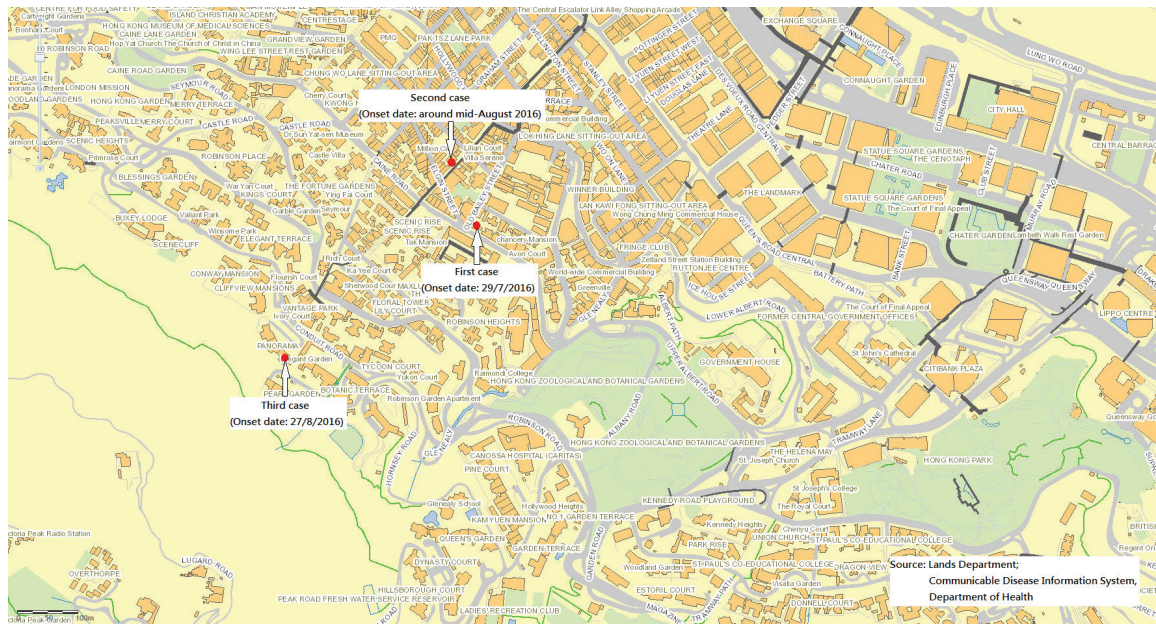


Figure 1: Map of the residence of the three local dengue fever cases

The CHP is collaborating with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and other organisations to implement anti-mosquito measures. The public should also take part in mosquito control actions to prevent the spread of the disease.

Dengue fever is an acute febrile viral illness. The disease is transmitted by the bite of infective mosquito and the incubation period ranges from 3 to 14 days. Symptoms include high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, rash, muscle and joint pains. In severe cases, manifestations of bleeding tendency and even death may occur. Schools and institutions are crowded places where we have much concern with the risk of dengue fever. To prevent dengue fever, the following preventive measures should be taken to prevent accumulation of stagnant water and eliminate mosquito breeding sites:-

- Put all used cans and bottles into covered dustbins;
- Change water for plants at least once a week, leaving no water in the saucers underneath flower pots;
- Cover tightly all water containers, wells and water storage tanks;
- Keep all drains free from blockage; and
- Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.

Members of the general public are also advised to protect themselves from mosquito bite by taking the following measures:-

1. Wear loose, light-coloured, long-sleeved tops and trousers, and apply effective mosquito repellent containing DEET to exposed parts of the body and clothing;
2. Use mosquito screens or bed nets when the room is not air-conditioned; and
3. Place anti-mosquito devices near entrances such as windows and doors to prevent mosquitoes from entering indoor.

More information on preventive measures could be found in the website of CHP: <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/24/19.html>.

Yours faithfully,



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