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Dear Doctor,

Investigation Report on Death of Three Children

The Expert Group commissioned by the Government to investigate into the recent deaths of three children with acute febrile illnesses has delivered their report today. The Group found that

- a. The cause of death of HO Po-yi (3-year-old girl from Tuen Mun Hospital) was likely to be related to acute cardiac arrhythmia produced by an underlying structural variation in her coronary artery and some genetic polymorphisms which predisposed her to cardiac arrhythmia or metabolic dysfunction. The possible triggering factors included the stress of influenza A H3N2/Brisbane/10/2007 infection and the use of multiple drugs of similar nature. The relative contribution of these factors was uncertain.
- b. OR Ho-yeung (2 year-old-boy from Prince of Wales Hospital) died of acute myocarditis of unknown microbial aetiology though his elder sister had influenza B.
- c. LAW Ho-ming (7 year-old-boy from Tuen Mun Hospital) was died of acute necrotizing encephalopathy due to influenza A H1N1/Brisbane/59/2007.

The summary and recommendations are available at the CHP website at <http://www.chp.gov.hk/>. I would like to draw your attention to the clinical and public health recommendations of the Expert Group which may be of interest to you.

Yours faithfully,



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