



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

Infection Control Branch

**Health Advice on Prevention of Middle East Respiratory
Syndrome (MERS) for Properties Management**

Properties management should take the following precautionary measures at their workplaces to minimise the risk of contracting and spreading MERS.

Disease information

2. Please refer to website of Centre for Health Protection for disease information update:

<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/healthtopics/content/24/26528.html>

Affected areas

3. Please refer to website of Centre for Health Protection for affected areas update:

http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/distribution_of_mers_cases_en.pdf

Preventive measures

4. Maintain Good Personal Hygiene

(a) Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, after touching public installations such as handrails or door knobs or when hands are contaminated by



respiratory secretion after coughing or sneezing. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, then dry with a disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, hand hygiene with 70-80% alcohol-based handrub as an effective alternative.

- (b) Cover your mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose the soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, then wash hands thoroughly.
- (c) When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.
- (d) Build up good body immunity by having a balanced diet, regular exercise and adequate rest, do not smoke and avoid alcohol consumption.

5. Maintain Environment Hygien of Properties

Though coronaviruses may survive for some time in the environment, they can be easily destroyed by disinfectants. It is important to:

- (a) Maintain good ventilation
- (b) Keep environment clean
- (c) Regular clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as furniture, commonly shared items and floor with 1:99 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 5.25% bleach with 99 parts of water), leave for 15 – 30 minutes, and then rinse with water and keep dry. For metallic surface, disinfect with 70% alcohol.

6. Maintain Toilet Hygiene

- (a) Keep toilets clean and dry.
- (b) Provide soap and disposable paper towels for hand washing.
- (c) Ensure the flushing system of the toilet in proper function at all times.
- (d) Ensure the water traps must be filled with water (including U-shaped water trap, bottled trap or anti-syphonage trap) to prevent foul odour and

insects in the soil pipe from entering the premises.

7. For update on the latest situation of MERS, please visit CHP thematic website at <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/26511.html>

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