

香港特別行政區政府
衛生署
香港灣仔皇后大道東 213 號
胡忠大廈 17 樓及 21 樓



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
WU CHUNG HOUSE, 17TH & 21ST FLOORS,
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WAN CHAI, HONG KONG

本署檔號 Our Ref.:

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3 June 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and Local Dengue Fever Case

We would like to provide updates about the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) situation and the local dengue fever case confirmed on 2 June 2015, and appeal for your support in promoting the health messages about prevention of both diseases.

MERS

As of 3 June, 29 MERS cases had been reported by Korea. In addition, there was one case exported from Korea to Huizhou, Guangdong.

A few cases recently reported by the health authority of Korea did not have direct contact with the index and could be regarded as tertiary cases.

In view of this evolving situation in Korea, the public is advised to avoid unnecessary visit to all healthcare facilities in Korea.

With regard to the first MERS case exported from Korea to Mainland China, epidemiological investigations and contact tracing are ongoing. The Department of Health (DH) has enhanced its surveillance mechanism with public and private hospitals, practising doctors and at boundary control points; and would maintain close communication with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the relevant health authorities.

DH is also closely monitoring the situation about additional cases of MERS reported to the WHO by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and Qatar on 1 June.

*We build a healthy Hong Kong and
aspire to be an internationally renowned public health authority*

According to the WHO, among the recently exported cases who reported performing Umrah in the KSA, investigation revealed that they had either visited a health-care facility or had come into contact with camels or raw camel products while in the KSA. Scientific evidence supports the premise that camels are the primary source of MERS-CoV resulting in human infection. A study further suggested that human MERS-CoV infections could occur through close contact with infected camels.

Travellers are reminded to take heed of personal, food and environmental hygiene:

- Avoid going to farms, barns or markets with camels;
- Avoid contact with animals (especially camels), birds, poultry or sick people during travel;
- Wash hands regularly before and after touching animals in case of visits to farms or barns;
- Do not consume raw or undercooked animal products, including milk and meat, or foods which may be contaminated by animal secretions, excretions (such as urine) or products, unless they have been properly cooked, washed or peeled;
- Seek medical consultation immediately if feeling unwell;
- Avoid visits to health-care settings with MERS patients;
- Wash hands before touching the eyes, nose and mouth, and after sneezing, coughing or cleaning the nose; and
- Wash hands before eating or handling food, and after using the toilet.

Dengue Fever

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of DH announced on 2 June that a local case of dengue fever was confirmed. The male patient, aged 58 with good past health, lives in Grandway Garden, Sha Tin, New Territories and worked at Cheung Hing Mansion, 15 Cheung Wong Road, Prince Edward, Kowloon. He recalled frequent mosquito bites near his residence. He had no travel history outside Hong Kong within the month before onset of symptoms.

Upon notification and laboratory confirmation, the CHP immediately commenced epidemiological investigations and promptly informed the FEHD for vector investigation and mosquito control. The relevant management offices and District Offices under the Home Affairs Department have also been informed for corresponding follow-up. The Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee on Mosquito-borne Diseases will convene an urgent meeting this week to follow up on the case as well as local prevention and control measures.

Relevant press release issued by the DH on 2 June is accessible at http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/39835.html.

Dengue viruses encompass four different serotypes. The symptoms of first infection with one are usually mild, but subsequent infections with the others are more likely to result in a serious complication, namely dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF). DHF is a severe and potentially fatal complication. Without proper treatment, the DHF case fatality rate can exceed 20 per cent.

The incubation period of dengue fever ranges from three to 14 days, commonly four to seven days. Anyone feeling unwell after returning from a trip should seek medical advice as soon as possible and provide travel details to their doctors.

Members of the public should take measures to protect themselves against mosquito bites, prevent the accumulation of stagnant water and maintain good environmental hygiene to remove breeding sites.

A copy of the leaflet on dengue fever is attached.

The public may also visit websites below for more information:

- The CHP Website (www.chp.gov.hk);
- The CHP Facebook Page (www.fb.com/CentreforHealthProtection);
- The CHP YouTube Channel (www.youtube.com/c/ChpGovHkChannel);
- Travel Health Service of DH (www.travelhealth.gov.hk); and
- The FEHD's Guidebook on Control and Prevention of Mosquito Breeding (www.fehd.gov.hk/english/safefood/handbook_prev_mos_breeding.html).

We would like to call on your support to disseminate and promote the health messages on prevention of MERS and dengue fever and mobilise members of the public and community organisations through your community network to sustain the anti-mosquito efforts.

If you would like to request health educational materials related to MERS and dengue fever, please complete the form attached and return to us.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr Anne FUNG)
for Director of Health

Encl.



13 March 2015

Dengue Fever

Causative agent

Dengue fever is an acute mosquito-borne infection caused by the dengue viruses. This is found in tropical and sub-tropical regions around the world. For instance, dengue fever is an endemic illness in many countries in South East Asia. The dengue viruses encompass 4 different serotypes, each of which can lead to dengue fever and dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF).

Clinical features

Dengue fever is clinically characterised by sudden onset of high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, muscle and joint pain, loss of appetite, nausea and rash. Some infected people may not develop apparent symptoms, and some may only have mild symptoms like fever, e.g. young children may exhibit a milder non-specific febrile illness with rash.

The symptoms of first infection are usually mild. Once recovered, immunity to that serotype of dengue virus will develop but subsequent infections with other serotypes of dengue virus are more likely to result in DHF. DHF is a severe and potentially fatal complication of dengue fever. Initially, the features include high fever, which lasts for 2 – 7 days and can be as high as 40 – 41°C, facial flush and other non-specific constitutional symptoms of dengue fever. Later, it may be followed by manifestations of bleeding tendency such as skin bruises, nose or gum bleeding, and possibly internal bleeding. In severe cases, it may progress to circulatory failure, shock and death.

Immunity is attained against that serotype after recovery from its infection. However, no effective protection is conferred against subsequent infection by the other 3 serotypes.

Mode of transmission

Dengue fever is transmitted to humans through the bites of infective female *Aedes* mosquitoes. When a patient suffering from dengue fever is bitten by a vector mosquito, the mosquito is infected and it may spread the disease by biting other people. The disease cannot be spread directly from human to human. In Hong Kong, the principal vector *Aedes aegypti* is not found, but the prevailing species *Aedes albopictus* can also spread the disease.

Incubation period

The incubation period ranges from 3 – 14 days, commonly 4 – 7 days.

Management

There is no specific medication for dengue fever or DHF. Dengue fever is mostly self-limiting. Symptomatic treatment is given to relieve discomfort. Patients with DHF should be treated promptly with supportive management. The mainstay of treatment is to maintain the circulating fluid volume. With appropriate and timely treatment, mortality rate is less than 1%.

Prevention

At present, no effective vaccine for dengue fever is available. Therefore, the best preventive measure is to eliminate pockets of stagnant water that serve as breeding sites for mosquitoes, and to avoid mosquito bites.

General measures on preventing mosquito-borne diseases

1. Wear loose, light-coloured, long-sleeved tops and trousers, and use DEET-containing insect repellent on exposed parts of the body and clothing.
2. Take additional preventive measures when going outdoor activities:
 - ⌘ Avoid using fragrant cosmetics or skin care products
 - ⌘ Re-apply insect repellents according to instructions
3. Special notes when travelling abroad:
 - ⌘ Before the trip arrange a travel health consultation with your doctor at least 6 weeks before the journey for any extra mosquito bite preventive measures
 - ⌘ During the trip, if travelling in endemic rural areas, carry a portable bed net and apply permethrin (an insecticide) on it. Permethrin should NOT be applied to skin. Seek medical attention as early as possible if feeling unwell
 - ⌘ Travellers who return from affected areas and feel unwell e.g. run a fever, should seek medical advice as soon as possible, and provide travel details to their doctor

Help prevent mosquito proliferation

1. Prevent accumulation of stagnant water
 - ⌘ Change the water in vases once a week
 - ⌘ Clear the water in the saucers under potted plants every week
 - ⌘ Cover water containers tightly
 - ⌘ Ensure air-conditioner drip trays are free of stagnant water
 - ⌘ Put all used cans and bottles into covered dustbins
2. Control vectors and reservoir of the diseases
 - ⌘ Store food and dispose of garbage properly

For details about the use of insect repellents, please refer to ['Tips for using insect repellents'](#).

For more information about control and prevention of mosquito breeding, please visit the website of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) at http://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/safefood/handbook_prev_mos_breeding.html

Related link: [World Health Day 2014](#)

Request Form for Publicity and Health Education Materials on Dengue Fever and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)

有關登革熱及中東呼吸綜合症的宣傳及健康教育教材索取表格

Please put a tick「☑」in the appropriate box to indicate your choice of office for collection and return the completed form by post, fax or email to the **collection office chosen**.

請在適當空格內加上「☑」以選擇領取教材的辦事處，並把填妥的表格以郵寄、傳真或電郵方式交回所選的領取教材辦事處。

Mode of Collection 領取方法	Postal and Email Addresses of Collection Office 領取教材辦事處地址及電郵	Tel No. 電話號碼	Fax No. 傳真號碼
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Health Education Unit, Department of Health, 7/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, HK 香港灣仔軒尼詩道130號修頓中心7字樓 衛生署中央健康教育組 health_cheuweb@dh.gov.hk	2572 1476	2591 6127
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tsuen Wan Health Education Centre, Department of Health 13/F, Tsuen Wan Government Office, 38 Sai Lau Kok Road, Tsuen Wan, NT 新界荃灣西樓角路38號荃灣政府合署13樓 衛生署荃灣健康教育中心 health_cheuweb@dh.gov.hk	2417 6505	2498 3520




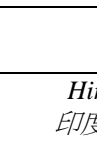


Staff of the collection office concerned will inform you of the date of collection upon receipt of your request form.







相關領取教材辦事處的職員會在收到你的索取表格後通知你領取日期。

Notes to Applicants 申請者須知：

- The Department of Health (DH) reserves the right to decide on the quantity of materials provided.
衛生署保留決定所提供教材數量的權利。
- No duplication or extraction is allowed for any materials provided without authorisation.
未經授權，不可複製或擷取教材內容。
- All applied materials can only be used for non-profit making purpose.
所有索取所得的教材只可作非牟利用途。
- Should you have any enquiries, please contact staff of the relevant collection offices.
如有查詢，請與相關的領取教材辦事處職員聯絡。

Description 教材介紹	Language 語言	Requested Quantity 所需數量
<p><i>Note: Full version of the corresponding materials can be viewed on the webpages of the World Health Day 2014 and MERS of the DH at www.chp.gov.hk/whd and http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/26511.html.</i></p> <p><i>註：相關教材的內容可在衛生署的世界衛生日 2014 (www.chp.gov.hk/whd) 及中東呼吸綜合症 (http://www.chp.gov.hk/tc/view_content/26511.html) 的主題網站瀏覽。</i></p>		
Dengue Fever 登革熱		
Pamphlet 單張		
<i>Beware of stings Protect ourselves from vector-borne diseases (A5)</i> 慎防一「叮」 防蚊防蟲我至醒 (A5)	 English 英文	Copies/張
	 Chinese 中文	Copies/張
<i>Dengue Fever (99mm x 210 mm)</i> 登革熱 (99mm x 210 mm)	 Bilingual 雙語	Copies/張
Poster 海報		
<i>Beware of stings Protect ourselves from vector-borne diseases (A2)</i> 慎防一「叮」 防蚊防蟲我至醒 (A2)	 Bilingual 雙語	Copies/張
<i>To Prevent Mosquito-borne Diseases (A2)</i> 預防蚊子傳播的疾病 (A2)	 Bilingual 雙語	Copies/張

Description 教材介紹	Language 語言	Requested Quantity 所需數量	
Videos(in DVD) 短片 (DVD 光碟) (Duration 片長)			
1. <i>Prevent vector-borne diseases, safeguard our health</i> 預防蚊蟲疾病 保障健康有計 (1:31)	Cantonese voice-over with bilingual subtitles 廣東話配音 中英文字幕	sets 套	
2. <i>Take indoor precaution, enjoy a vector-free environment</i> 室內措施做到足 享受無蚊蟲空間 (0:57)			
3. <i>Take preventive measures against vectors, enjoy safe outing</i> 緊記防蚊蟲攻略 郊遊安心樂悠悠 (1:15)			
4. <i>Prevent bites and stings during travel, have a nice trip</i> 出外旅遊防蚊蟲 玩得開心又放心 (0:53)			
5. <i>Smart tips for driving vectors away</i> 智醒心得 驅趕蚊蟲至駛得 (1:06)			
Announcements in the Public Interests (API) 政府宣傳片段			
Prevention of Mosquito Bites (TV API) <i>Duration 30 seconds</i> 戶外防蚊措施 (政府電視宣傳影片) 片長:30 秒 http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/33592.html [Distributed by email/CD-rom 以電郵或光碟方式傳送]	Video 影片 Format 製式: MP4/WMV/AVI	Cantonese/ English voiceover with subtitles 廣東話/英語連字幕	# Required / Not Required # 需要 / 不需要 Please provide email address 請填寫電郵地址
Prevent Dengue Fever (TV API) <i>Duration 30 seconds</i> 預防登革熱病 (政府電視宣傳影片) 片長:30 秒 http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/33592.html [Distributed by email/CD-rom 以電郵或光碟方式傳送]	Video 影片 Format 製式: MP4/WMV/AVI	Cantonese/ English voiceover with subtitles 廣東話/英語連字幕	# Required / Not Required # 需要 / 不需要 Please provide email address 請填寫電郵地址
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome 中東呼吸綜合症			
Pamphlet 單張			
<i>Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (99mm x 210 mm)</i> 中東呼吸綜合症 (99mm x 210 mm)		English 英文	Copies/張
<i>Hand Hygiene An easy and effective way to prevent infection (99mm x 210 mm)</i> 潔手 - 一個既簡單且有效預防感染的方法(99mm x 210 mm)		Chinese 中文	Copies/張
<i>Use Mask Properly Protect ourselves and protect others (99mm x 210 mm)</i> 正確使用口罩 護己護人(99mm x 210 mm)		Bilingual 雙語	Copies/張
Poster 海報			
<i>Guard against Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (A2)</i> 預防中東呼吸綜合症 (A2)		English 英文	Copies/張
<i>Don't let your hands spread germs (A2)</i> 不要讓雙手變成傳染病幕後黑手 (A2)		Chinese 中文	Copies/張
<i>Add soap Rub hands for 20 seconds: Step for hand washing (A2)</i> 加入梘液 搓手 20 秒: 搓手步驟 (A2)		Hindi, Urdu, Nepali 印度文, 巴基斯坦文, 尼泊爾文	Copies/張
		Bahasa Indonesia, Arabic 印尼文, 阿拉伯文	Copies/張
		Bilingual 雙語	Copies/張
		Bilingual 雙語	Copies/張

Description		
<p><i>Mind Your Hands! (A2)</i> 小心雙手! (A2)</p> 	<p>Bilingual 雙語</p>	<p>Copies/張</p>
<p><i>Guard Against Infections Always Wash Your Hands(A2)</i> 勤洗手 別做傳染病「幕後黑手」(A2)</p> 	<p>Bilingual 雙語</p>	<p>Copies/張</p>
<p><i>Maintain Cough Manners (A2)</i> 咳嗽要講禮 (A2)</p> 	<p>Bilingual 雙語</p>	<p>Copies/張</p>
<p><i>Add soap Rub hands for 20 seconds (A2)</i> 加入梘液 搓手 20 秒 (A2)</p> 	<p>Bilingual 雙語</p>	<p>Copies/張</p>
<p><i>When to Wash Our Hands (A2)</i> 何時應洗手 (A2)</p> 	<p>Bilingual 雙語</p>	<p>Copies/張</p>
<p><i>5 Steps For Proper Hand Washing(A2)</i> 正確洗手五部曲 (A2)</p> 	<p>Bilingual 雙語</p>	<p>Copies/張</p>

Contact person
聯絡人

Signature 簽署

Name of
Organisation
機構名稱

Telephone No.
電話號碼

Fax No. 傳真號碼

E-mail address
電郵地址

Date 日期
