

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (80) in DH CDB/9/17/5 Pt. 1

3 January 2020

Dear Medical Superintendent,

Updates on the cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan of Mainland

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health writes to update you on the latest situation of the cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan of Hubei Province (湖北省武漢市).

According to the latest information available from the National Health Commission (NHC) on 3 January 2020, there were a total of 44 pneumonia cases with unknown cause detected in Wuhan since December 2019 (as of 8 a.m., January 3, 2020). Among them, 11 cases (25%) were in serious condition and the remaining cases were in stable condition. Symptoms were mainly fever while a few had presented with shortness of breath. All patients have been isolated and receiving treatment. Contact tracing has identified 121 close contacts and medical surveillance by the Wuhan health authority is ongoing. Epidemiological investigations revealed that some cases were persons working in the market called “華南海鮮城”. It remained unknown whether the other cases had epidemiological linkage to this market. However, the NHC reported that no obvious human-to-human transmission has been observed and no healthcare workers have been infected for the time being. Influenza viruses, avian influenza viruses and other common respiratory pathogens like adenovirus have been excluded as the cause. The causative pathogen and cause of infection are still under investigation.

In light of the latest situation, the CHP has revised the reporting criteria today in order to widen the scope of surveillance. Please kindly report cases fulfilling the following updated reporting criteria to the CHP for prompt investigation:

- Patient presented with fever and acute respiratory illness, or with pneumonia; **and**
- Travel history to Wuhan (武漢市) within 14 days before onset of symptom (irrespective of any exposure to wet market or seafood market).



It is very important to obtain travel and exposure history from all patients presenting with fever and acute respiratory symptoms. If you identify any cases fulfilling the above criteria, please report to the Central Notification Office (CENO) of the CHP via fax (2477 2770), phone (2477 2772) or CENO On-line (https://cdis.chp.gov.hk/CDIS_CENO_ONLINE/ceno.html). Please use the attached form (**Annex**) for reporting.

Private doctors should call the Medical Control Officer (MCO) of the Department of Health at Pager: 7116 3300 call 9179 when reporting any case. The CHP will make arrangement to transfer the patient to a public hospital for isolation, testing and treatment. While waiting for transfer, please isolate the patient to minimise contact/exposure to staff and other patients and advise the patient to wear a surgical mask.

The CHP has set up a designated webpage (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/102465.html>) to provide updated information and health advice. Information of the cases reported under the above enhanced surveillance will be updated on a daily basis on the above webpage.

We would also like to seek your assistance in providing health advice on personal and environmental hygiene to your patients. In particular, patients with respiratory symptoms are reminded to wear surgical masks.

We will closely monitor the situation and review the reporting criteria as appropriate. Please draw the attention of the healthcare professionals and supporting staff in your institution/ working with you to the above. Thank you for your ongoing support in combating communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,

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

(Dr. SK Chuang)

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health

Reporting of Cases under Enhanced Surveillance

Please ✓: New case _____ Change of condition of previously reported case _____

For patient with fever and acute respiratory illness or with pneumonia; and visited Wuhan (武汉市) within 14 days before onset of symptom (irrespective of any exposure to wet market or seafood market). Please complete this form and fax to CHP's Central Notification Office (2477 2770).

Date: _____

Patient particulars

Name in English (please affix patient's gum label if applicable)	
Name in Chinese	
Sex / Age	
HKID / Passport No.	
Patient / guardian contact phone number	
Date of consultation	
Case no.	

Clinical and epidemiological information

Onset date	
Symptoms	
Diagnosis	
Travel history (within 14 days)	
Past health	
Current condition of patient (Stable/satisfactory/serious/critical/fatal)	
Laboratory test results (if available)	
Radiological investigation results (if any)	
Treatment given	

Attending Physician

Name : _____

Tel: _____

Contact Person

Name : _____

Position: _____

Tel: _____

Hospital: _____