

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (168) in DH CDB/9/17/5 Pt. 1

January 6, 2020

Dear Medical Superintendent,

**Zero reporting of cases under enhanced surveillance by private hospitals**

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health writes to solicit your assistance to enhance the surveillance of cases fulfilling the reporting criteria under the enhanced surveillance for the cluster of viral pneumonia cases with unknown cause in Wuhan of Hubei Province (湖北省武漢市).

According to the latest information available from the National Health Commission (NHC), there were a total of 59 pneumonia cases with unknown cause detected in Wuhan since December 2019 (as of January 5, 2020). No fatal cases have been recorded. All patients have been isolated and receiving treatment. Among them, the earliest and most recent cases had onset of illness on December 12 and December 29, 2019 respectively. Contact tracing has identified 163 close contacts and they have been put under medical surveillance. Contact tracing is still ongoing.

For the time being, the NHC reported that no evidence of definite human-to-human transmission has been identified and no healthcare workers have been infected. While the causative pathogen and cause of infection are still under investigation, respiratory pathogens including influenza viruses, avian influenza viruses, adenovirus, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome have been ruled out.

According to the risk assessment of the World Health Organization, the reported link of this cluster of pneumonia of unknown aetiology to a wholesale fish and live animal market could indicate an exposure link to animals.



Under the enhanced surveillance, cases fulfilling the following reporting criteria should be reported 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).

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 by ambulance 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. In case the patient refuses to be transferred to a public hospital, please contact the MCO immediately.

In addition to real-time reporting of individual cases, we would like to seek your assistance to provide a summary of the cases reported to the CHP **on a daily basis (before 12 noon)**. Please fax the completed forms (Appendices 1 and 2) to the Central Notification Office (CENO) of the CHP (Fax number: 2477 2770). **Daily nil return (i.e. zero reporting) is required, including public holidays.**

We will closely monitor the situation and review the reporting criteria as appropriate. You may visit the designated webpage (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/102465.html>) for updated number of suspected cases reported under the enhanced surveillance and relevant health advice. 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,



(Dr. SK Chuang)

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health

## Appendix 1

Please fax your reply by 12:00 noon

### Reporting of Cases under Enhanced Surveillance

To: Centre for Health Protection

Fax No. : 2477 2770 (Central Notification Office)

Daily Reply Slip on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2020 (Please insert date)

from \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of institution)

1. The number of cases reported to the Centre for Health Protection yesterday (00:00 to 23:59) is: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please complete Appendix 2 for the reported cases)
2. Since 31 December 2019, the total number of cases reported so far (as of yesterday):  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Contact person:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Note:**

*Please return this form even if no case is recorded.*

## Appendix 2

### Reporting of Cases under Enhanced Surveillance (New Cases)

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: \_\_\_\_\_