

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (60) in DH CDB/9/12/6/4 Pt.1

1 June 2020

Dear Medical Superintendent,

**A new cluster of local cases of COVID-19 and appeal to collect specimens  
for COVID-19 testing for early case detection**

We write to inform you about a new cluster of locally-acquired cases of COVID-19, and urge you to offer COVID-19 testing for all patients with acute symptoms in order not to miss the opportunity to identify infected persons in the community as early as possible.

The new cluster involved five cases confirmed on 31 May and 1 June 2020. The first case affected a 34-year-old woman who lives in Lek Yuen Estate in Shatin. She had onset of cough and back pain on 22 May. She had consulted a private medical practitioner (PMP) three times without being tested for COVID-19. She developed confusion on 30 May and was admitted to a public hospital on the same day in critical condition requiring mechanical ventilation support. Her tracheal aspirate was tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. She did not travel outside Hong Kong during the incubation period.

Epidemiological investigation by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) revealed that her husband also had mild respiratory symptoms on 26 May and consulted a PMP on 30 May with no testing for COVID-19 offered. Her husband was arranged to be admitted to hospital and tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. The CHP's investigation at the workplace of the first case has identified two symptomatic co-workers who had onset of symptoms in late April. They had consulted PMPs with no testing for COVID-19 offered. They were arranged to be admitted to hospital and tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. The fifth case involved the ambulance man who had transferred the first case to the hospital from her home. He remained asymptomatic and tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 on 1 June. The



CHP's investigation and contact tracing is ongoing.

This cluster, together with the earlier cluster involving three cases detected in mid-May, signifies that there are silent/subclinical local transmissions going on in the community and the risk of major community outbreaks exists. Testing of COVID-19 at an earlier stage may enable earlier case detection, isolation and treatment, and hence reduce community spread. The spectrum of clinical manifestations of COVID-19 is wide. Some infected persons may present with mild or non-specific symptoms only, especially during the early stage of disease. This poses challenges in relying on common clinical presentation to guide the need for testing.

To break any transmission chain for disease containment, I strongly urge doctors to remain vigilant and **arrange COVID-19 test for all patients presenting with any symptoms, irrespective of their travel history and clinical severity.** Travel history is NOT a prerequisite for offering COVID-19 testing. All the eight cases of locally-acquired infection of the two clusters did not have travel history outside Hong Kong within the incubation period.

Free testing for COVID-19 is provided to all private clinics by the CHP's Public Health Laboratory Services Branch (PHLSB). Arranging testing with private laboratory is not a requirement. When ordering the test, please fill in the laboratory form (available from: [https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/test\\_request\\_form\\_public\\_health\\_laboratory\\_centre\\_dh2546.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/test_request_form_public_health_laboratory_centre_dh2546.pdf)) and give it to the patient together with a specimen bottle and two plastic bags for them to save a deep throat saliva (DTS) specimen (preferably early morning specimen but non-early morning specimen is also acceptable). Also, you may consider to collect stool specimen for paediatric patients if collection of DTS is not possible, using the same collection bottles as for DTS.

The patients can send the specimen together with a completed laboratory form to one of the 13 collection clinics of DH or one of the selected GOPCs of HA (currently 18 GOPCs) by themselves or their friends/family members/relatives **on the same day of specimen collection (Annex)**. Please refer to the following website for the updated list of collection clinics (Chinese - [https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/list\\_of\\_collection\\_points\\_tc.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/list_of_collection_points_tc.pdf); English - [https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/list\\_of\\_collection\\_points\\_en.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/list_of_collection_points_en.pdf)). The patients can continue to use door-to-door specimen collection service provided by GoGo Tech Limited ("GOGO VAN") and HK PICK-UP LIMITED ("Pickupp") at a cost to be paid by the patients. They can refer to

the information below for service subscriptions and enquiries:

	GOGO VAN	Pickupp
Service Subscription	<a href="http://www.gogovan.com.hk/covid-19-testing-en/">www.gogovan.com.hk/covid-19-testing-en/</a>	<a href="http://hk.pickupp.io/en/blog/COVID-19-sample">hk.pickupp.io/en/blog/COVID-19-sample</a>
General Enquiry	5681 4989 (hotline)	<a href="mailto:hk@pickupp.io">hk@pickupp.io</a>

Furthermore, the DH will provide specimen bottles for PMPs upon request. You may wish to fill in the request form (available from: [https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/specimen\\_bottles\\_request\\_form.pdf](https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/specimen_bottles_request_form.pdf)) and fax it to one of the 13 DH clinics where you would like to collect specimen bottles. The concerned DH clinic will then fax the reply slip back to the PMP advising the time slot for specimen bottle collection. After receiving the reply slip, your clinic staff needs to bring it along to collect the bottles at the specified DH clinic as scheduled. **For doctors who encounter difficulty in getting specimens bottles from DH's clinics, please call the hotline of PHLSB (Tel: 2319 8360) for assistance.**

Laboratory reports will normally be available on the next working day upon receipt of specimens by PHLSB and will be sent out by fax to the requesting PMP. If the patient deteriorates, it is necessary to make sure that COVID-19 testing has been done and repeated testing may be considered. For cases tested positive for COVID-19, the CHP will contact the doctors and the patients for investigation. In general, staff in the clinic would not be considered as close contact if both the patients and staff wear surgical masks, the duration of consultation is short (less than 15 minutes) and there is no aerosol generating procedure performed in the clinic. It is important to adhere to infection control measures all the times. You may wish to refer to the guidelines published by the CHP for details (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/resources/346/index.html>).

The CHP has produced infographics for publicity of COVID-19 testing for patients. You may refer to the following hyperlink for the infographics:

- Chinese -  
[https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/early\\_testing\\_and\\_detection\\_tc.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/early_testing_and_detection_tc.pdf)
- English -  
[https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/early\\_testing\\_and\\_detection\\_en.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/early_testing_and_detection_en.pdf)

Thank you again for your unfailing support and concerted efforts in the prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to be 'SK CHUANG', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

(Dr. SK CHUANG)

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health

**List of collection points under the Department of Health for submission of  
specimens by patients of private doctors for COVID-19 testing**

**(9am to 1pm during weekdays and 9am to 11am on Saturday, Sunday and public  
holidays)**

<b>Clinic</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Tel. No.</b>
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>		
Shaukeiwan Chest Clinic	Shaukeiwan Chest Clinic 2/F, Shaukeiwan Jockey Club Polyclinic 8 Chai Wan Road, Hong Kong	2560 4522
Sai Ying Pun Dermatological clinic	3/F, Sai Ying Pun Jockey Club Polyclinic, 134 Queen's Road West, Sai Ying Pun	2859 8302
Wan Chai Male Social Hygiene Clinic	6/F, Tang Chi Ngong Specialist Clinic, 284 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai	3103 2400
<b>Kowloon</b>		
East Kowloon Chest Clinic	East Kowloon Chest Clinic East Kowloon Polyclinic 160 Hammer Hill Road, Kowloon	2352 0077
Kowloon Chest Clinic	Kowloon Chest Clinic 147A, Argyle Street, Kowloon	2711 2086
Yaumatei Chest Clinic	Yaumatei Chest Clinic 2/F, Yaumatei Jockey Club Polyclinic 145, Battery Street, Kowloon	2388 5939
Yung Fung Shee Dermatological Clinic	4/F Yung Fung Shee Memorial Centre, 79 Cha Kwo Ling Road, Kwun Tong	2727 8319
Cheung Sha Wan Dermatological Clinic	3/F, West Kowloon Health Centre, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Sham Shui Po	2150 7373
<b>New Territories</b>		
Yuen Chau Kok Chest Clinic	Yuen Chau Kok Chest Clinic 1/F, 29, Chap Wai Kon Street, Sha Tin	2647 6445
Tai Po Chest Clinic	Tai Po Chest clinic 1/F, Tai Po Jockey Club Clinic 37, Ting Kok Road, Tai Po, New Territories	2689 5600
South Kwai Chung Chest Clinic	South Kwai Chung Chest Clinic 310, Kwai Shing Circuit South Kwai Chung, New Territories	2419 1721
Yan Oi Chest Clinic	Yan Oi Chest Clinic 6, Tuen Lee Street 2/F, Tuen Mun Yan Oi Polyclinic, New Territories	2404 3740
Fanling Social Hygiene Clinic	6/F, Fanling Health Centre, 2 Pik Fung Road, Fanling	2639 1437

**General Out-patient Clinics, Hospital Authority Collection Points  
for Submission of Specimen by Patients of Private Medical Practitioners for COVID-19  
Testing [The specimen collection time is from Monday to Friday (except public holiday),  
08:30 hrs to 09:30 hrs.]**

供私家醫生病人送交樣本作 2019 冠狀病毒病病毒測試的醫院管理局普通科門診診所收集點  
[樣本收集時間為星期一至星期五 (公眾假期除外)，上午8時30分至上午9時30分]

區 Region	地區 District	診所名稱 Name of Clinic	地址 Address
香港 Hong Kong	東區 Eastern	柏立基夫人普通科門診診所 Anne Black General Out-patient Clinic	北角七姊妹道 140 號一樓 1/F, 140 Tsat Tse Mui Road, North Point
	灣仔區 Wanchai	貝夫人普通科門診診所 (地庫高層) Violet Peel General Out-patient Clinic (LG/F)	灣仔皇后大道東 282 號鄧肇堅醫院社區日間醫療中心地庫高層 LG/F, Tang Shiu Kin Hospital, Community Ambulatory Care Centre, 282 Queen's Road East, Wanchai
	中西區 Central & Western	堅尼地城賽馬會普通科門診診所 Kennedy Town Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	堅尼地城域多利道 45 號 45 Victoria Road, Kennedy Town
	南區 Southern	香港仔賽馬會普通科門診診所 Aberdeen Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	香港仔水塘道 10 號 10 Aberdeen Reservoir Road, Aberdeen
九龍 Kowloon	九龍城區 Kowloon City	順德聯誼會梁錫琚診所 Shun Tak Fraternal Association Leung Kau Kui Clinic	九龍城馬頭圍道 165 號土瓜灣市政大廈暨政府合署二樓 2/F, Tokwawan Market & Government Offices Building, 165 Ma Tau Wai Road, Kowloon City
	黃大仙區 Wong Tai Sin	柏立基普通科門診診所 Robert Black General Out-patient Clinic	新蒲崗太子道東 600 號 600 Prince Edward Road East, San Po Kong
	油尖旺區 Yau Tsim Mong	李寶椿普通科門診診所 Li Po Chun General Out-patient Clinic	旺角鴉蘭街 22 號 22 Arran Street, Mongkok
	觀塘區 Kwun Tong	觀塘社區健康中心 Kwun Tong Community Health Centre	觀塘協和街 60 號地下高層 UG/F, 60 Hip Wo Street, Kwun Tong
	深水埗區 Sham Shui Po	長沙灣賽馬會普通科門診診所 Cheung Sha Wan Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	長沙灣廣利道 2 號 2 Kwong Lee Road, Cheung Sha Wan
新界 New Territories	西貢區 Sai Kung	方逸華普通科門診診所 Mona Fong General Out-patient Clinic	西貢萬年街 23 號地下 G/F, 23 Man Nin Street, Sai Kung
		將軍澳 (寶寧路) 普通科門診診所 Tseung Kwan O (Po Ning Road) General Out-patient Clinic	將軍澳寶寧路 28 號地下 G/F, 28 Po Ning Road, Tseung Kwan O
	葵青區 Kwai Tsing	青衣市區普通科門診診所 Tsing Yi Town General Out-patient Clinic	青衣青綠街 21 號 21 Tsing Luk Street, Tsing Yi
	荃灣 Tsuen Wan	戴麟趾夫人普通科門診診所 Lady Trench General Out-patient Clinic	荃灣沙咀道 213 號 213 Sha Tsui Road, Tsuen Wan
	沙田區 Shatin	馬鞍山家庭醫學中心 Ma On Shan Family Medicine Centre	馬鞍山西沙路 609 號地下 G/F, 609 Sai Sha Road, Ma On Shan
	大埔區 Tai Po	王少清家庭醫學中心 Wong Siu Ching Family Medicine Centre	大埔寶湖里 1 號地下 G/F, 1 Po Wu Lane, Tai Po
	北區 North	石湖墟賽馬會普通科門診診所 Shek Wu Hui Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	上水石湖墟馬會道 108 至 130 號地下 G/F, 108-130 Jockey Club Road, Shek Wu Hui, Sheung Shui
	元朗區 Yuen Long	天水圍健康中心 (天瑞路) Tin Shui Wai Health Centre (Tin Shui Road)	天水圍天瑞路 3 號 3 Tin Shui Road, Tin Shui Wai
		元朗賽馬會健康院 Yuen Long Jockey Club Health Centre	元朗青山公路 269 號 269 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long

**Notes**

- 配合第五階段「加強化驗室監察計劃」，上述的普通科門診診所會設置樣本收集點供私家醫生送交樣本作2019冠狀病毒檢測。Under the 5<sup>th</sup> tier Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme, the above listed General Out-patient Clinics (GOPCs) will provide specimen collection points for submission of specimen by patients of private medical practitioners for testing of COVID-19.
- 附有指示牌的樣本收集箱會設於上述診所的門口位置 (分流站附近)。  
Specimen collection box with signage will be placed in the entrance (near to the triage station) of each of the listed GOPCs.