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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
Central Health Education Unit
7/F Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road,
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本署檔號 OUR REF. :   (44) in DH CDRCT/P1-2-3

來函檔號 YOUR REF. :

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5 April 2013

Dear Sir / Madam,

Health Information on

Human Cases of Influenza A (H7N9)

As at today, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health has received notification from the National Health and Family Planning Commission concerning 14 confirmed human cases of influenza A (H7N9), which is a type of avian influenza (AI).   The CHP is maintaining liaison with the Mainland health authorities and monitoring the development of the outbreak closely.

So far, there is no evidence of human-to-human transmission and no human case of H7N9 has been detected in Hong Kong.   However, mortality from Influenza A (H7N9) is high and the mutation potential of the virus has been reported to be high. As such, the disease should not be treated lightly. The public should pay particular attention to personal and environmental hygiene and avoid direct contact with animals, birds or poultry. They should wash hands frequently and avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with their hands.

In order to enhance awareness to guard against human infection with avian influenza, the CHP has developed guidelines on its preventive measures.   Electronic version of the guideline for **prevention of AI on public transport** can be downloaded from the Centre for Health Protection website at http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/28624.html.

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I should be grateful if you could help to disseminate the content of this letter to your colleagues, work associates and business partners so that they would be kept informed of the situation and to adopt preventive measures.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr Regina Ching)

for Director of Health

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