



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

Scientific Committee on Vector-borne Diseases

Consensus Summary of Recommendations on Prevention and Control of Dengue Fever in Hong Kong

[Updated as of June 2015]

The Scientific Committee of Vector-borne Diseases noted the control measures carried out by the Government in response to the local dengue case and has further reviewed the current strategy on prevention and control of dengue fever in Hong Kong. There is evidence to suggest that Hong Kong might experience an increase in locally-acquired dengue cases this year and possibly in coming years. To further enhance the preventive and control strategy, the Scientific Committee has updated the recommendations as follows:

Enhance awareness of health care professionals

2. To allow early diagnosis of dengue fever so that prompt public health actions can be taken, health care professionals should stay vigilant and be aware of the possibility that their patient might have dengue even if the patient does not have a travel history. In particular, laboratory testing for dengue fever should be considered at an early time for febrile patients with thrombocytopenia when there is no alternative diagnosis. Moreover, a detailed history including the onset date of symptoms should be provided to the laboratory so as to facilitate decision on appropriate tests.

3. Physicians should be trained and reminded to recognize early cases of dengue and thereby isolate them from mosquito bites and decrease any potential for transmission.

Vector surveillance and control

4. The activities of *Aedes albopictus* will not be much lower in the winter months of Hong Kong as the temperature in these months will not be low enough to bring to a halt the activities of the mosquito. Radical anti-mosquito actions should therefore be continued throughout the usually mild



winter of Hong Kong. Indeed considering the current outbreak in Guangdong and the recent local cases in Hong Kong we advise that vector surveillance be maintained and enhanced.

Public education

5. There should be enhanced public education. The public should be asked to take community actions to help eliminate mosquito breeding sites including in winter months. The public should also be asked to take personal protective measures to prevent mosquito bites.

Isolation of patients

6. It is recommended to keep isolating febrile cases of dengue fever in a mosquito free environment to prevent the risk of further spread of the disease.

Vaccine development

7. Members should keep abreast of latest development of dengue fever vaccine.

Centre for Health Protection

Department of Health

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