

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (56) in DH CDB/8/12/1 Pt.13

17 August 2024

Dear Principal/Persons-in-charge,

A locally acquired case of dengue fever

We would like to draw your attention to a locally acquired case of dengue fever (DF) recorded by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health and to remind schools and institutions to remain vigilant against the disease.

The CHP received notification from the Mainland health authority regarding a DF case involving a 69-year-old man with good past health. The patient developed vomiting on 9 August and departed Hong Kong and travelled to Shaoguan, Guangdong Province on 10 August. He developed dizziness and a fever on 12 August and sought medical attention at outpatient department of a hospital on the same day. He was admitted to the hospital on 13 August for treatment and is now in stable condition. According to information provided by the Mainland health authority, blood sample of the patient tested positive for dengue virus upon laboratory testing.

Initial investigation revealed that the patient had no travel history within the incubation period. He lives in Fuk Tai House, Ka Fuk Estate in Fanling, and had visited The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited Tai Po Gas Production Plant. He recalled no history of mosquito bites in the past three weeks. His home contacts are currently asymptomatic and have been put under medical surveillance. No epidemiological linkage has been found so far between this case and other previously recorded DF cases in Hong Kong. The CHP's epidemiological investigations and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD)'s vector investigations, surveillance and control are ongoing.

We would like to seek your help in the prevention of DF by taking part in mosquito control actions and adopting personal protective measures against mosquito bites. The following preventive measures should be taken to prevent accumulation of stagnant water and eliminate mosquito breeding sites:-

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent



- compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
 - Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
 - Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season; and
 - Avoid staying in shrubby areas.

Members of the public are also advised to take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

Besides, a telephone hotline (2125 2670) has been set up to offer health advice to persons who have been to Ka Fuk Estate in Fanling and the vicinity or Tai Po Gas Production Plant with DF symptoms. The hotline will operate from 9am to 1pm from today (17 August) to 18 August, and from 9am to 5pm starting from 19 August, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). Laboratory investigation or referral to hospitals will be arranged as appropriate.

More information on DF could be found in the CHP website at <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/24/19.html>.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Albert Au)
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health