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來函檔號 Your Ref :  
電話 Tel. :  
傳真 Fax No. : 2711 0927

5 October, 2010

Dear Medical Superintendent of private hospitals,

### Local Cases of Dengue Fever – Second Update

Further to our letter dated 24 September, we would like to provide further updated information on local cases of dengue fever and to extend the period of our enhanced surveillance for dengue fever.

Apart from the 46-year-old man who was confirmed to have local infection of dengue fever, his three family members, including his wife, 18-year-old and 8-year-old sons, were also confirmed to have local infection of dengue fever. All of them had mild symptoms and had recovered without complication. Regarding the two-year-old girl who was a neighbour of the 46-year-old man although her blood tested for IgM for dengue virus was positive by ELISA technique, further blood samples taken at 22 days and 28 days after onset of symptoms did not show any rise in dengue antibody level. The diagnosis of dengue fever was therefore excluded. Hence, investigation so far has identified four confirmed cases involving a family living in Deep Water Bay.

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) has continued its investigation on these local cases in the vicinity of Deep Water Bay and Stubbs Road where the 8-year-old son's school is located. Information was obtained from 909 persons by questionnaire or interview, and blood samples were collected from 91 persons. So far, all laboratory results were negative except for the aforementioned cases.

In view of the incubation period of dengue fever and the life span of the vector, the enhanced surveillance on suspected cases of dengue fever would be **extended to 31 October, 2010**. Definition for the enhanced surveillance for dengue fever is:

- 1) A person presented with acute febrile illness with **two or more** of the following features: headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgia, arthralgia, rash, haemorrhagic manifestations or leucopenia **AND**



- 2) History of visiting the following places within the incubation period (two weeks before onset of symptoms):
- Deep Water Bay or Middle Island; OR
  - Bradbury Junior School (白普理小學) and nearby buildings\*:

For suspected cases of dengue fever fulfilling the above two criteria, please arrange blood test for dengue fever and report the case to Central Notification Office (CENO) of CHP by fax (2477 2770), by phone (2477 2772), or via the CENO On-line website (<http://www.chp.gov.hk/ceno>). Please also call Medical Control Officer at 7116 3300 a/c 9179 outside office hour for prompt investigation. For febrile patients fulfilling both criteria above, please arrange hospital admission for further management. For arrangement of specimens to PHLSB, please visit <http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/grp-specimenhandbook-en-2004122803.pdf> for further information.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank for your support in combating dengue fever in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr. S.K CHUANG)

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health

\*including Hillside International Kindergarten at 43 Stubbs Road (司徒拔道的英基國際幼稚園 (曉新)), Lingnan Primary School and Kindergarten at No. 15 Stubbs Road, and No. 7 Tung Shan Terrace (司徒拔道15號和司徒拔道東山臺7號: 嶺南小學暨幼稚園), No. 24, 43-46 Stubbs Road(司徒拔道24, 43-46號), No 1-82 Mount Nicholson Road (聶歌信山道1-82號) and No. 5-6 Tung Shan Terrace (東山臺5-6號)