



Surveillance And Epidemiology Branch

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Dear Persons-in-charge,

## A Local Case of Dengue Fever Confirmed

We would like to draw your attention to a local case of dengue fever reported in Hong Kong and to remind institutions to remain vigilant against this disease.

A local case of dengue fever was confirmed by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) today. The patient was a 46-year-old gentleman who lived in Deep Water Bay together with his family members. He developed symptoms on 13/9/2010. His two sons also experienced fever on 6/9/2010 and 10/9/2010. Epidemiological investigations on his family members and other collaterals are ongoing.

Vector surveillance and vector control measures are being carried out within 500m of his home in Deep Water Bay and the areas he visited. An interdepartmental meeting had been held today to discuss the preventive and control measures for dengue fever including Hospital Authority, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, and other various government departments.

Dengue fever is an acute febrile viral illness characterized by high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, rash, muscle and joint pains. The disease is transmitted by the bite of infective *Aedes* mosquito. The incubation period ranges from 3 to 14 days.

To prevent dengue fever infection, please take the following preventive measures:

1. Wear long-sleeved clothing and trousers, and apply effective mosquito repellent containing DEET to exposed parts of the body & clothes.

衛生防護中心乃衛生署 轄下執行疾病預防 及控制的專業架構 The Centre for Health Protection is a professional arm of the Department of Health for disease prevention and control

2. Use mosquito screens or nets when the room is not air-conditioned.

3. Place mosquito coil or electric mosquito mat / liquid near possible entrance,

such as window, to prevent mosquito bites.

4. Prevent the accumulation of stagnant water

- Put all used cans and bottles into covered dustbins.

- Change water for plants at least once a week, leaving no water in the saucers underneath flower pots.

- Cover tightly all water containers, wells and water storage tanks.

- Keep all drains free from blockage.

- Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.

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

Yours sincerely,

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