

CHP investigates case of severe paediatric influenza A infection

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) is today (April 7) investigating a case of severe paediatric influenza A infection.

The case involves a 14-year-old girl with underlying illnesses, who has presented with fever and runny nose since April 1. She attended the Accident and Emergency Department at Kwong Wah Hospital for medical attention on April 5 and was admitted for management. She was later transferred to the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit of the hospital for further management.

Her nasopharyngeal aspirate tested positive for influenza A virus upon laboratory testing. The clinical diagnosis was influenza A infection complicated with severe pneumonia and myocarditis. She is now in a serious condition.

Initial enquiries revealed that the patient had not received seasonal influenza vaccination for the current season and had no travel history during the incubation period. Her home contacts have remained asymptomatic so far.

The CHP's investigations are ongoing.

"The latest surveillance data showed that the local influenza activity has further decreased to a level approaching the baseline. We urge the community to continue heightening its vigilance against seasonal influenza. As young children are particularly affected in this influenza season, we appeal to parents who have not yet arranged vaccination for their children in this season to do so as soon as possible to strengthen their personal protection," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Apart from children, people aged 50 to 64 years, the elderly and those with underlying illnesses who have not yet received influenza vaccination this season are also urged to get vaccinated as early as possible to prevent seasonal influenza as it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop in the body after vaccination. Medical advice should be sought promptly if influenza-like symptoms develop so that appropriate treatment can be initiated as early as possible to prevent potential complications. Parents and carers are reminded to render assistance in prevention, care and control for vulnerable people.

Besides receiving seasonal influenza vaccination as early as possible for personal protection, the public should maintain good personal and environmental hygiene for protection against influenza and other respiratory illnesses. For more information, please visit the CHP's [influenza page](#) and weekly [Flu Express](#).

Car park at Hong Kong Wetland Park full

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The car park at Hong Kong Wetland Park is full. Motorists going to the Park can use the nearby public car parks at Tin Heng Estate, Tin Yat Estate, Grandeur Terrace or Tin Yip Road.

Members of the public are encouraged to take public transport to the Park.

Liquor Licensing Board to meet on Tuesday

The following is issued on behalf of the Liquor Licensing Board:

The Liquor Licensing Board will meet on Tuesday (April 9) to consider four applications for new issue, renewal and amendment of liquor licences on Hong Kong Island.

The applications are (not in order of discussion):

Trattoria Del Pescatore and NHAU in Sheung Wan
FRANK'S in Central
THE COFFEE ACADEMICS in Happy Valley

The meeting will be held at 9.45am in the conference room, Room 102, 1/F, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai. Members of the public are welcome to attend, except during the private session on confidential items.

Sha Tin Jockey Club Swimming Pool temporarily closed

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (April 7) that Sha Tin Jockey Club Swimming Pool in Sha Tin District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of faeces in the pool.

It will be reopened at 11.15am today.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

Teens spotlight social issues

To encourage young people to appreciate the value of social inclusion, the Labour and Welfare Bureau's Community Investment and Inclusion Fund sponsored the FIGHT FOR SHOW project. Participating secondary school students create their own mini-dramas on the topics of racial, disability, generational, technology or mental health inclusion.

News.gov.hk spoke to the project's co-organiser and some of the participants to find out how it has helped the students better appreciate social inclusion issues and build up their own resilience to change.

The story appears on news.gov.hk today (April 7) in both text and video format.