

Government follows up on positive results of sewage surveillance and appeals to residents to undergo virus testing

The Government announced today (August 13) that in order to fight the coronavirus epidemic, the Environmental Protection Department and the Drainage Services Department have been collecting sewage samples for virus testing in all districts, and had detected positive results in some areas, indicating that there may be hidden cases in the premises within these areas.

Rapid test

As regards positive sewage testing results with relatively high viral loads in the following areas, the Housing Department will commence distributing about 220 000 sets of the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) kits to residents, cleaning workers and property management staff working in the following areas for them to take the test on their own, in order to help identify infected persons:

- Eastern District – Siu Sai Wan Estate
- North District – Choi Yuen Estate
- Sai Kung District – Yee Ming Estate and Shin Ming Estate
- Yuen Long District – Tin Tsz Estate
- Sham Shui Po District – Fu Cheong Estate
- Wong Tai Sin District – Tung Wui Estate and Mei Tung Estate

Members of the public may refer to (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/rat/eng/rat.html) for enquiries relating to the use of the RAT kits.

When using an RAT kit, please pay attention to and follow the instructions from the manufacturer to perform the test and read the result properly. It is advisable to record the displayed result by taking a photo immediately after reading. Users should wash their hands before and after performing the tests, and avoid placing non-essential items within the specimen collection area. After completing the test, wrap and seal all components of the test kit carefully and dispose of them properly. If the household environment is contaminated during the specimen collecting process, disinfection should be conducted with 1 in 49 diluted bleach solution or 70 per cent alcohol.

People who obtained a positive result through an RAT for the first time can report via the online platform "Declaration System for individuals tested

positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" (www.chp.gov.hk/ratp). If individuals encounter difficulties using the online platform, they can call the automated system at 183 6119 to register their identification document and telephone number. The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health will contact the relevant person later to finish the report procedure.

Temporary closure of FEHD's Airport Food Inspection Offices

A spokesman for the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (August 13) said that its Airport Food Inspection Offices (AFIOs) in South Office Block, Super Terminal 1, HACTL, and Cathay Pacific Cargo Terminal, 3 Chun Wan Road, Hong Kong International Airport have been temporarily closed this afternoon for thorough cleaning and disinfection because a staff member of the FEHD received a positive result when undergoing COVID-19 testing. Services are expected to gradually resume later today after the completion of cleaning and disinfection work.

The staff member concerned is a health inspector of the FEHD and last performed duties on August 12. The staff member has been wearing masks and following relevant disease prevention measures at work.

The FEHD has arranged thorough cleaning and disinfection work at relevant places in accordance with the Centre for Health Protection's advice, and will arrange for the staff concerned to undergo COVID-19 testing. Importers seeking consignment clearances may proceed to the AFIO located at Terminal 2, Asia Airfreight Terminal.

The FEHD has been strictly implementing disease prevention measures during the epidemic. Staff members are reminded to pay attention to personal hygiene and to stay vigilant. They should seek medical advice immediately if they develop symptoms of COVID-19.

Murder in Mong Kok

Police are investigating a murder case in Mong Kok in the small hours today (August 13) in which a three-month-old baby boy died.

At 1.54am today, Police received a report from a 35-year-old man that the baby boy collapsed in a unit on Pok Man Street.

Police officers sped to the scene and found the baby boy collapsed in bed. Sustaining multiple injuries, he was rushed to Kwong Wah Hospital in unconscious state and was certified dead at 3.08am.

After initial investigation, the case is classified as murder. The 35-year-old man and his 24-year-old wife in the unit who were in suspected connection with the case were arrested and are now being detained for further enquiries.

Post-mortem examinations will be conducted later to ascertain the cause of death of the deceased.

Investigation by the District Crime Squad of Mong Kok District is underway.

CHP reminds public on precautions against heat stroke during very hot weather

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (August 13) reminded members of the public, particularly those undertaking outdoor activities, to take heed of necessary measures against heat stroke and sunburn in very hot weather.

"The public should carry and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration while engaging in outdoor activities," a spokesman for the CHP said.

"Those engaged in strenuous outdoor activities should avoid beverages containing caffeine, such as coffee and tea, as well as alcohol, as they speed up water loss through the urinary system," the spokesman explained.

"Children, the elderly, the obese and those with chronic illnesses, such as heart disease or high blood pressure, are more vulnerable to heat stroke. They should pay special attention," the spokesman added.

The public should adopt the following precautions:

- Wear loose and light-coloured clothing to reduce heat absorption and facilitate sweat evaporation and heat dissipation;
- Avoid vigorous exercise and prolonged activities like hiking or trekking as heat, sweating and exhaustion can place additional demands on the physique;
- Perform outdoor activities in the morning or the late afternoon;

- For indoor activities, open all windows, use a fan or use air-conditioning to maintain good ventilation;
- Do not stay inside a parked vehicle; and
- Reschedule work to cooler times of the day. If working in a hot environment is inevitable, introduce shade in the workplace where practicable. Start work slowly and pick up the pace gradually. Move to a cool area for rest at regular intervals to allow the body to recuperate.

The public should also note the latest and the forecast Ultraviolet (UV) Index released by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO). When the UV Index is high (6 or above):

- Minimise direct exposure of the skin and the eyes to sunlight;
- Wear long-sleeved and loose-fitting clothes;
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat or use an umbrella;
- Seek a shaded area or put on UV-blocking sunglasses;
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen lotion with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or above. Apply liberally and reapply after swimming, sweating or towelling off; and
- While using DEET-containing insect repellents for personal protection against mosquito-borne diseases, apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent.

If symptoms develop, such as dizziness, headache, nausea, shortness of breath or confusion, rest and seek help immediately, and seek medical advice as soon as possible.

The public may obtain more information from the DH's Health Education Infoline (2833 0111), [heat stroke](#) page and [UV radiation](#) page; the HKO's Dial-a-Weather (1878 200), latest [weather report and forecast](#), [UV Index](#) and weather information for [hiking and mountaineering](#); and [press releases](#) of the Labour Department on precautions against heat stroke for outdoor workers and their employers when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force.

Assess the risk of heat stroke to employees

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following special announcement immediately, and repeat it at frequent intervals when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force:

The Labour Department reminds employers that as the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force, they should assess the risk of heat stroke to their

employees and adopt effective preventive measures such as providing cool drinking water, setting up temporary sunshade, providing mechanical aids to reduce physical exertion of employees and providing for employees as far as practicable covered space with good ventilation for rest and meals. Employees should drink water regularly and be mindful of their physical condition. If early heat stroke symptoms such as headache and thirst appear, they should rest in a cool or shady place and drink water immediately. They should also inform their supervisors to take appropriate action.