

# CHP investigates case of severe paediatric enterovirus infection

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (June 22) investigating a case of severe paediatric enterovirus (EV) infection, and reminded the public to maintain hand, personal and environmental hygiene.

The case involves a 10-year-old girl with good past health. She attended the Accident and Emergency Department of United Christian Hospital on June 17 due to fever, headache and vomiting, and was admitted for treatment. She remains hospitalised.

A laboratory test of her cerebrospinal fluid specimen was positive for EV. The clinical diagnosis was meningitis.

Preliminary investigation by the CHP revealed that the patient had no travel history during the incubation period. Her home contacts have remained asymptomatic for the time being. The CHP's investigations are ongoing.

EV infection is transmitted by direct contact with nose and throat discharges. Children suffering from EV infection should stay at home and avoid contact with other children until they have recovered. The public should be vigilant and observe the following preventive measures:

- Wash hands before eating and after going to the toilet and changing diapers;
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation; and
- Thoroughly clean toys or appliances that are contaminated by nasal or oral secretions.

The public may visit the CHP's page on [hand, foot and mouth disease and EV71 infection](#) for more information.