

Cluster of Candida auris cases in TWGHs Wong Tai Sin Hospital reported

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority.

The spokesperson for TWGHs Wong Tai Sin Hospital (WTSH) made the following announcement today (March 18):

A male patient (aged 91), who previously stayed in a tuberculosis and chest ward of WTSH, was reported as a carrier of *Candida auris* without signs of infection on March 10. A contact tracing investigation was therefore conducted under prevailing guidelines and found that two more male patients (aged 62 and 79) from the same ward were also carrying *Candida auris* without signs of infection. Among them, one patient has been discharged earlier, the other is being treated in isolation and is in stable condition.

The ward concerned has adopted the following enhanced infection control measures:

1. enhanced patient and environmental screening procedures;
2. applied stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene of staff and patients; and
3. thorough cleaning and disinfection of the ward concerned.

The hospital will continue the enhanced infection control measures and closely monitor the situation of the ward concerned. The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.