

# Cluster of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus cases in Queen Mary Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Queen Mary Hospital (QMH) made the following announcement today (May 16):

A one-month-old baby boy of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of QMH was confirmed to be carrier of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) on April 20 in the regular surveillance. In accordance with the prevailing infection control guidelines, the hospital has continuously screened other infants at NICU. Six more babies (three male and three female, aged from six days to one month) were confirmed to be carriers of MRSA. One of the seven babies had presented with infection symptoms. All patients are staying at NICU for surveillance in stable condition.

The hospital will perform enhanced medical surveillance and screening of the babies in the NICU. The following infection control measures have been stepped up according to established guidelines.

1. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the wards concerned
2. Enhance medical surveillance of the babies and environmental screening procedures in the NICU
3. Apply stringent contact precautions and enhance hand hygiene of staff and patients

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.