

Cluster of Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae cases in Queen Elizabeth Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Queen Elizabeth Hospital made the following announcement today (January 7):

Three patients (aged 78 to 94) in a female medical ward have been confirmed to be Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) carriers without clinical symptoms through screenings since December 31, 2019. Two patients concerned have been transferred to another hospital. They are being treated under isolation with stable condition. The remaining patient has been discharged.

The Hospital Infection Control Team has followed up with the departments concerned and the Centre for Health Protection. The following enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted in the ward:

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

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

Public hospital daily update on Wuhan-related cases

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at noon today (January 7), in the past 24 hours public hospitals had admitted nine patients who have been to Wuhan in the past 14 days and presented with fever, respiratory infection or pneumonia symptoms.

	Hospital	Age	Gender	Condition
1.	Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital	10	Female	Stable

2.	Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital	14	Male	Stable
3.	Prince of Wales Hospital	8	Male	Stable
4.	Prince of Wales Hospital	16	Female	Stable
5.	Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital	8	Male	Stable
6.	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	6	Female	Stable
7.	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	33	Female	Stable
8.	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	49	Male	Stable
9.	Yan Chai Hospital	32	Male	Stable

The Hospital Authority (HA) has reported the cases and sent the specimens to the Department of Health (DH) for testing. The patients concerned are in stable condition and are being treated under isolation. "The patients concerned had not visited wet markets in Wuhan before the onset of symptoms. The HA will keep monitoring the patients' conditions and provide appropriate treatment," the HA Chief Infection Control Officer, Dr Raymond Lai, said.

Including the above-mentioned cases, public hospitals have reported 30 patient cases to the DH since December 31, 2019. Thirteen of the patients have been discharged.

[Lands Department issues seven pre-sale consents in fourth quarter of 2019](#)

The Lands Department (LandsD) issued seven pre-sale consents for residential developments in the fourth quarter of 2019.

The seven pre-sale consents for seven residential developments (of which three are phased developments) involve a total of 3,534 residential units. One development in Sha Tin, comprising 104 residential units, is expected to be completed in 2020. Two developments in Sham Shui Po and Kai Tak, and one phase of a phased development in Yuen Long, comprising a total of 2,130 residential units, are expected to be completed in 2021. One development in Tsing Yi and one phase each of two phased developments in Lantau Island and Tseung Kwan O, comprising a total of 1,300 residential units, are expected to be completed in 2022.

The department also issued three consents to assign in the fourth quarter of 2019. The three consents to assign involve a total of 2,225 residential units and one commercial unit in two phased developments in Mid-Levels East and Tseung Kwan O.

Taking into account the pre-sale consents issued in the first three quarters in 2019, the LandsD issued a total of 30 pre-sale consents for residential developments involving 14,137 residential units in 2019.

As at the end of December 2019, 22 applications for pre-sale consent for residential developments and six applications for pre-sale consent for non-residential developments were being processed.

The 22 applications in respect of residential developments being processed involve a total of 6,262 residential units. Details are set out as follows:

No. of applications	Year in which developments are expected to be completed	No. of residential units involved
3	2020	560
8	2021	1,933
9	2022	3,746
2	Pending updates by the vendors	23

In addition, four applications for consent to assign involving a total of 2,715 residential units are being processed.

Members of the public can obtain up-to-date information on consents issued for the past quarter and cases pending approval as at the end of December 2019 by visiting the LandsD's website (www.landsd.gov.hk).

Intending purchasers are advised to study carefully the details of the development and the sale procedures, through information available from public advertisements, and sales brochures and price lists released by the developer, before making a deposit for purchase. The sales brochure for a development also contains a summary of the provisions of the Deed of Mutual Covenant, including information on the common parts, the number of undivided shares assigned to each unit, the term of years for which the manager is appointed, the basis on which the management expenses are shared among the owners of the units, the basis on which the management fee deposit is fixed and the retained areas (if any), as well as a summary of the provisions of the government land grant, which intending purchasers are recommended to read carefully.

LegCo Public Accounts Committee to hold public hearing tomorrow

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will hold a public hearing on "Planning, provision and management of public toilets by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department" (Chapter 1) of the Director of Audit's Report No.73 at 8.30am tomorrow (January 8) in Conference Room 3 of the LegCo Complex.

Seven witnesses have been invited to appear before the above hearing to respond to points raised in the Report and answer questions asked by PAC members.

The programme for the public hearing is as follows:

Date: January 8 (Wednesday)

Time: 8.30am

Venue: Conference Room 3

Subject:

Planning, provision and management of public toilets by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

(Chapter 1 of the Director of Audit's Report No.73)

Witnesses:

Dr Chui Tak-yi

Under Secretary for Food and Health

Miss Vivian Lau

Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Miss Diane Wong

Deputy Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Environmental Hygiene)

Mr Fork Ping-lam

Assistant Director (Operations)3

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mrs Sylvia Lam

Director of Architectural Services

Mr Fung Kar-chun

Senior Property Services Manager/TS3

Architectural Services Department

Mr Lee Cheuk-hang

Project Manager 365

Architectural Services Department

PAC is chaired by Mr Abraham Shek, and its Deputy Chairman is Mr Kenneth Leung. Other members include Mr Paul Tse, Mr Steven Ho, Mr Lam Cheuk-ting, Mr Shiu Ka-fai and Ms Tanya Chan.

Contractor fined for violation of safety legislation

Gammon Construction Limited was fined \$108,000 at Fanling Magistrates' Courts today (January 7) for violation of the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance, the Construction Sites (Safety) Regulations and the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Safety Management) Regulation. The prosecutions were launched by the Labour Department.

The case involved a fatal accident that occurred on March 5, 2019, at a foundation construction site in Yuen Long. Four workers stayed on the platform of a casing rotator to assist in the relocation of the rotator by a crane, and in the course of work they tied two sets of lifting slings being used in the lifting operation to a guard rail unit of the platform with ropes. When the two sets of lifting slings were later released from the hook of the crane, the slings dropped and pulled the guard rail unit off. The detached guard rail unit struck two of the workers and caused them to fall 3.4 metres to the bottom of the inner hollow part of the rotator. Both workers sustained injuries and one of them passed away two weeks later.