Update on cluster of CarbapenemaseProducing Enterobacteriaceae cases at Queen Elizabeth Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of patients confirmed to have Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) in a mixed surgical ward, the spokesperson for Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) gave the following update today (November 13):

One more male patient, aged 29, has been confirmed to have CPE without clinical symptoms.

Infection control measures have been stepped up according to the established guidelines in the concerned wards. All other patients in the wards are under close surveillance.

The case has been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for follow-up.

Suspected MERS case reported

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (November 13) reported a suspected case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), and again urged the public to pay special attention to safety during travel, taking due consideration of the health risks in the places they visit. The case is detailed below:

Sex	Female
Age	37
Affected area involved	Dubai, United Arab Emirates
High-risk exposure	Nil
Hospital	Prince of Wales Hospital
Condition	Stable

MERS-Coronavirus	
preliminary test	Negative
result	

"Travellers to the Middle East should avoid going to farms, barns or markets with camels; avoid contact with sick persons and animals, especially camels, birds or poultry; and avoid unnecessary visits to healthcare facilities. We strongly advise travel agents organising tours to the Middle East to abstain from arranging camel rides and activities involving direct contact with camels, which are known risk factors for acquiring MERS Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Locally, the CHP's surveillance with public and private hospitals, with practising doctors and at boundary control points is firmly in place. Inbound travellers and members of the public who recently visited the Middle East and developed fever or lower respiratory symptoms within 14 days will be classified as suspected MERS cases. They will be taken to public hospitals for isolation and management until their specimens test negative for MERS-CoV.

Travellers to affected areas should maintain vigilance, adopt appropriate health precautions and take heed of personal, food and environmental hygiene. The public may visit the MERS pages of the CHP and its Travel Health Service, MERS statistics in affected areas, the CHP's Facebook Page and YouTube Channel, and the World Health Organization's latest news for more information and health advice. Tour leaders and tour guides operating overseas tours are advised to refer to the CHP's health advice on MERS.

SHA, SLW and SFH visit Kwai Tsing District

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Lau Kong-wah, the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Dr Law Chi-kwong, and the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, visited Kwai Tsing District today (November 13) to meet with members of Kwai Tsing District Council (K&TDC) and tour the Open University of Hong Kong Li Ka Shing Institute of Professional and Continuing Education (OUHK LiPACE) to learn about its health care programmes. The three Directors of Bureaux also separately visited a pop-up health checkup station and a secondary school.

Mr Lau first visited Queen's College Old Boys' Association Secondary School and was briefed by the Principal cum Chairman of Kwai Tsing District Sports Association, Mr Hui Yung-chung, on how district sports association promoted rope skipping in the district and schools, and watched a rope

skipping demonstration by students. He then observed students training with rowing machines and a rugby lesson, and chatted with coaches and students.

Accompanied by the Chairman of K&TDC, Mr Law King-shing, and the District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Mr Kenneth Cheng, Dr Law and Professor Chan first went to a pop-up health checkup station of the "Project e+: Dementia Community Support Service" ("Project e+") in Cheung Fat Estate to learn about its general operations including health checks, preliminary cognitive assessments and referral of residents for detailed cognitive assessments as necessary. The two Directors of Bureaux also exchanged views with representatives of Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association on "Project e+" and dementia support services.

"Project e+" was launched by the Kwai Tsing District Office in collaboration with Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association under the District-led Actions Scheme. The project aims to raise community awareness of dementia, enhance early detection of people with dementia, and provide concrete support to people with dementia and their families.

The three Directors of Bureaux then proceeded to OUHK LiPACE together to learn about its health care training programmes. They toured the facilities for teaching and practical training, including a mock-up ward room, and met with students. The institute's health care programmes aim to equip students with the knowledge, skills and professionalism required for practice in the healthcare sector, so as to assist students to join the relevant industry or pursue further studies.

Before concluding the visit, the three Directors of Bureaux exchanged views with K&TDC members on district issues.

Phishing email related to The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited on phishing email, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on the HKMA website for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the email concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the email should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in

the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

<u>Suspicious mobile applications related</u> <u>to Bank of Singapore Limited</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Bank of Singapore Limited on suspicious mobile applications (apps), which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on the HKMA website for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the apps concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the apps should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.