

CHP investigates additional local case of dengue fever

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (August 30) investigating an additional local case of dengue fever (DF) and again urged the public to maintain strict environmental hygiene, mosquito control and personal protective measures both locally and during travel.

The case is detailed below:

Sex	Female
Age	63
Any underlying illness	Yes
Onset date	August 28
Symptoms	Fever, headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgia, arthralgia and vomiting
Residence	Tung Loi Court, Cheung Chau
Local movement during incubation period	Cheung Chau
Recollection of mosquito bite history	Yes
Travel history during incubation period	Nil
Medical attendance	Sought medical attention at Accident and Emergency Department of St John Hospital on August 29 and was transferred and admitted to Queen Mary Hospital on the same day
Condition	Stable
Condition of home contact(s)	Asymptomatic
Dengue virus laboratory result	Positive

"We are working closely with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to assess and prevent possible spread of infection. The FEHD's vector investigations, surveillance and control are ongoing. Epidemiological investigations are ongoing," a spokesman for the CHP said.

"The CHP has provided [information](#) and [locations of the residences and](#)

[local movements](#) of the local DF cases on the CHP's designated webpage for DF to facilitate handy access to information for the public," the spokesman said.

The CHP appeals to members of the public not to visit Lion Rock Park during the closure period in order to prevent contracting DF. Scientific studies have shown that infected persons can transmit the virus to mosquitoes through mosquito bites even if they remain asymptomatic or before their onset of symptoms, leading to further spread of the disease. Hence, people who have visited Lion Rock Park are advised to apply insect repellent for 14 days after their last visit, and those with DF symptoms should seek medical advice as early as possible. Meanwhile, people who reside in or visit Cheung Chau should also be advised to apply insect repellent during their stay and continue applying for 14 days after their last day of stay to prevent infection and secondary spread.

Persons who have been to the vicinity of Wong Tai Sin (particularly Lion Rock Park), Kwai Shing West Estate, Clear Water Bay Second Beach, Cheung Chau (Hillside Road, Tsan Tuen Road, Fa Peng Road, San Hing Street, Cheung Chau Sai Tai Road, Lung Tsai Tsuen, Xavier House, Sai Wan Road, Tung Loi Court and Cheung Chau Peak Road) and Charming Garden with DF symptoms should call the CHP's hotline (2125 1122) for laboratory investigation or referral as appropriate. The hotline operates from 9am to 5.45pm daily.

"We have informed the Guangdong and Macao health authorities to alert them to the latest situation," the spokesman added.

This is the 28th local case recorded this year. Excluding the local cases, as of noon today (August 30), 62 imported cases had been recorded in 2018. The cases were mainly imported from Thailand (26), the Philippines (12) and Cambodia (7).

In the rainy season, the public should take heed of the following advice on mosquito control:

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
- Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
- Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season;
- Avoid staying in shrubby areas; and
- Take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

To reduce the risk of infections spread by mosquitoes, apart from [general measures](#), travellers returning from affected areas should apply insect repellent for 14 days (DF) or at least 21 days (Zika Virus Infection) upon arrival in Hong Kong. If feeling unwell, seek medical advice promptly and provide travel details to the doctor. DEET-containing insect repellents are effective and the public should take heed of the tips below:

- Read the label instructions carefully first;
- Apply right before entering an area with risk of mosquito bites;
- Apply on exposed skin and clothing;
- Use DEET of up to 30 per cent for pregnant women and up to 10 per cent for children*;
- Apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent; and
- Re-apply only when needed and follow the instructions.

* For children who travel to countries or areas where mosquito-borne diseases are endemic or epidemic and where exposure is likely, those aged 2 months or above can use DEET-containing insect repellents with a DEET concentration of up to 30 per cent.

The public should call 1823 in case of mosquito problems and may visit the DF pages of the [CHP](#) and its [Travel Health Service](#), the latest [Travel Health News](#), [tips for using insect repellents](#), the CHP [Facebook Page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#), and the FEHD's [Guidebook on Control and Prevention of Mosquito Breeding](#) for more information.

[HAD's Emergency Co-ordination Centre stood down](#)

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

As the Landslip Warning has been cancelled, the Home Affairs Department's Emergency Co-ordination Centre and the emergency hotline 2835 1473 have ceased to operate.

Gazettal of commencement notice of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Co-location) Ordinance

The commencement notice of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Co-location) Ordinance (Cap 632) will be gazetted tomorrow (August 31), stipulating that the Ordinance will come into operation on September 4, 2018, in order to dovetail with the preparatory works for the implementation of the co-location arrangement at the West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL).

Section 1(2) of the Ordinance provides that the Ordinance will come into operation on a day to be appointed by the Secretary for Transport and Housing by notice published in the Gazette. As stated by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to the relevant Bills Committee during the local legislative process, the HKSAR Government understands that the Mainland personnel need to conduct final preparatory works at the West Kowloon Station Mainland Port Area (MPA) prior to the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL, such as ensuring that all requisite materials have been delivered to the MPA and familiarising themselves with the relevant operational procedures. The HKSAR Government needs to consider whether it would be necessary for the Ordinance to come into operation in a short period of time before the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL, so as to ensure that the West Kowloon Station MPA can operate smoothly after the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL.

Upon detailed discussion with the Mainland, the Secretary for Transport and Housing decided to appoint September 4, 2018 as the day on which the Ordinance will come into operation to dovetail with the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL in the same month. With effect from 00.00 on September 4, 2018, for the purposes of the application of laws and the delineation of jurisdiction in the MPA, the Mainland will exercise jurisdiction over the non-reserved matters as defined in the Ordinance in accordance with the Co-operation Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Establishment of the Port at the West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link for Implementing Co-location Arrangement and the laws of the Mainland. Personnel from the Mainland Authorities Stationed at the Mainland Port Area will also work in the West Kowloon Station MPA to make final preparations for the implementation of the co-location arrangement. As stated in the decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on December 27, 2017, these personnel shall not enforce the law in any area outside the West Kowloon Station MPA.

Starting from the same day (i.e. also with effect from 00.00 on September 4, 2018), the Hong Kong Port Area within the West Kowloon Station will also be declared, in accordance with the provisions of the Co-operation Arrangement, as a cross-boundary restricted area by the MTR Corporation

Limited (MTRCL) by notice published in the Gazette pursuant to the laws of the HKSAR (i.e. Mass Transit Railway By-laws (Cap 556B)). The aforementioned notice to declare the cross-boundary restricted area will also be gazetted tomorrow.

With the implementation of the Ordinance and the cross-boundary restricted area arrangement, persons who enter or leave the two port areas shall produce the cross-boundary restricted area permits issued by the MTRCL, and shall undergo clearance procedures of both sides. This arrangement will assist the clearance departments of both sides to better familiarise themselves with the actual operation of the West Kowloon Station Port in preparation for the formal commencement of operation of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL on September 23, 2018, and to conduct clearance procedures for passengers in a smooth manner, thereby unleashing the full benefits of the XRL in terms of speed and convenience.

To enhance the public's understanding of the co-location arrangement, the HKSAR Government has produced a booklet entitled "Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link Co-location Arrangement – What You Need to Know" to inform the public on various matters requiring their attention as high-speed rail passengers or staff working within the MPA. The booklet is available at the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of the Home Affairs Department and can be downloaded from the Transport and Housing Bureau's website (www.thb.gov.hk).

Relief fund for farmers affected by heavy rainstorms

Local farmers who suffered serious losses caused by the heavy rainstorms can register with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) from tomorrow (August 31) to September 10 for assistance from an emergency relief fund.

An AFCD spokesman said today (August 30) that an appropriate amount of the relief fund would be released to affected farming households according to established criteria.

The department's preliminary investigation has revealed that about 300 hectares of farmland in the New Territories were affected by the rainstorms.

"After each typhoon or natural disaster, our staff will inspect farmland areas in the New Territories to assess the resultant damage," the spokesman said.

"Depending on the gravity of the damage, we may launch an operation to provide some relief to affected farmers."

Applicants for the fund should register at the office of the AFCD's Agricultural Extension Section at 5/F, Yuen Long Government Offices, 2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long, or call 2476 2424 for enquiries.

SHA attends China-Japan-South Korea Cultural Ministers' Meeting in Harbin (with photos)

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Lau Kong-wah, today (August 30) attended the China-Japan-South Korea Cultural Ministers' Meeting in Harbin as a member of the Chinese delegation and delivered a speech introducing the latest and major cultural developments of Hong Kong.

In his speech, Mr Lau said one of the prominent cultural events to be held next year will be the biennial Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum. He thanked China, Japan and South Korea for their past support and participation and invited cultural ministers and delegates of China, Japan and South Korea, as well as delegates of Culture Cities of East Asia and European Capitals of Culture in 2019, to attend the Forum in Hong Kong next year.

In addition, Mr Lau said the Home Affairs Bureau has signed 26 agreements on cultural co-operation to enhance collaboration and exchange with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism as well as provincial and municipal governments and departments. Last year, the "In Touch with Palace Museum" campaign was held in Hong Kong, while a thematic exhibition on Dunhuang culture is being held this year. In the coming year, the "Genesis and Spirit" series will be launched and a Hong Kong Week will be held in Shanghai, he added.

Looking ahead, Mr Lau said the Xiqu Centre in the West Kowloon Cultural District will open by the end of this year, while the Hong Kong Palace Museum and M+ will be completed in the coming years. The Hong Kong Museum of Art will open next year after renovation and expansion. Arts and cultural development will become more prosperous in Hong Kong, he said.

This evening, Mr Lau will attend a joint concert presented by China, Japan and South Korea. Tomorrow morning (August 31) he will take part in a research and study programme on culture and tourism held as part of the Meeting. Mr Lau will return to Hong Kong from Harbin via Shenzhen in the afternoon.

