

# CHP investigates imported measles case

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (March 1) is investigating an imported measles case and reminded members of the public to ensure that they have completed two doses of measles vaccination before travelling to reduce the risk of infection.

The case involves a 38-year-old male with good past health. He developed diarrhea and rash since February 22 and February 25 respectively. He attended the Accident and Emergency Department of Queen Elizabeth Hospital on February 26 and was admitted for treatment and isolation on the same day. His clinical specimen was tested positive for the measles virus upon nucleic acid testing. He is still hospitalised and in stable condition.

Upon notification of the case, the CHP immediately commenced epidemiological investigations. According to the patient, he travelled to Vietnam during the incubation period (February 3 to 8). As he did not have contact with measles patients in Hong Kong, the case has been identified as an imported case. His travel collateral is currently asymptomatic.

He had stayed in Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) during the communicable period. The CHP has maintained a close liaison with the HKSI for follow-up on the contacts of the case. As he also visited the cafeteria of the HKSI from February 22 to 25, the CHP has set up an enquiry hotline (Tel: 2125 2372) for people who visited the cafeteria of the HKSI. The hotline will operate from tomorrow (March 2) to March 7 (from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, and from 9am to 1pm on Sunday).

The investigation is ongoing.

As what the CHP had stated in a recent [press release](#), the number of measles cases in some overseas countries has been on the rise recently. Apart from the United States, measles outbreaks have occurred in neighboring countries, including Vietnam and the Philippines, due to suboptimal overall measles vaccination coverage.

"The incubation period of measles (i.e. the time from infection to onset of illness) is seven to 21 days. Symptoms include fever, skin rash, cough, runny nose and red eyes. When such symptoms appear, people should wear surgical masks, stay home from work or school, avoid crowded places and contact with unvaccinated people, especially those with weak immune system, pregnant women and children under one year old. Those who suspected they are infected should consult their doctors as soon as possible and inform healthcare workers of their history of exposure to measles," the Controller of the CHP, Dr Edwin Tsui, said.

"Under the Hong Kong Childhood Immunisation Programme, the overall immunisation coverage in Hong Kong has been maintained at a very high level through the immunisation services provided by the DH's Maternal and Child

Health Centres and the School Immunisation Teams. As evidenced by the findings on vaccination coverage of primary school students and the territory-wide immunisation surveys conducted regularly by the DH, the two-dose measles vaccination coverage has remained consistently high, well above 95 per cent, and the local seroprevalence rates of measles virus antibodies reflect that most of the people in Hong Kong are immune to measles. However, Hong Kong, as a city with a high volume of international travel, still faces the potential risk of importation of measles virus and its further spread in the local community. Hence, a small number of people who have not completed measles vaccination (such as non-local born people including new immigrants, foreign domestic helpers, overseas employees and people coming to Hong Kong for further studies) are still at risk of being infected and spreading measles to other people who do not have immunity against measles, such as children under one year old who have not yet received the first dose of measles vaccine," he added.

Dr Tsui also noted that people born before 1967 could be considered to have acquired immunity to measles through natural infection, as measles was endemic in many parts of the world and in Hong Kong at that time. People born in or after 1967 who have not yet completed the two doses of measles vaccination or whose measles vaccination history is unknown, to consult their family doctors as soon as possible to complete the vaccination and ensure adequate protection against measles. For those who plan to travel to measles-endemic areas, they should check their vaccination records and medical history as early as possible. If they have not been diagnosed with measles through laboratory tests and have never received two doses of measles vaccine or are not sure if they have received measles vaccine, they should consult a doctor at least two weeks prior to their trip for vaccination.

Besides being vaccinated against measles, members of the public should take the following measures to prevent infection:

- Maintain good personal and environmental hygiene;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- Keep hands clean and wash hands properly;
- Wash hands when they are dirtied by respiratory secretions, such as after sneezing;
- Cover the nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing and dispose of nasal and mouth discharge properly;
- Clean used toys and furniture properly; and
- Persons with measles should be kept out of school till four days from the appearance of a rash to prevent the spread of the infection to non-immune persons in school.

For more information on measles, the public may visit the CHP's [measles thematic page](#). Members of the public who are going to travel can visit the website of the DH's [Travel Health Service](#) for news of measles outbreaks outside Hong Kong.

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## Kai Tak Sports Park Grand Opening Ceremony held today (with photos)

The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, officiated at the Kai Tak Sports Park (KTSP) Grand Opening Ceremony at Kai Tak Stadium today (March 1). The KTSP is the largest sports infrastructure project ever commissioned in Hong Kong. It will boost sports development and inject impetus into related industries such as recreation, entertainment and tourism, and also mega-event economy, thereby consolidating Hong Kong's reputation as an event capital in Asia.

Other officiating guests at the opening ceremony included the Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Mr Zheng Yanxiong; the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki; the President of the Legislative Council, Mr Andrew Leung; the Convenor of the Non-official Members of the Executive Council, Mrs Regina Ip; the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Miss Rosanna Law and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kai Tak Sports Park Limited, Dr Henry Cheng.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Mr Lee, said that the KTSP, the largest sports park in Hong Kong's history, will soon welcome top local, Mainland and international sports, music and cultural events, kicking off Hong Kong Super March. Once an airport in the middle of a busy city, Kai Tak has evolved from a flight terminal to a new global stage for sports, culture and arts, reflecting Hong Kong's spirit of "daring to be the pioneer" and creating unlimited horizons in a limited space.

Opening today, the KTSP provides modern and multi-purpose sports and recreation facilities, including a 50 000-seat Kai Tak Stadium, a 10 000-seat Kai Tak Arena and a 5 000-seat Kai Tak Youth Sports Ground. There are also over 700 000 feet of retail, catering as well as leisure and entertainment facilities in the KTSP, providing a one-stop sports, leisure, catering and shopping experience for citizens and tourists, as well as the necessary hardware for driving the development of sports and the relevant industries. For more information of the KTSP, please visit [www.kaitaksportspark.com.hk](http://www.kaitaksportspark.com.hk).







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## Fatal traffic accident in Aberdeen

Police are investigating a fatal traffic accident in Aberdeen today (March 1) in which a woman died.

At about 8.46am, a public light bus (PLB) driven by a 57-year-old man was travelling along Chi Fu Road westbound. When approaching a carpark on 13-19 Chi Fu Road, it reportedly knocked down an 84-year-old female pedestrian.

Sustaining head injury, the woman was rushed to Queen Mary Hospital in unconscious state and was certified dead at 2.50pm.

The PLB driver was arrested for dangerous driving causing grievous bodily harm after the accident and has been released on bail pending further enquiries. He is required to report back to Police in late March.

Investigation by the Special Investigation Team of Traffic, Hong Kong Island is under way.

Anyone who witnessed the accident or has any information to offer is urged to contact the investigating officers on 3660 6814.

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## Tuen Mun Swimming Pool to reopen tomorrow

Attention TV/radio announcers:

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

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (March 1) that Tuen Mun Swimming Pool in Tuen Mun District, closed earlier due to urgent maintenance works, will be reopened at 6.30am tomorrow (March 2).

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## Speech by CE at Kai Tak Sports Park Grand Opening Ceremony

Following is the speech by the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, at the Kai Tak Sports Park Grand Opening Ceremony today (March 1):

(Cantonese)

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Ladies and gentlemen, tonight is a grand occasion, the opening of Kai Tak Sports Park – the largest sports, entertainment and mega event complex in Hong Kong’s history, spanning over 28 hectares.

Formerly our Kai Tak Airport, this extensive piece of land opened Hong Kong to the world.

And now, Kai Tak Sports Park takes on an even more promising role. Today, we are witnesses to a state-of-the-art new stage for Hong Kong. And like this very Stadium’s retractable roof, the sky is the limit.

From snooker, the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens to football, the upcoming sports events are sure to delight all, on and off the pitch. And you can count on scores of concerts by top singers and bands from home and abroad, here to raise the roof of Kai Tak Stadium.

The magnificent, multi-purpose Kai Tak Sports Park is a grand stage offering the most enjoyable experience for sports and recreation, entertainment and a whole lot more. Our new home ground will raise every game, on every match!

Kai Tak Sports Park is made for you – Hong Kong and the world. Enjoy it all!

(Cantonese)



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