

Update on Candida auris cases at Princess Margaret Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on Candida auris carrier cases, the spokesperson for Princess Margaret Hospital gave the following update today (April 23):

Following contact tracing, two more male patients (aged 37 and 80) in a medicine and geriatrics ward of the hospital were confirmed as Candida auris carriers while not having signs of infection. One of the patients is now being treated under isolation and in stable condition while the other patient has been discharged earlier.

The hospital will continue the contact tracing of close contacts of the patients in accordance with the prevailing guidelines. A series of enhanced infection control measures have already been adopted to prevent the spread of Candida auris:

1. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of the wards concerned;
2. Enhanced admission screening for patients and environmental screening procedures; and
3. Application of stringent contact precautions and enhanced hand hygiene for staff and patients.

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