

## Clean Care for All – It's in Your Hands: Hand Hygiene Promotion in Tuen Mun Hospital

This year, hand hygiene (HH) awareness day was organized by hospital infection control team (ICT) in TMH on 3 May 2019 (photo 1). A promotion booth was set up at the hospital lobby to encourage patients and visitors to join healthcare workers in their efforts to practice good hand hygiene (photo 2).

In addition to the fun games, a hand hygiene scanner (photo 3) was used to provide immediate feedback of hand rubbing technique. Handrub containing fluorescent dye was applied on hands. Good hand rubbing technique should result in a confluent UV glow on the whole hand which can be visualized under the scanner.



Photo 2: Patients / visitors practiced the proper HH technique



Photo 1: ICT of TMH organized the HH promotional activities



Photo 3: Student nurses used the HH scanner to identify missed areas during hand rubbing

## Preparedness and Response Plan for Dengue Fever

In response to the HKSAR Government's Preparedness and Response Plan for Dengue Fever (2019), HA has formulated its "Preparedness Plan for Dengue Fever" and replaced the old document "Operation Plan for Dengue Fever Outbreak".

The current document has adopted a risk based assessment using pre-defined and restricted scenarios. HA's response generally follows the HKSARG's Preparedness and Response Plan and corresponding actions will be implemented at each response level.

It also provides key areas for preparedness and responses level in HA, defines the corresponding command structures, the management action guide and the collaborative actions and coordination with government departments and agencies.

The document has been posted to the intranet at: [http://ha.home/ho/cico/ha\\_Preparedness\\_plan\\_dengue.pdf](http://ha.home/ho/cico/ha_Preparedness_plan_dengue.pdf)



The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has launched an Anti-mosquito Campaign in 2019. The theme of the Campaign is 'Prevent Japanese Encephalitis and Dengue Fever Act Now'.

**Respiratory virus activity update**

According to PHLSB data, over 60% respiratory virus RT-PCR positive results of the recent nine weeks were contributed by enterovirus/rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus and parainfluenza (figure 1). The positive rate of enterovirus/rhinovirus and parainfluenza virus was quite stable at around 3-5% and 9-10% respectively, while positive rate of human metapneumovirus has been on downtrend after the peak in week 15. Activity of influenza (all types) has been slightly increased with positive rate increased from 4.6% in week 16 to 7.1% last week, mainly due to the increasing trend of influenza B (figure 2) and almost all the influenza B viruses isolated from cell culture in the recent 5 weeks belonged to Victoria lineage.

Figure 1: Weekly distribution of respiratory virus positive results

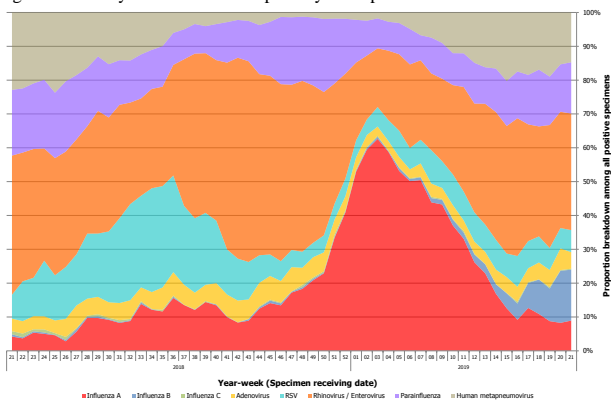
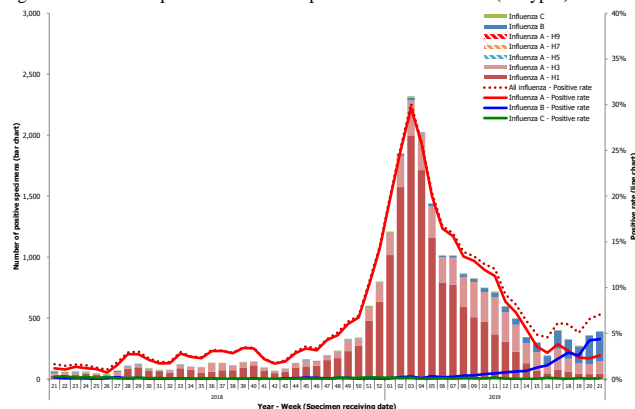


Figure 2: Number of positive results and positive rate – Influenza (all types)



**Latest Epidemiology of Measles**

As of 29 May 2019, there were a total of 76 cases of measles infection (48 males and 28 females) in Hong Kong, aged from 8 months to 49 years.

The outbreak related to Hong Kong International Airport involving 29 airport workers (20 males and 9 females, aged 20 to 49 years) was ended on 17 May.

Another cluster was occurred in a retail shop in Tsim Sha Tsui. Six staff were affected (3 males and 3 females, age ranged from 25 to 31 years).

Besides, there were two men aged 32 and 44 years without obvious epidemiological linkage reported on 28 and 29 May respectively. One of them had documented evidence of measles vaccination and one was unknown.

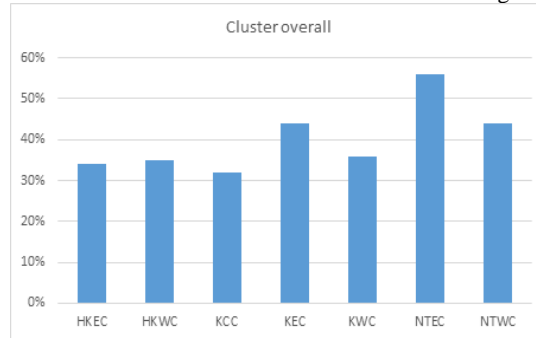
Reference:

CHP - Daily Update on measles situation in Hong Kong. [https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/daily\\_update\\_on\\_measles\\_cases\\_in\\_2019\\_eng.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/daily_update_on_measles_cases_in_2019_eng.pdf)

**Seasonal Influenza Vaccination among HA Staff**

The seasonal influenza vaccination uptake among HA staff in the 2018/19 season was 40% which was higher than previous seasons, 32% in 2017/18 and 27% in 2016/17. The total number of injections among HA staff from 10 October 2018 to 29 May 2019 was 32,238. The highest vaccination uptake rate (56%) was observed in NTEC (figure 3). Among the HA hospitals, there were 11 hospitals with vaccination uptake rates over 50%.

Figure 3: Seasonal Influenza Vaccination 2018/19 among HA Staff



**HA Guidelines for Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings**

Hand hygiene (HH) has been recognized as the most important measure to prevent nosocomial infections. HA has adopted the World Health Organization (WHO) multi-modal HH improvement strategy and the concept of ‘five moments for HH’ for more than ten years. To assist our staff members to improve and sustain HH compliance and thereby to reduce nosocomial infections, HA has recently issued the guidelines for HH with a series of best practice recommendations linked to effective HH. The recommended practices included:

- HH indications and technique
- Agents for HH
- Hand drying, nail and hand care
- HH facilities
- Bare below the elbows
- Appropriate use of gloves with respect to HH
- HH observation and feedback
- Training and education
- HH among patients and visitors
- Patient empowerment on HH



The guideline can now be accessed via: [https://ha.home/ho/ps/GL\\_HH\\_healthcare\\_Settings.pdf](https://ha.home/ho/ps/GL_HH_healthcare_Settings.pdf).