

Dear colleagues and students,

### **Precautionary measures on the cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan of Hubei**

Following the latest report on the cluster of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan by the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, the Hong Kong Government has launched the Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance and activated the Serious Response Level with immediate effect.

Precautionary measures have been taken on campus. All campus facilities that are frequently used by members of the University community will be cleaned and disinfected more often, including study areas, libraries, student hostels, washrooms, lecture rooms, examination halls, clinics, lift compartments and lift lobbies. In the meantime, facemasks are available for purchase at Student Union Welfare Cooperation Shop on Ho Sin Hang Campus and Baptist University Road Campus (BURC) as well as University Bookshop on BURC.

The University will continue to keep a close watch on the latest developments of the novel infectious disease and to make further announcements whenever necessary. At present, members of the University community are advised to remain vigilant against the disease and take precautionary measures as follows:

- Avoid visiting wet markets with live poultry markets or farms.
- Avoid touching poultry and birds (live or dead) or their droppings. If contacts have been made, avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, wash hands thoroughly with liquid soap and water.
- Practise good personal and environmental hygiene. Wash the hands thoroughly before touching eyes, nose and mouth. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, hand hygiene with alcohol-based handrub is an effective alternative.
- Cover mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose soiled tissues properly into a lidded rubbish bin and wash hands thoroughly.
- Adhere to food safety and hygiene rules and cook animal products thoroughly before eating.
- Avoid close contact with patients with symptoms of acute respiratory infections. Wear surgical mask when required to take care of these patients.
- Wear a surgical mask especially going to crowded places, clinics or hospitals, etc. and seek medical advice promptly when having respiratory symptoms.
- If feeling unwell when outside Hong Kong, especially if having a fever or cough, wear a surgical mask, inform the hotel staff or tour escort and seek medical advice at once.
- After returning to Hong Kong, consult a doctor promptly if having a fever or other symptoms, inform the doctor of recent travel history and wear a surgical mask to help prevent spread of the disease.

If colleagues and students have any queries on the novel infectious disease, please feel free to contact the Environmental Health and Safety Section of the Estates Office through their hotline on 3411 7997 or email [ehsu@hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:ehsu@hkbu.edu.hk).