

電話 Tel : 傳真 Fax :

(Date)

To : All Market Stall Tenants

Health Advice on the Prevention of Respiratory Tract Infections

In the wake of recent atypical pneumonia incidents in Hong Kong, the Department of Health has issued a set of health advice that is also applicable to all market stalls. Attached is a copy of the advice for your reference.

In addition, we also take this opportunity to urge you to adopt the following measures immediately to protect the health of your employees and customers:

- Step up cleaning and disinfection of the walls, floors, fixtures and equipment at the stall.
- Any employee found suffering from respiratory tract illness should cease work immediately and consult a registered medical practitioner.
- All food, beverage and tableware must be stored properly.
- In addition to providing customers with tableware for their own use, cooked food stall operators should also take the initiative to provide them with additional chopsticks or spoons for the common serving of food.
- Tableware/towels provided to customers must be thoroughly washed and sterilized before re-use.

If you have any enquiry about this letter, please contact Mr./Ms _____, Senior Health Inspector, on _____.

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for Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Health Advice on the Prevention of Respiratory Tract Infections in Public Places

Members of the public are advised to avoid frequenting crowded public places to prevent the spread of respiratory tract infections. When visiting crowded places such as cinemas and restaurants, the following precautionary measures should be taken:

- Maintain good personal hygiene. Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing
- Dispose of used tissue paper properly
- Keep hands clean. Wash hands when they are dirtied by respiratory secretions e.g. after sneezing
- Do not share towels
- Consult your doctor promptly if you develop respiratory symptoms, and follow instructions given by your doctor including the use of drugs as prescribed and adequate rest as appropriate
- Patients should put on masks to reduce the chance of spread of infection

Workers in public places should take the following precautionary measures to reduce the chance of spread of infection :

- Maintain good personal hygiene. Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing
- Wash hands after sneezing, coughing or cleaning the nose
- Consult your doctor promptly if you develop respiratory symptoms
- Allow plenty of fresh air into the indoor environment
- If the facilities are mechanically ventilated, ensure frequent air exchanges and proper maintenance and cleansing of the system
- Ensure that toilet flushing apparatus is functioning properly
- Provide toilets with liquid soap and disposable tissue towels or hand dryers
- Cleanse and disinfect the facilities (including furniture and toilet facilities) regularly (at least once a day), using diluted household bleach (i.e. adding 1 part of household bleach to 99 parts of water), rinse with water and then mop dry
- If the facilities are contaminated with vomitus, wash / wipe with diluted domestic bleach (mixing 1 part of bleach with 49 parts of water) immediately

Department of Health
17 March 2003