

(Translation)

April 2004

To: All Licensees of Food Premises / Food Permittees / Licensees of Non-Food Premises

Precautionary Measures Against Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

As we all know, a few SARS cases have recently been reported in the Mainland. In Hong Kong, we should always stay alert and take the following precautionary measures against the recurrence of SARS:

- Step up cleaning for the premises through frequent cleansing and disinfection of the walls, floors, utensils, tables, chairs and equipment on the premises. Special attention should be paid to the tidiness and hygienic conditions of the kitchens, food rooms and toilets.
- Strengthen pest control by conducting inspection of the premises and implementing pest control measures regularly.
- Step up cleaning, inspection and maintenance for all ventilating systems on the premises, including air outlets, air filters, fresh air inlets and ventilating ducts.
- In addition to providing customers with tableware for their own use, licensees of restaurants and factory canteens should also take the initiative to provide customers of each table with additional chopsticks or spoons for the common serving of food.
- All food, beverage and tableware must be stored and covered properly. All food must also be covered properly during delivery.
- Remind the staff on a regular basis of the importance of personal hygiene and the need to maintain good personal hygiene habits, such as washing the hands frequently and covering the nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing to prevent droplet spread.
- Any employee found suffering from respiratory tract illness should cease work and consult a medical practitioner immediately.

To stay healthy and avoid business loss, you should strengthen the supervision on your staff to ensure that they strictly observe the above guidelines. We trust you will continue to respond positively to our appeal and do your best to prevent the recurrence of SARS.

For enquiries, please contact Mr/Ms _____, Senior Health Inspector of this Department, on _____.

Yours faithfully,

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For Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene