



## Health Advice for Driver, Crew and Operational Staff of Public Transport on the Prevention of SARS

According to the advice from Department of Health, drivers, crew and operational staff of public transport companies are advised to take the following precautionary measures at their workplaces to minimize the risk of contracting and spreading SARS:

### During the Non-SARS period

#### 1. **Maintain good personal hygiene**

- Wash hands frequently, especially in the following situations:
  - before touching eyes, nose and mouth, if there is a need to do so;
  - before handling food or eating;
  - after sneezing, coughing, cleaning the nose and going to toilet;
  - after handling dollar notes or coins; and
  - after touching public installations or equipment, such as escalator handrails, elevator control panels or door knobs.
- Cover the nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing and wash hands immediately with liquid soap afterwards.
- If you develop respiratory symptoms or fever, you should consult doctor early and take sick leave if necessary.

#### 2. **Wear mask**

- The following people are recommended to wear a mask, if:
  - they have symptoms of respiratory infection or fever; and
  - they care for patients with respiratory infection or fever.

#### 3. **Ensure good ventilation inside train/vehicle/vessel compartments**

- Ensure the air-conditioning system is well maintained. Clean the air filter frequently.

#### 4. **Keep train/vehicle/vessel compartments clean**

- Wash/wipe compartments with a diluted household bleach solution (1 part bleach : 99 parts water) regularly. Then rinse with water and wipe dry.
- If cleaning vomitus, use a diluted household bleach solution (1 part bleach : 49 parts water). Rinse the area with water and wipe dry.
- Wear gloves when carrying out cleansing works.

### When SARS is reported locally

#### *Additional measures to the above*

#### 1. **Wear mask**

- The following people should wear a mask:
  - those working in crowded or poorly ventilated places; and
  - those who have been in close contact<sup>Note 1</sup> with SARS patients (they should wear a mask for 10 days from the last contact).
- Social contact<sup>Note 2</sup> of a SARS patient may also wear a mask.

#### 2. **Ensure good ventilation inside train/vehicle/vessel compartments**

- Keep windows open as appropriate and where possible to maintain good ventilation, including the driver/captain's cabin<sup>Note 3</sup>.
- For enclosed compartments or where air-conditioning is necessary, the fresh air inlet volume should be adjusted to the maximum level.

#### 3. **Keep train/vehicle/vessel compartments clean**

- Step up cleansing and pay particular attention to the cleaning of seats, handrails, safety belts and buckles and air inlet/outlet inside compartments.
- Assign responsible staff to monitor cleansing works for vehicle/vessel compartments at termini/piers in between departures<sup>Note 3</sup>.

#### 4. **Service attitude**

- If a passenger with key symptoms of SARS is on board the train/vehicle/vessel compartment:
  - please advise that passenger to wear a mask (if the passenger is not wearing one) in a friendly manner; and
  - if situation warrants, assist to call for ambulance service or the Marine Police (if in outlying island) for conveyance of the patient to the hospital.

Note 1: Close contact means someone who cares for, lives with, or has direct contact with the respiratory secretions or bodily fluids of a person with SARS.

Note 2: Social contact means someone who has casual contact with a person suffering from SARS, i.e. someone not involved in the care of, not living with, or not having direct contact with the respiratory secretions or bodily fluids of an infected person.

Note 3: Not applicable to train.