

**Information provided in response to letter of 21 January from
the Clerk to Select Committee to inquire into the handling of
the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak by
the Government and the Hospital Authority**

(a) When did the Department of Health (DH) obtain such information?

On being notified on 24 February 2003 of the case of [REDACTED] having been admitted to Kwong Wah Hospital, DH sent a public health nurse in the afternoon to the hospital to initiate investigation. She was not able to interview [REDACTED] as he had already been intubated. The nurse eventually managed to speak in turn to [REDACTED]'s wife, his daughter and [REDACTED]'s sister over the phone on the same day.

(b) Who provided DH with such information?

The information about the health condition of [REDACTED] before coming to Hong Kong was provided to DH by [REDACTED] and his daughter during the telephone interview on 24 February 2003. [REDACTED]'s wife

(c) Did DH obtain copies of CXR done on 17 and 20 February 2003 and if so, when and from whom?

DH did not obtain copies of CXR done on 17 and 20 February 2003.

Department of Health
January 2004