

SC2 Paper No.: A146

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部衛生福利及食物局

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau Government Secretariat, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region The People's Republic of China

Our ref.: HWF CR/1/9/581/03

Your ref.: CB2/SC2

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11 March 2004

Miss Flora TAI
Clerk to Select Committee to inquire into the
handling of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
outbreak by the Government and the Hospital Authority
Legislative Council
8 Jackson Road, Hong Kong
(Fax: 2248 2011)

Dear Miss TAI,

Select Committee to inquire into the handling of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak by the Government and the Hospital Authority

Thank you for your letter of 18 February. The information requested has been set out in the attached Appendix SC09 15N-EW. — A145 to A148

Kindly note that some of the documents attached contain detailed medical histories/conditions, travel and/or contact histories of patients infected with SARS. We should be grateful if you would give due regard to the nature of such information in any further disclosure of the documents.

Yours sincerely,

(Patrick T. K. NIP)

for Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Encl.

c.c. D of Health (Attn: Mr John LEUNG)

Information provided in response to letter of 18 February 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

A1(C)

Dr LEUNG Pak-yin has reconfirmed his attendance at all the meetings of the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau Task Force on SARS. SC09-17Q-EY Replacements of pages 2 and 3 of Annex C to SC04-15P-EY, the Paper on Health, Welfare and Food Bureau's SARS Task Force, Chief Executive's Steering Committee and Interdepartmental Action Coordinating Committee, are attached.

- (b) A copy of the SARS case questionnaire of Amoy Gardens index patient (YY);
- (c) A copy of the SARS case questionnaire of YY's brother, who was admitted to United Christian Hospital (UCH) on 24 March 2003;
- (d) The date when the Department of Health (DH) found out YY had resided in Amoy Gardens;

On 23 March 2003, the New Territories East Regional Office (NTERO) of DH was notified of a case admitted to Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) which later turned out to be the Amoy Gardens index patient (YY). The DH Team at PWH followed up on the case on the same day and completed a case questionnaire on this patient in the afternoon. A copy of the completed case questionnaire is at **Annex 1**. NTERO of DH managed to contact the father of YY on 24 March 2003 and was told that all family contacts were asymptomatic.

As part of DH's contact tracing work, the department contacted the father again on 25 March 2003 and was informed that YY's brother had developed fever and cough and was admitted to UCH on 24 March 2003. NTERO immediately referred the case of the brother to Kowloon Regional Office (KRO) for further investigation. KRO investigated the case of YY's brother and conducted contact tracing on the same day (i.e. 25 March

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2003) upon which the brother identified YY as one of his household contacts at his residence in Amoy Gardens Block E. A copy of the case questionnaire completed on the brother is at **Annex 2**.

(e) The minutes prepared by Dr Thomas TSANG proposing the evacuation of —— A147 Block E residents of Amoy Gardens under a removal order and the circumstance under which the minutes were produced for discussion

Dr Thomas TSANG did not make any submission to the Director of Health proposing for the evacuation of the Block E residents on 1 April 2003. However, Dr Tsang did submit to the then Director of Health a minute dated 30 March 2003 recommending the isolation of Block E residents of the Amoy Gardens. A copy of the submission is at Annex 3.

(f) Documents leading to the decision to amend the Quarantine and — A148 Prevention of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 141)

Please refer to page 7 of Annex B and page 6 of Annex G to SC04 15P-EY, the Paper on Health, Welfare and Food Bureau's SARS Task Force, Chief Executive's Steering Committee and Interdepartmental Action Coordinating Committee, which, respectively, are the records of the 5th meeting of the Task Force on SARS held on 26 March 2003 at which the then Director of Health recommended a basket of public health measures (including the amendment of Cap.141), and the notes of CESC meeting held on 26 March 2003 recording discussions on the matter.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau / Department of Health March 2004



Department of Health

Questionnaire A (v1.1)

for Investigation of Respiratory Illness Outbreak in PWH, March 2003

The Department of Health is notified of an outbreak of respiratory illness in wards of Prince of Wales Hospital on 11 March 2003. To help our investigation, please complete the questionnaires and return to us by fax at 2699 7691 as soon as possible. Please contact us at 2158 5118 if you have any queries. Thank you

Region: H/K/E/W Ref. No.: 40500 (for DH staff only) (Please fill in the blanks or circle the appropriate answers if applicable)

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Date of leave:	2 16/203		T masm tune Ac		,			

*(SL -sick leave; IL -informed leave; VL -vacation leave; OT -other leave or sick leave known not related to flu-like symptoms)

Clinical History

(From 15 February 2003 to					. -
	1st episode	2nd episode		Ist epipode	2nd episode
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Explanatory Notes on Annex 1

Some of the data marked in manuscript on the questionnaire were data which were obtained through subsequent investigation on the case after the questionnaire was first completed on 23 March 2003. They were marked on the questionnaire after that date.

SRS Case Questionnaire

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Fever	N(Y:)						
Cough	:Y (N)		1		,		
Sputum	:Y (M)						
Runny nose	:Y/(N)				••		
Malaise	:Y/N						
Chills	W) N						
Myalgia	:Y /(V)		•				į.
Vomiting	(Ŷ/N						
Abdominal pain	:Y /(♥)						
Night sweat	:Y (N)						
Sore throat	:Y (Ŋ)						•
Colour of sputum	_	een / bloodst	ained / others				
Headache	:Y (N)		·				
Dizziness	:Y /(D)		,				
Rigor	(Ý)/N		-				
Loss of appetite	:Y/(N)		я				1
Other symptoms		. /1	diambreo	€ X 2	these		
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