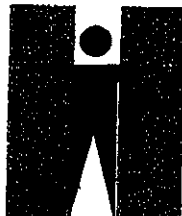


香港特別行政區政府
衛生署
香港灣仔皇后大道東213號
胡忠大廈17及21樓



SC2 Paper No. : A150

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
WU CHUNG HOUSE, 17TH & 21ST FLOORS,
213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI,
HONG KONG.

本署編號 OUR REF.:
來函編號 YOUR REF.:
電話 TEL.:
圖文傳真 FAX.:

15 March 2004

Miss Flora Tai
Clerk to the Select Committee
(By Fax: 2248 2011 – 15 pages)

Dear Miss Tai,

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

Further to my letter of 3 March 2004, I hereby attach the additional information requested by the Select Committee.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr P Y Leung)
Deputy Director of Health

c.c. Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food – with encl.
Department of Justice – with encl.

We are committed to providing quality client-oriented service

<u>Additional information</u>	
(1)	<p>Whether DH had contacted the Fujian authorities after confirmation of the avian flu case with recent history of travel to Fujian on 19 Feb 2003.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following confirmation of a case of avian flu infection on 19 Feb in a nine-year boy who had a recent travel history to Fujian, DH immediately informed the Fujian Health Department and the Beijing Ministry of Health (MOH) of the case details, including the information about the boy's younger sister who died while visiting Fujian with the family and the case of the boy's father. In response, the MOH informed us that preliminary investigation results did not demonstrate any of the other close family members or hospital staff that had been in contact with the girl had similar symptoms.
(2)	<p>Protocols and forms for notification and isolation arrangements (e.g. Discharge Against Medical Advice / DAMA) developed after SARS was included into Cap 141 on 27 Mar 2003.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DH issued a letter to all doctors to inform them of the amendment on 27 Mar 2003 and the revised notification form (<u>Annex 1</u>). - On 3 Apr 2003, standard forms on DAMA hospital order were sent to the HA (<u>Annex 2</u>).
(3)	<p>Copy of e-mail advising to use "SRS" instead of "SARS" in public communications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copies of e-mails dated 21, 23, 25 and 27 Mar 2003 are at <u>Annex 3</u>.
(4)	<p>Edition and year of the Oxford Textbook of Public Health quoted in para. 29 of Dr Leung's written statement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fourth Edition, 2002

(5)	<p>Whether the 3% cases quoted in Dr Au's written statement actually referred to (a) cases where contact tracing work was not commenced within the 24-hr performance pledge, or (b) cases not successfully contacted within the 24-hr performance pledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A2(e) of Dr Au's written statement is self-explanatory, which stated that "Although we initiated contact tracing action within 24 hours of receipt of a report, it was not possible to reach the contacts within that period in all cases. Retrospective analysis indicates that in about 3% of the reported cases were their contacts not reached within 24 hours."
(6)	<p>Why contact tracing was not conducted on YY (Amoy Garden index patient) on 16 and 17 Mar?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To help understand the matter, we would first refer the Select Committee to a general description on data flow from Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) to NTERO, starting with the establishment on 13 Mar of the PWH Disease Control Centre, in para 27 to 28 of Dr Au's written statement. - Specifically on the case of YY, para 30 of Dr Au's written statement provides the details, as follows:- →"YY was not referred to the DH Team at DCC for immediate follow up on 16 March. As his name appeared on the list of that day, the NTERO nursing team initiated follow up action on 17 March. Given the list did not contain the phone no. of YY, the nursing team sought the assistance of PWH ward staff. With the phone no. not available by the evening of 17 March, the case was referred to the DH Team at DCC for direct face to face interview on 18 March. By then, YY had already been tested positive for influenza A. Hence, no follow up action was taken."

(7)	<p>Number of patients discharged from PWH Ward 8A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- On 11 Mar, DH noted from media reports about an abnormal pattern of sick leave among staff of PWH Ward 8A. During the first meeting at PWH on the same day, we were told that Ward 8A had been closed to admission and discharge since 10 Mar. DH, however, was not subsequently consulted, involved in any discussion, or informed about the re-opening of Ward 8A. And DH did not have data on the number of patients discharged from Ward 8A after 10 Mar.
-----	--

(15 March 2004)

Amendment to the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease
Ordinance, Cap 141

Annex 1

27 March 2003

Dear Doctor,

A recent cluster of a new respiratory illness known as "Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome" has made a significant impact on the local community and other places worldwide. In order to effectively control the spread of this disease in Hong Kong, the Director of Health has issued an Order today (27 March 2003) to amend the First Schedule of the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance by adding "Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome" (嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症) to the list of infectious diseases specified in that Schedule. Another Order to add this disease to the notification form i.e. Form 2 of the Schedule to the Prevention of the Spread of Infectious Diseases Regulations (Cap 141 sub. leg. B) has also been issued as a consequence of the inclusion of this disease in the list of statutory notifiable diseases. The two Orders have been gazetted today with immediate effect.

As Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome is a new disease entity, the clinical presentation and diagnosis of which may be changed when more information is being revealed in due course. At the moment, the case definition proposed by the World Health Organisation should be used as the criteria for a confirmed case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

Case Definition of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome as at 27 March 2003

1. high fever ($>38^{\circ}\text{C}$), **AND**
2. one or more respiratory symptoms including cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, **AND**
3. close contact* with a person who has been diagnosed with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

* close contact means having cared for, having lived with, or having had direct contact with respiratory secretions and body fluids of a person with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

We will keep you informed of the latest definition of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome based on the best available information.

According to regulation 4 of the Prevention of the Spread of Infectious Diseases Regulations, medical practitioners are required to report to the Director of Health a suspected case of the disease.

Attached please find a revised notification form for reporting infectious disease. The form can also be downloaded from Department of Health's website (www.info.gov.hk/dh). Your co-operation to combat the disease is very much appreciated. Thanks.

16-MAR-2004 08:55 FROM DEPT OF HEALTH

TO 22482011

P.06

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. L.Y. Tse)
for Director of Health

16-MAR-2004 09:07

+852 2573 7432

98%

P.06

**FORM 2
QUARANTINE AND PREVENTION OF DISEASE ORDINANCE
(Cap. 141)**

**Notification of Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis
Particulars of Infected Person**

Name in English:	Name in Chinese:	Age/Sex:	I.D. Card/Passport No.:
Address:		Telephone Number:	
Place of Work/ School Attended:		Telephone Number:	
Hospital(s) attended:		Hospital/A&E Number:	

Disease ["✓"] below Suspected/Confirmed on ____ / ____ / ____ .

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acute Poliomyelitis | <input type="checkbox"/> Leprosy | <input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Fever |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amoebic Dysentery | <input type="checkbox"/> Malaria | <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bacillary Dysentery | <input type="checkbox"/> Measles | <input type="checkbox"/> Tetanus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chickenpox | <input type="checkbox"/> Meningococcal Infections | <input type="checkbox"/> Typhoid Fever |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cholera | <input type="checkbox"/> Mumps | <input type="checkbox"/> Typhus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dengue Fever | <input type="checkbox"/> Paratyphoid Fever | <input type="checkbox"/> Viral Hepatitis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diphtheria | <input type="checkbox"/> Plague | <input type="checkbox"/> Whooping Cough |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Poisoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabies | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Fever |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Influenza A(H5) | <input type="checkbox"/> Relapsing Fever | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legionnaires' Disease | <input type="checkbox"/> Rubella | |

Notified under the Prevention of the Spread of Infectious Diseases Regulations by

Dr. _____ on ____ / ____ / ____
(Full Name in BLOCK Letters) (Date)

Telephone Number: _____

(Signature)

Remarks:

Annex 2

Thomas CHUNG
03/04/2003 16:31

To: "Beatrice CHENG" <[redacted]>
cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: DAMA patients suspected/ diagnosed to have SARS
 Urgent Return Receipt

Beatrice,

Please ask your staff in the hospital to call our MCO. Our MCO will sign and fax a letter (attached) to the attending doctor who will give the letter to the patient / guardian.

Thomas



Hospital order - adult.pdf Hospital order - minor.pdf

"Beatrice CHENG" <[redacted]@ha.org.hk>



"Beatrice CHENG"
<[redacted]@ha.org.hk>
2003/04/03 02:27 PM
Please respond to
"Beatrice CHENG"

To: <[redacted]@dh.gov.hk>
cc:
Subject: DAMA patients suspected/ diagnosed to have SARS
 Urgent Return Receipt

Dear Thomas

PY sent a copy of the letter to Dr Ko. Dr Ko asked me to FU with you on the procedures on what frontline staff should do.

Can you please advise?

Call MCO? Call HQDO? What else do they need to do?

Regards

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

(Prevention of the Spread of the Infectious Diseases Regulations)

It has come to my attention that you _____ are suspected / diagnosed by your attending physician to be suffering from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

I would like to remind you that SARS is now an infectious disease listed in the First Schedule of the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance, Cap 141, Laws of Hong Kong. If you fail to comply with the recommendation from your attending physician regarding hospital admission or insist to be discharged, I will exercise the power conferred on me as a health officer by section 10 of the Prevention of the Spread of the Infectious Diseases Regulations, Cap 141B to order you to be removed to a hospital.



(Dr
Health Officer

Date : _____

嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症

(防止傳染病蔓延規例)

本人得悉，你的主診醫生診斷 / 懷疑你 _____ 感染了嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症。

嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症現已屬於本港法例第 141 章《檢疫及防疫條例》附表 1 內的其中一種傳染病。如果你不遵從你主診醫生的建議入院或堅持出院，我將會行使第 141 章 B 防止傳染病蔓延規例第 10 條賦與我作為衛生主任的權力，指令你被搬移至一所醫院。



(
衛生主任

日期： 年 月 日

Letter for adult

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

(Prevention of the Spread of the Infectious Diseases Regulations)

It has come to my attention that your child _____ is suspected / diagnosed by his / her attending physician to be suffering from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

I would like to remind you that SARS is now an infectious disease listed in the First Schedule of the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance, Cap 141, Laws of Hong Kong. If you fail to comply with the recommendation from the attending physician regarding hospital admission of your child or insist him / her to be discharged, I will exercise the power conferred on me as a health officer by section 10 of the Prevention of the Spread of the Infectious Diseases Regulations, Cap 141B to order your child to be removed to a hospital.



(Dr _____)
Health Officer

嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症 (防止傳染病蔓延規例)

本人得悉，你孩子的主診醫生診斷 / 懷疑你的孩子感染了嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症。

嚴重急性呼吸系統綜合症現已屬於本港法例第 141 章《檢疫及防疫條例》附表 1 內的其中一種傳染病。如果你不遵從主診醫生要求你孩子入院的建議或堅持出院，我將會行使第 141 章 B，防止傳染病蔓延規例第 10 條賦與我作為衛生主任的權力，指令你的孩子被搬移至一所醫院。



(_____ 醫生)
衛生主任

日期： 年 月 日

Letter for minor

Annex 3

Debbie HO
2003/03/21 01:04 PM

To: &DH/Saturday Directorate Meeting
&DH/CPHO
cc
Subject: atypical pneumonia
 Urgent Return Receipt

At a meeting this am, SHWF said we should all put our heads together and come up with a name for what members of the public understand is atypical pneumonia. He thinks there must be a better name than SARS.

HWFB welcomes any suggestion.

Debbie

Debbie HO
2003/03/23 11:38 AM

To: &DH/Saturday Directorate Meeting
&DH/CPHO
Yvonne YP CHOI/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
Juliana CHEN/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
MARY YM LEUNG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
Daisy KK LO/CSO/HKSARG@CSO
REBEKAH MKY WONG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
SY TAM/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
PAUL BROWN/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
BOB HOWLETT/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
Ella NW TAM/CEO/HKSARG@CEO
cc: Eva ST WONG/DH/HKSARG@DH
Diana KAM/DH/HKSARG@DH

Subject: atypical pneumonia
 Urgent Return Receipt

SHWF has advised that we should refer to this unique type of atypical pneumonia cases in HK as "severe respiratory syndrome" instead of "severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)" as adopted by WHO. The Chinese is 嚴重呼吸系統綜合症.

FYI, pl.

Debbie

Debbie HO
2003/03/25 07:24 PM

To: &DH/D
&DH/DD[1]
&DH/DD[2]
&DH/AD[HA&P]
&DH/AD[PHS]
&DH/ConCM[ic]DPCD
&DH/ConCM[NCD]
&DH/CP[HK]
&DH/CP[K]
&DH/CP[NTE]
&DH/CP[NTW]
&DH/CPHO
&DH/PMO[3]
&DH/PMO[6]
Thomas CHUNG/DH/HKSARG@DH
Command Post 1/DH/HKSARG@DH
Command Post 2/DH/HKSARG@DH
&DH/AD[SHS]
&DH/CP[NTE]
&DH/PMO[4]
TC SHIU/DH/HKSARG@DH

cc:
Subject: "severe respiratory syndrome"
 Urgent Return Receipt

FYI, pl.

— Forwarded by Debbie HO/DH/HKSARG on 2003/03/25 07:24 PM —

Anita KY LEUNG@ISD
2003/03/25 06:59 PM

To: REBEKAH MKY WONG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
AMY SB CHUI/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
cc: Carrie KL YAU/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Thomas KC YIU/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Angela YW LUK/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Tony N CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Debbie HO/DH/HKSARG@DH
rwilo@ha.org.hk
Diana KAM/DH/HKSARG@DH
Brenda SL LEE/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Frankie KO CHOI/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
Jessie LK WONG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
Sally PY KONG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
Mazy FS LEE/EDLB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Yvonne CY NG/EMB/HKSARG@EMB
Daisy KK LO/CSO/HKSARG@CSO
Joanna CH CHOI/HWB/HKSARG@HWB
Ingrid YEUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Su Vui LO/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
David KK LAU/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Subject: "severe respiratory syndrome"
 Urgent Return Receipt

Please be informed that the Chinese translation for "severe respiratory syndrome" is 「嚴重呼吸系統綜合症」.

This has been agreed by both HWFB and DH.

In using the English term "severe respiratory syndrome", please try not to abbreviate it as "SRS".

If there is any problem in using the term, please feel free to contact me.

Anita Leung
SPO(HWF)
Tel: 2842-8698

Angela YW LUK@HWFB
2003/03/27 07:58 PM

To: Margaret CHAN/DH/HKSARG@DH
PY LAM/DH/HKSARG@DH
PY LEUNG/DH/HKSARG@DH
LY TSE/DH/HKSARG@DH
Thomas TSANG/DH/HKSARG@DH

cc:
Subject: Severe acute respiratory syndrome
 Urgent Return Receipt

Preceding messages for your information please. You may wish to inform colleagues in DH.

Angela

— Forwarded by Angela YW LUK/HWFB/HKSARG on 27.03.2003 07:53 PM —

Anita KY
LEUNG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD
27.03.2003 05:55 PM
 Urgent
 Return Receipt

To: &Group[Directorate]/ISD/HKSARG
&Group[ISD DU & SPO]/ISD/HKSARG
Carrie KL YAU/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Thomas KC YIU/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Patrick TK NIP/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
ROBIN GILL/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Sally PY WONG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
David KK LAU/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Brenda SL LEE/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Eddy YT CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Ingrid YEUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Diane SH WONG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Angela YW LUK/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Joanna CH CHOI/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Annette LY LEE/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Brenda MF FUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Mary FY TSANG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Stephen KL PANG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Edward KW LAW/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Priscilla TO/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Cordefia WK LAM/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Ernest CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Keith TS GIANG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Amy WS YEUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Peter CK KWOK/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Noel FY TSANG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Kathy NS CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Nicholas CT CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Eleanor SC JIM/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
John LB HUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
So Ching CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Rosalind MY CHEUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Paul YY WONG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Kenneth SY CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Katharine MY CHOI/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Elina TT CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Fiona WS LI/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Daniel PW SIN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Patricia PY CHUNG/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Tommy YW LAI/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Phidias KC TAM/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Vivian KC/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Shirley YP KWAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Tony N CHAN/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Mary FY TSANG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
May KM FUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Yolanda YY LUI/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Peggy LUI/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
Judy YIP/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
Clara LY LI/HWB/HKSARG@HWB
Bonnie KC AU/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB

Florence WH CHUNG/HWB/HKSARG@HWE
 Peggy WK LEUNG/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
 MH LAM/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
 Eva SK TSO/HWFB/HKSARG@HWFB
 Eva WY TSANG/HKETONY/HKSARG@HKETONY
 Daniel
 MCATEE/HKETOWASHINGTON/HKSARG@Hketowashing
 ton
 Jean
 IP/HKETOSANFRANCISCO/HKSARG@hketosanfrancisco
 John
 TAM/HKETOTORONTO/HKSARG@HKETOTORONTO
 Roger TAM/HKETOSIN/HKSARG@HKETOSIN
 YL LAM/HKETOSYDNEY/HKSARG@hketosydney
 M Fujiwara/HKETOTYO/HKSARG@Hketotyo
 Linda
 SANSBURY/HKETOBRUSSELS/HKSARG@hketobrusse
 ls
 John
 LEUNG/HKETOGENEVA/HKSARG@HKETOGENEVA
 Raphael LI/HKETOLONDON/HKSARG@HKETOLONDON
 cc: Brenda SL LEE/HWFB/POO/HKSARG@POO
 Subject: Severe acute respiratory syndrome

Dear all,

Please note the preceding message from Miss Brenda Lee, Press Secretary to the Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, in which she has advised on how to use the term "severe acute respiratory syndrome" in Hong Kong. Thank you for your attention.

Regards

Anita

SPO(HWF)

— Forwarded by Anita KY LEUNG/ISD/HKSARG on 27/03/2003 05:44 PM —

Brenda SL LEE@POO

27/03/2003 03:41 PM

Urgent

Return Receipt

To: Anita KY LEUNG/ISD/HKSARG@ISD

Subject: pls see text attached

To answer some questions from colleagues on the term "severe acute respiratory syndrome", SHWF said we can follow WHO's suggestion to use this standardised term but should refrain from using the abbreviation "SARS" and use "SRS" instead. To circumvent the problem of raising queries on whether the abbreviation means a different disease, you may consider keeping the name of the disease in its full form or refer to it as "the disease", "the virus" in the latter part of your correspondence or press release.

For your information and reference pls.

End