

Atypical Pneumonia Outbreak in Guangdong (1)

- On 10 Feb, extensive media coverage on outbreak of atypical pneumonia in Guangdong
- On 11 Feb, a press conference was held by Health Bureau of Guangzhou on the outbreak with health advice given

Atypical Pneumonia Outbreak in Guangdong (2)

- It was reported there were a total of 305 cases with 5 deaths in 6 municipalities
- It had been reported that Chlamydia pneumoniae was found in some specimens
- Anthrax and plague were excluded as causes of the outbreak



Actions by Department of Health (1)

- On 10 Feb, DH contacted Mainland health officials by phone followed by fax for details of the outbreak
- HA, private hospitals and sentinel doctors were contacted by DH and confirmed that no unusual pattern of influenza-like illness or pneumonia was observed
- The Director of Health conducted a stand-up briefing and issued a press release about the outbreak in Guangdong and provided health advice



Actions by Department of Health (2)

- DH and HA stepped up the existing mechanism on pneumonia surveillance on 11 Feb
- Severe Community Acquired Pneumonia (SCAP) cases from HA hospitals would be referred to DH for epidemiological and laboratory investigations
- Private hospitals were also requested by DH to report SCAP cases

Influenza A H5N1 infection (1)

- On 13 Feb, DH was notified of a SCAP case involving a 33-year old man in PMH
- He presented with high fever, blood in sputum and myalgia on 7 Feb
- Travelled to Fujian on 30 Jan to join his family and returned on 9 Feb
- XR chest showed right lower lobe consolidation
- Blood tests showed mild lymphopenia
- Put on oseltamivir, tazocin, gentamycin and azithromycin
- Condition deteriorated and died on 17 Feb

Influenza A H5N1 infection (2)

- On contact tracing, some family members also had respiratory symptoms
- His wife travelled with 2 daughters and 1 son to Fujian from 25 Jan to 9 Feb
 - Wife - Onset of cough and runny nose on 11 Feb
 - Son (M/9) - Onset of fever, cough and runny nose on 9 Feb
 - Younger daughter (F/8)- Onset of high fever and cough on 28 Jan. The girl died on 4 Feb in Fujian with unknown cause
- History of poultry contact in Fujian



Influenza A H5N1 infection (3)

- The Government Virus Unit confirmed H5N1 infection for 9-year old boy on 19 Feb (by PCR and virus culture)
- DH immediately alerted WHO and MOH. WHO issued a global alert on same day
- A press briefing was conducted by DH and HA. Press release was issued to all relevant parties, both local and overseas
- Health advice was given to school attended by the boy



Influenza A H5N1 infection (4)

- The Government Virus Unit confirmed H5N1 infection for 33-year old man on 20 Feb (by PCR and virus culture)
- WHO and MOH were informed again
- A stand-up briefing was conducted by DH and HA
- Press release was issued to all relevant parties



Influenza A H5N1 infection (5)

- DH stepped up the surveillance system by testing all severe CAP cases for H5 virus
- Health alert was issued to all doctors
- Health education on prevention of avian flu was strengthened through website, 24 - hour hotline and health talks