



	<p>Public Health Control Measures for SARS</p>  <p>Department of Health 9 July 2003</p> <p>1</p>

	<p>Presentation overview</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Aims■ Legal basis■ Infrastructure■ Measures■ Effectiveness■ Conclusion  <p>2</p>

Aims

- Interrupt transmission
- Identify the source
- Isolate the case
- Detect further cases for early treatment & isolation



3

Legal basis (1)

- International Health Regulations
- Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance (Cap 141) & Prevention of the Spread of Infectious Diseases Regulations (Cap 141B)
 - SARS added to First Schedule



4

Legal basis (2)

- Powers invoked under Cap 141B –
 - Require notification
 - Examine
 - Remove
 - Treat
 - Detain
 - Disinfect buildings & conveyances
 - Order premises to be isolated
 - Check temperature at border control points



5

Co-ordination of Control Actions

Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Department of Health

- Disease surveillance, contact-tracing
- Containment of disease via public health and environmental hygiene measures
- Co-ordination of multi-disciplinary teams for investigation and following-up
- Distribution of clinical specimens, reference laboratory service

Other Government Departments

- Assist in public health actions e.g. education, home confinement, environmental investigation, etc.



6

Control Measures (1)

1. Surveillance
2. Laboratory diagnosis
3. Contact tracing
4. Designated medical centres
5. Home confinement



7

Control Measures (2)

6. Multidisciplinary response
7. Border control
8. Communication & public education
9. Infection control advice & guidance
10. Collaboration with WHO, Mainland & others



8

Multidisciplinary response (MDR)

- Led by DH involving Buildings Department, Housing Department, Food & Environmental Hygiene Department, Police & others
- Structural and environmental factors
- MIIDSS -> command post -> RO -> MDR



9

Proactive investigative and remedial actions triggered by MIIDSS

- Before the remedial actions, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would take **environmental swab samples** for further analysis.
- Department of Health conducted further on-site **interviews** with residents



10

Proactive investigative and remedial actions triggered by MIIDSS

- Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Housing Department and/or Buildings Department would inspect the **general cleanliness and sewage and drainage systems** of the buildings.
- Electrical and Mechanical Services Department would inspect the **ventilation system**.



11

Proactive investigative and remedial actions triggered by MIIDSS

- After proactive investigations, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Housing Department, Buildings Department and/or Drainage Services Department would initiate immediate remedial actions including **cleansing, disinfection and pest disinfestations**.



12

Multidisciplinary response (MDR)

- Swift investigation & control
 - From 26 March Amoy, Koway, Tung Tau
 - From 18 April 2 or more admissions
 - From 13 May single confirmed case
 - From 3 June single suspected case



13

Port Health Measures

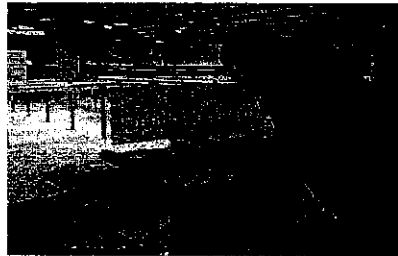
- Health declaration
- Temperature checking
- Medical posts on site
- “Stop list” implemented at immigration control points
 - Close contacts of confirmed and suspected SARS patients are barred from leaving Hong Kong during the isolation period.



14

Health Declaration

- Passengers and crews are required to complete a health declaration form
 - Departing and arriving Hong Kong via the HKIA
 - All arrivals at other control points

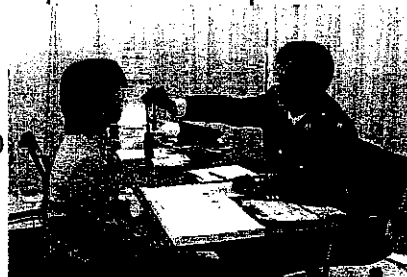


15



Results

- more than 1,930 travellers reported sick on their declarations since 29 March 2003.
- 79 (4.1%) of them required hospital referral
- 23 were admitted
- 2 were confirmed to have SARS



16



Temperature Check at the Airport

- For in-bound, out-bound and transit passengers and crews



請排隊等候
量度體溫
Please queue
for temperature
taking



17

- Conjoint screening programme with Mainland counterparts to screen arriving passengers at land control points



Comprehensive temperature checks at other control points

- Include :
 - Passengers
 - Drivers
 - Ferry Crew members



Results of temperature checking

- 2.2 M passengers & crew screened at HKIA
- 13 M passengers & crew screened at land and seaports
- No confirmed cases so far



Health Awareness Programme

- To further ensure no export or import of cases
- To restore confidence of travelers and foreign businessmen
 - Measures target at
 - Travelers: in-bound and out-bound
 - Hotel operators and staff
 - Tour operators and guides



21



Port health measures

- No export of cases since end of March 2003
- Travel advisory against Hong Kong by WHO was lifted since 23 May 2003



22

Communication & public education

- Dispel rumours
- Calm anxiety
- Build trust



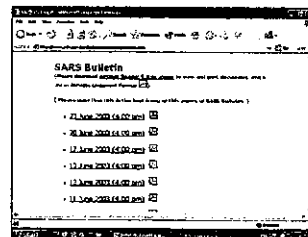
23

Communication & public education

- Health alerts
- Public announcements



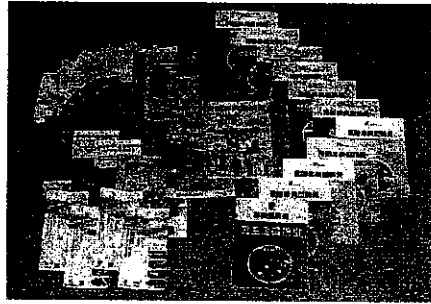
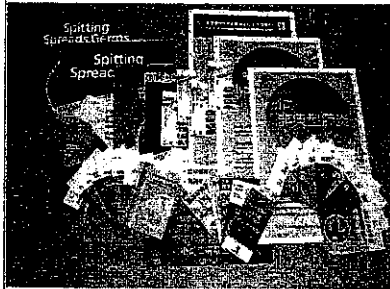
48 issues of SARS Bulletin
(17 Apr – 13 June)



24

Communication & public education

- > 110 items of educational materials



25

Your Health is in Your Hands

Wash hands frequently
Keep germs at bay,
for a healthy day

Avoid touching public installations
Keep your hands to yourself,
for the good of your health

Avoid shaking hands
Just say 'Hi', and
wave 'goodbye'!

Wash your hands:

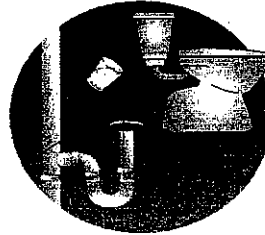
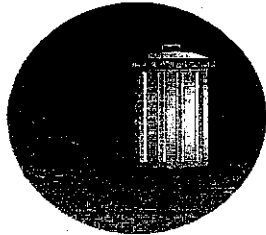
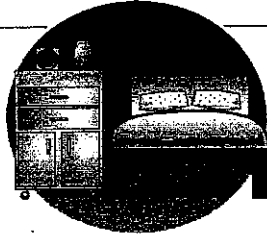
- Before touching your eyes, mouth and nose
- Before putting on a mask or after taking it off
- Before preparing food or eating
- After contact with infected persons
- After sneezing or coughing

Tips: Wash hands properly



26

Prevention of Pest Infestation



27

If Feeling Unwell...

- Consult the doctor promptly if you develop symptoms of respiratory tract infections or if you have a fever
- Parents should not send sick children to school or nursery
- Patients who have respiratory illness should wear a mask to prevent spread of infection
- The chance of recovery is better if it is detected and treated early
- SARS patients should be hospitalized for medical treatment



28

Communication & public education

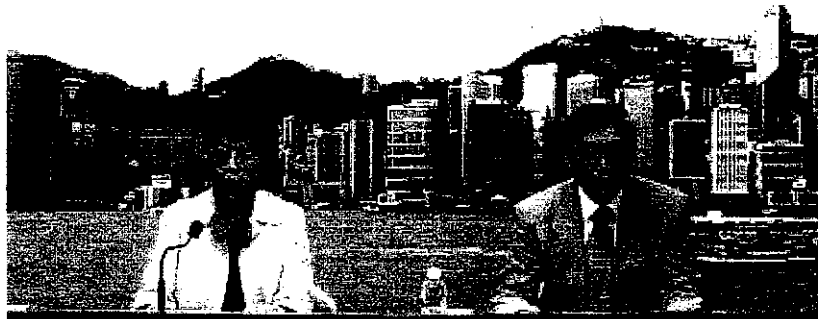
- > 550 sessions of talks, media interviews, exhibitions



29

Communication & public education

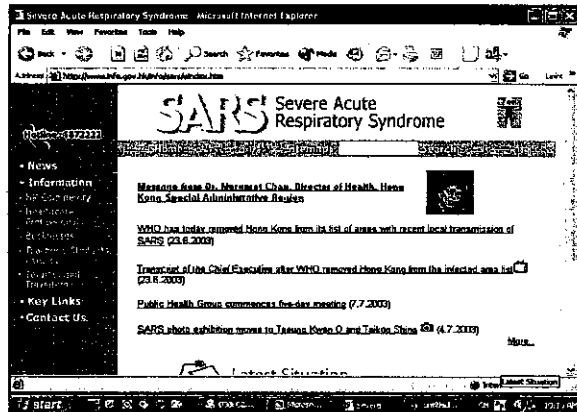
- Daily media briefings



30

Communication & public education

- > 10 million hits at DH SARS website



31

Communication & public education

- > 89,000 calls answered by telephone hotline



32

Infection control guidance & advice

- Letters to doctors, health care providers & hospitals
- Health advice to other sectors
 - Public transport
 - Hotels/boarding houses
 - Food business
 - Public places
 - Government departments



33

Infection control guidance & advice

- Alerts to schools/institutions



- Management of non-SARS discharges



34

Team Clean

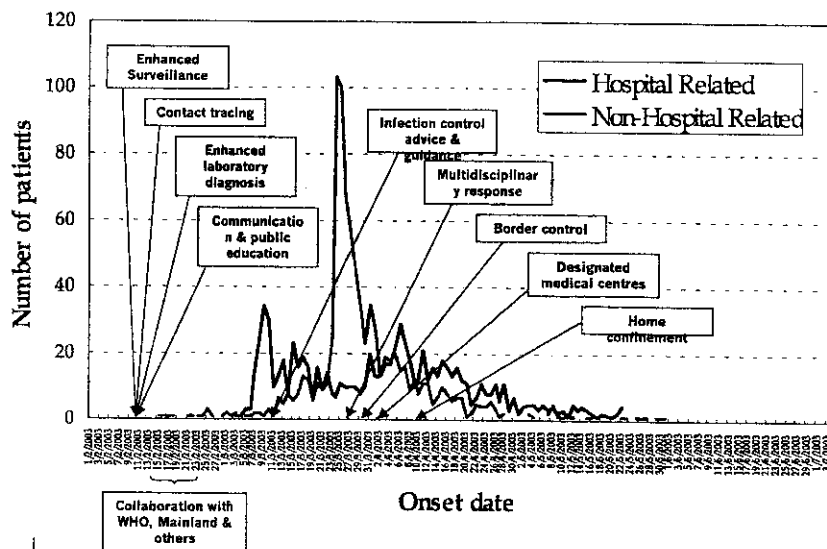


- Team Clean, the special task force chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, is established to promote a sustainable, cross-sectoral approach to improve environmental hygiene in Hong Kong
- Zero-tolerance of littering, spitting and other unhygienic behaviour



35

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Cases for Hospital/Non-Hospital Related



Step-wise introduction of sustained public health actions

- Reduced population contact
- Early admission/case isolation
- Reduced transmission



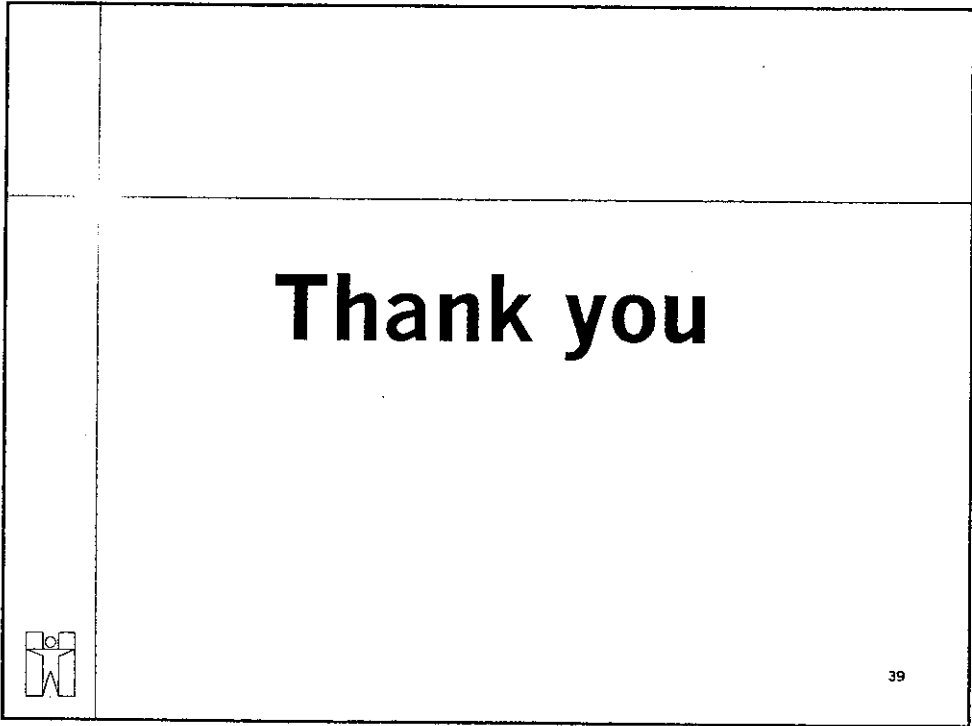
37

Containing SARS in Hong Kong

- Guidance and support from the WHO
- Support from the Mainland
- Government commitment
- Multisectoral collaboration
- Dedicated health care workers
- Involvement of non-government sector
- Cooperation from the public



38



Thank you



39