

CONFIDENTIAL

Date : 13 April 2004

To : Miss Flora Tai

Clerk to Select Committee of the Legislative Council

(Your Ref : CB2/SC2)

(Fax : 22482011)

Response to questions raised by the Select Committee

Q1. Were the index patient of Ward4DR and the index patient of Ward4BR directly admitted to the respective ward on 11 April 2003 and 14 April 2003 respectively? Were the patients admitted on referral by Accident and Emergency Department or were the patients transferred from other hospital?

Answer : The both index patients were transferred directly from AHNH to Ward4DR and Ward4BR on 11 April 2003 and 14 April 2003 respectively.

Q2. Did the healthcare workers (HCWs) who attended the index patient of Ward4DR and the index patient of 4BR take any infection control measures? If not, why not? If yes, what were these measures? Did you know whether any HCW who attended these index patients was infected? If yes, what was the reason and how was the HCW infected?

Answer : Yes, the HCWs attending the index patients of Ward4DR and Ward4BR put on N95 masks, gloves, gowns, eye protective equipment (for high risk procedures) and performed hand washing. Three HCWs were infected (Ward4DR: one doctor and one nurse, Ward4BR: one supporting staff for cleansing duty). I do not know the cause of the infection.

Q3. What was the level of infection control in Ward4DR and Ward4BR at that time? What type of mask were HCWs required to wear and why? What were the guidelines provided to HCWs in these wards for wearing different types of personal protective

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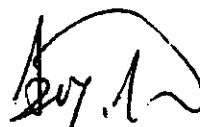
equipment (PPE), such as surgical and N95 mask? Was the supply of PPE adequate in the Ward?

Answer : Staff was vigilant in infection control. N95 mask was in use. HCWs were required to put on the PPE mentioned in Answer 2 above. PPE supply was adequate.

Q4. Whether you have any information you would like the Select Committee to take note of?

Answer : I feel gratitude to my colleagues for their sincere contribution.

Yours sincerely



To Hing Kuen Boris
Ward Manager, Tai Po Hospital