For information
On 22 October 2002

LegCo Panel on Health Services
LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Situation Report on Dengue Fever in Hong Kong

PURPOSE AND ADVICE SOUGHT

This information paper presents the dengue situation and control strategy in Hong Kong and seeks Members’ views on –

- the existing control measures; and
- whether additional measures should be adopted.

BACKGROUND

2. Dengue fever is a viral illness transmitted by the bite of infective mosquito. It is not directly transmitted from person to person. There is no effective vaccine.

3. In Hong Kong, dengue fever has been made statutorily notifiable since 1994. Between 1994 and 2001, the annual number of notifications ranged from 3 – 17 cases; all these cases acquired the infection from outside Hong Kong (i.e. imported cases), mostly from South East Asian countries. The number of reported cases and incidence of dengue fever in Hong Kong and its neighbouring countries are at Annex A. All notified cases are investigated for the source of infection, the risk of local spread is assessed, and control actions are undertaken to prevent secondary spread. Investigation and control actions are conducted jointly by the Department of Health (DH) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD).
4. Our strategy to control the spread of dengue fever comprises:

- Epidemiological surveillance
- Entomological surveillance and mosquito control
- Regular territory-wide anti-mosquito campaigns to eliminate breeding sites and encourage community participation
- Community publicity efforts to educate the general public to adopt preventive measures
- Health advice to travellers on the prevention of mosquito bites and the awareness of the symptoms of dengue fever.
- Early case detection, prompt treatment and laboratory confirmation

5. In 2001, the DH set up the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee on Dengue Fever to keep under review the prevention and control strategies, coordinate education and publicity efforts, and coordinate implementation of contingency measures by government departments and Hospital Authority necessary for the control of dengue fever in Hong Kong.

6. On vector control, regular inspections and disinfestations works are carried out by FEHD throughout the year. We also monitor closely the breeding of *Aedes albopictus*, the mosquito vector which is capable of transmitting dengue fever virus, so that we can adjust our mosquito control strategy accordingly. The effective control of mosquito problem requires collaborated efforts of the whole community. Anti-mosquito campaign is therefore organized on a territory-wide basis annually to encourage community participation and to promote concerted efforts of various government departments in mosquito prevention and control work.
7. With experience gained in 2001 and in view of the dengue fever outbreak in Macau, the 2002 anti-mosquito campaign is conducted in three phases starting from April 2002 with an additional phase introduced in May-July 2002 to sustain the anti-mosquito efforts. Areas favouring the harbourage of mosquitoes or in close proximity to human activities such as schools, construction sites, housing estates and hospitals are areas of target control. Apart from carrying out intensified inspection and disinfestation works during the campaign period, we have made use of a wide range of promotional channels to encourage community participation in our campaign as well as organizing various activities to arouse people’s awareness and to give them useful advice on how to prevent mosquito problems.

LOCAL DENGUE CASE

8. The first local dengue fever case was confirmed on 21 Sep 2002, and subsequent investigation by the DH confirmed that the source of infection was in Ma Wan. Through active case finding among the workers and residents in Ma Wan, hotline enquiries and hospital notifications, further cases related to Ma Wan were identified. As at 17 Oct 2002, there were a total of 16 cases related to Ma Wan, including 10 workers and 6 residents, and they had disease onset between 19 Jul and 24 Sep 2002.

9. On 29 Sep 2002, dengue fever was confirmed in another patient who has neither gone to Ma Wan nor travelled outside Hong Kong during the incubation period. He might have contracted the disease while fishing in places around the Fish Marketing Organization (FMO) Market in Cheung Sha Wan.

10. On 3 Oct and 4 Oct 2002, another two patients who live in Tsuen Wan and Sham Shui Po were confirmed to have contracted dengue fever locally.

11. On 9 Oct, one patient who received blood during an operation in hospital was confirmed to have contracted dengue fever. The blood was given by one of the Ma Wan residents infected with the
disease before symptoms developed.

12. As at 17 Oct, there were 39 confirmed cases, including 19 imported cases and 20 local cases. There have not been any fatal cases reported.

13. According to laboratory test results, one confirmed local case involving a Sham Shui Po resident stemmed from serotype 2 virus while the 19 other local cases were caused by serotype 1 Dengue virus with identical genetic sequences. The sources of these viruses are still uncertain. It also remains uncertain whether the serotype 1 virus has spread from Ma Wan to Cheung Sha Wan and Tsuen Wan, where two isolated serotype 1 cases have been identified.

**Control measures for the local outbreak**

*Disease surveillance*

14. Field visits to residential and work places of all patients were made by the DH and FEHD staff for health education, active case finding and prompt vector control.

15. DH has also set up a hotline for counselling and screening of persons who have lived or worked in Ma Wan, for workers around the FMO Market in Cheung Sha Wan and residents in Tsuen Wan and Sham Shui Po.

16. All public general outpatient clinics and the Hospital Authority have been informed of the management of these at-risk individuals. A letter to all registered medical practitioners was sent on 24 Sep 2002 to inform them about the local outbreak and to remind them to notify suspected or confirmed cases of dengue fever to DH early.

17. Health education and medical surveillance of the household members of the cases were also conducted.

*Inspection /Disinfestation Works by FEHD*
18. Since the first local case was confirmed, FEHD staff have carried out extensive mosquito control operations in venues connected with the dengue fever cases and other high risk areas for mosquito infestation. A total of 575 construction sites were inspected on 23-24 September, resulting in the issue of 86 summonses and 36 warnings. The problematic sites were inspected again on 30 September. Nine further summonses were issued. Starting from 25 September, inspections have been extended to densely populated areas like housing estates, schools and hospitals. FEHD will step up anti-mosquito efforts in venues under its management during major festivals. For example, FEHD staff have intensified mosquito control work around public cemeteries and crematoria during the Chung Yeung Festival.

**Public education**

19. The public have been kept informed of the dengue situation through a series of joint press conferences by DH and FEHD, media interviews and daily updates issued by the DH to the media.

20. Through the Announcement of Public Interests (API) in radio and television, health education hotlines, website information, health talks, pamphlets and posters, the public are reminded of the necessity for elimination of mosquito breeding places and precautions against mosquito bites both in Hong Kong and while travelling outside Hong Kong. Roving exhibitions at major shopping malls, outreaching health talks for schools, construction site management and workers are also being conducted to drive home the message. (Details are found in the schedule of publicity activities and extracts of web-pages at Annex B).

21. Various other departments have joined DH and FEHD in the territory-wide anti-mosquito operations. For example, the relevant Government Departments have strengthened anti-mosquito measures in public premises such as country parks and recreation and sports centres. Inspection, waste removal and grass-cutting for unallocated Government land has been stepped up. The Education Department has reminded all schools to take necessary preventive measures against mosquito breeding and the Information Services Department has intensified broadcasts of
TV and radio APIs on mosquito prevention and control since 23 September.

**Anti-mosquito Steering Committee**

22. Apart from escalating territory-wide anti-mosquito efforts, we saw a need to map out a comprehensive strategy and set directions from anti-mosquito work. We also believe that it is crucial to involve the community and private sector in and to maintain public alertness to the importance of sustained anti-mosquito efforts. We have therefore established the Anti-mosquito Steering Committee, which comprises senior officials from a number of policy bureaux and Government departments, to oversee strategy and direction setting and to seek to increase the involvement of the community and private sector. The first meeting of Steering Committee was held on 10 October 2002. Some of the more major actions the Committee decided to take in addition to the actions already taken as described in the preceding paragraphs are as follows –

**Vector surveillance and control**

- FEHD will review the distribution of ovitraps to ensure that they are all strategically located and increase their numbers.

- From early 2003 onwards, FEHD will make public the mosquito breeding index – the percentage of ovitraps found to have larvae laid – on a monthly basis. This will enable members of the public to learn about the risk of mosquito bites at different times of the year.

**Disease Surveillance and Control**

- DH will keep all medical professionals up-to-date on the latest developments of the disease through bulletins, letters and the Internet, while close monitoring and laboratory testing and other diagnostic work will continue. All medical professionals are required by statute to report suspected and confirmed cases in a timely manner already.
● DH will step up liaison with the World Health Organization and overseas health authorities with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the preventive and control measures adopted locally.

Community involvement and raising public alertness

● Government departments concerned will extend this year’s anti-mosquito campaign into winter.

● The Home Affairs Department (HAD) will approach Owners’ Incorporations and Mutual Aid Committees to seek their co-operation in the anti-mosquito drive, targeting at keeping common parts of buildings clean and proper refuse management.

● HAD will seek the Clean Hong Kong District Promotion Committee’s endorsement of the setting up a working group to actively involve the District Councils and other district organizations in the territory-wide anti-mosquito exercise.

● FEHD and DH will jointly conduct community-based surveys to assess public awareness and behaviour on dengue fever and mosquito prevention. Such surveys will help us adjust our control measures from time to time.

● For the convenience of the public, a one-stop, dedicated hotline run by FEHD has been set up to provide advice on mosquito control and handle public enquiries.

Government actions and targets for the coming few months

● The FEHD will complete within three weeks a round of inspection to common parts of private tenement buildings such as roof top and light well to eliminate potential mosquito breeding grounds. Another round will be conducted before the Lunar New Year as part of the year end
The Leisure, Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will deploy a special cleansing team to carry out focused anti-mosquito operations twice a week at selected venues.

The Lands Department will complete two rounds of grass cutting and rubbish clearance on identified black spots covering more than 250 sites by February 2003.

The Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will launch a Clean Country Parks Scheme 2002. A 13-week intensive clean-up operation for all country parks will begin in this month.

The Highways Department will step up inspections on all roadwork sites, roads/drains, road slopes, highway structures and depots to eliminate mosquito-breeding places.

The Environmental, Transport and Works Bureau will make mosquito control an agenda item in all Site Safety Committee Meetings to discuss the effectiveness of measures taken.

CONCLUSION

23. These anti-mosquito efforts have to be sustained to reduce the risk of dengue fever in the coming years. We will be consulting Members on the control strategies from time to time to develop the most appropriate measures to meet the challenge.

Department of Health  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Health, Welfare and Food Bureau

October 2002
### Number of reported cases and incidence of Dengue Fever

In Hong Kong and its neighbouring countries in past 3 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place / Country</th>
<th>Year 1999</th>
<th>Year 2000</th>
<th>Year 2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>5 (0.08)</td>
<td>11 (0.17)</td>
<td>17 (0.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1,355 (48)</td>
<td>673 (24)</td>
<td>2,372 (84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macau</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>1,418 (315)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>24,900 (45)</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>89,770 (163)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>9,221 (15)</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>23,404 (38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>10,008 (58)</td>
<td>7,118 (41)</td>
<td>16,518 (95)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number in brackets refer to the incidence per 100,000 population.
Source of information: Department of Health and Denguenet of World Health Organisation
### Major Anti-Mosquito Publicity Activities conducted since March 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Publicity Arrangement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td>• FEHD’s attendance in a live radio programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15 Oct</td>
<td>• Eight outreaching talks to school and staff of Housing Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 10 Oct | • Press conference by HWFB, FEHD, DH and HAD after the first meeting of Anti-Mosquito Steering Committee  
• FEHD meeting with HK Construction Association, HK Institution of Engineers and HK General Building Contractors Association on Dengue Fever vector control in construction sites  
• A talk to members of District Council, Area Committee and Owners Incorporation |
| 7 Oct | • Press briefing by DH and FEHD |
| 3 Oct | • Press conference by FEHD and DH reporting the latest situation on Dengue Fever |
| 2 Oct | • A standing up media interview by FEHD and DH after a special meeting of LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene |
| 30 Sept | • A talk on mosquito prevention and control to District Council staff at Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre |
| 29 Sept | • Press conference by FEHD and DH, reporting the current situation on Dengue Fever; anti-mosquito CD/VCD distributed to media during the conference |
| 25-26 Sept | • Outreaching talks to school and construction companies on mosquito prevention and control |
| 24 Sept | • A talk to Ho Man Tin Area Committee on mosquito prevention control by FEHD |
23 Sept
- Technical support telephone hotline 2319 8596 for management of construction companies, housing estates and schools since 23.9.02
- Broadcasting vans to deliver messages on mosquito prevention and control from 23.9.02 onwards
- A roving exhibition held at Wong Tai Sin Shopping Centre and to be continued in other shopping centres.
- 2 talks to staff working at the construction site of Park Island
- Pre-recorded story on anti-mosquito messages launched on IVRS telephone hotline 2868 0000
- Press conference by FEHD and DH, reporting action plans arising from a meeting of the Inter-departmental Coordinating Committee on Dengue Fever

20 Sept
- Anti-mosquito exhibition held at Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre

2 Sept
- Advisory letters on mosquito control to MAC/OI, elderly homes, property management companies, schools and construction companies

16 Aug
- Press release to announce high ovitrap index recorded and urge public to be watchful over mosquito breeding

5 July
- Press release to appeal for community participation on anti-mosquito actions.
- Production of anti-mosquito songs by Dr. CHAN Yee-shing

28 May
- Press conference and announced advancement and extension of campaign because of high ovitrap index recorded
- Advisory letters on mosquito control issued to MAC/OI, elderly homes, property management companies and schools.

22 May
- Press release to urge public to guard against mosquito breeding

27 March
- Press conference and press release to urge public participation in anti-mosquito campaign
- Advisory letters on mosquito control issued to MAC/OI, elderly homes, property management companies and schools
- Competition for students on the subject of anti-mosquito including poster design, photo-taking and colouring

★ On top of the above activities, announcements of public interests are broadcast in different time periods on a daily basis.
The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
2002 Anti-mosquito Campaign

Let’s Remove Stagnant Water
Eliminate Mosquitoes for Healthy Living

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is organizing an Anti-mosquito Campaign in 2002 in collaboration with other Government Departments under the theme ‘Let’s Remove Stagnant Water Eliminate Mosquitoes for Healthy Living’. The Campaign is implemented in three phases. The first and second phase have been completed earlier this year. Student competitions on phototaking, colouring and poster design were organized. In addition, two Anti-mosquito songs were composed and written by Dr. CHAN Yee-shing. The third phase will be held from 23.9.2002 with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of mosquito prevention and for the sake of protecting public health.

Aims

- To eliminate mosquito breeding sites including small containers.
- To encourage community participation on effective prevention and control of mosquito infestation.
- To heighten public awareness on the potential risk of mosquito-borne disease, in particular dengue fever.

Activities

◆ Educational activities

1. Exhibitions will be conducted from 23.9.2002 to 26.10.2002 in the Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre of the Department at Block S4, Kowloon Park, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.

2. Roving exhibitions will be held at major shopping malls of public housing estates as follows :-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date/Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wong Tai Sin Shopping Centre, Kowloon</td>
<td>23-27 September 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long, N.T.</td>
<td>30 September-4 October 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lei Tung Estate, Hong Kong.</td>
<td>7-11 October 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. A variety of educational leaflets and posters will be distributed to the District Offices (Environmental hygiene) of the Department and other Departments such as Home Affairs Department, Lands Department, Labour Department, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Marine Department, Housing Department, Environmental Protection Department, Department of Health, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Highways Department, Architectural Services Department, Education Department, District Councils, schools, property management offices, owner incorporations, mutual aid committees and building contractors.

◆ District anti-mosquito operations

1. The Department will launch a series of mosquito elimination operations in districts in collaboration with other Government Departments.

2. During the campaign period, staff of the Department will follow the working programme to approach the black spots to carry out anti-mosquito prevention measures and to give technical advice to the public and construction site workers.

Advice to the Public

To prevent mosquito breeding, it is crucial to remove stagnant water which is the potential breeding place of mosquitoes. As mosquitoes breed commonly during rainy seasons, members of the general public are therefore advised to take the following preventive measures :

1. Pitch in through the proper disposal of refuse like soft drink cans, empty lunch boxes and disused tyres;

2. Change water for flowers and plants at least once a week. Remove stagnant water in containers like vases, flower pots and buckets where mosquitoes breed easily;

3. Cover tightly all water containers, water storage tanks and wells;
4. Keep all drains free from chokage;

5. Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent accumulation of stagnant water.

6. To make large holes on tyres used as anti-bumping measures in garages or use mark(s) on the parking space to prevent bumping instead.

Your attention is also drawn to the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance, Cap. 132 which states that if larvae or pupae of mosquitoes are found in any accumulation of water at any premises, the occupier will be liable for an offence of a fine of $25,000. If you identify any mosquito problem, please call 2868 0000 for assistance.

Pamphlet and Poster may be downloaded here

Anti-mosquito Poster (Domestic)

Anti-mosquito Poster (Construction Site)

Anti-mosquito Pamphlet (Domestic)

Anti-mosquito Pamphlet (Construction Site)

A variety of educational pamphlets are now available at the following locations:

1. Offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
   - Communication Resource Unit (Tel: 2319 8531)
   - Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre (Tel: 2377 0874)
   - District Environmental Hygiene Offices (Tel: 2868 0000)

2. Public Enquiry Service Centres of District Offices, Home Affairs Department

3. Major public housing estates, public libraries and public clinics

Last Modified Date: 11 October, 2002
Anti-Denger Fever – mosquito control and prevention

Advice on mosquito control and prevention

Anti-mosquito Measures

- Anti-mosquito Measures – Advice for Construction Sites
- Anti-mosquito Measures – Advice for Housing Estates
- Anti-mosquito Measures – Advice for Schools

Last Modified Date : 11 October, 2002
Advice on mosquito control and prevention

Aedes albopictus (白紋伊蚊) is highly prevalent in Hong Kong. It breeds both in urban and rural areas and their breeding sites can be artificial receptacles like cans, lunch boxes, discarded tyres, clogged surface channels, containers; and naturally occurring tree holes, bamboo stumps and leaf axils.

Killing of mosquito larvae

Prevention is better than cure. As the mosquitoes have to breed in water, it is more effective and efficient to control mosquito at source at its aquatic stage. Pesticide should only be used for killing of mosquito in its breeding place or preventing its breeding if the breeding sources or potential breeding grounds are inaccessible or could not be eliminated for the time being. The followings must be noted for killing mosquito larvae:

- Larvicidal oil or larvicide (such as temephos, Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis etc.) can be applied to stagnant water directly with dosage according to the label instructions.
- Higher than required concentration of larvicide or excessive amount of larvicidal oil would not give better result on killing the mosquito larvae.
- The pesticides used must have been registered with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.
- Depending on the product, larvicide may be applied weekly into the stagnant water until the water has been removed.
- Larvicidal oil need not be applied into the stagnant water again if the oil is still present in the water.
- Pesticide applicator should put on protective gears including face mask and rubber gloves during pesticide application.

Killing of adult mosquito

Elimination of adult mosquitoes is relatively difficult as compared with that of the larvae. Adult mosquitoes usually disperse from their breeding place and hide in inconspicuous sites. The followings must be noted for killing adult mosquitoes:

- Adult mosquito can be killed by using household pesticides against flying insect with dosage according to the label instructions.
- The pesticides may be applied in form of aerosol, liquid spray, smoke (traditional mosquito coil) or vapour (electric mosquito mat/liquid).
- Do not spray the pesticides directly against functioning electrical appliances or flame to avoid explosion.
- Aerosol and liquid spray has to be applied directly to the adult mosquito for effective killing.
Spraying of pesticide excessively on adult mosquito is not necessary for killing the insect.

Mosquito coil and electric mosquito mat/liquid has to be placed near possible entrance, such as window, for mosquito.

Care must be taken to ensure good ventilation and to avoid fire hazard on using mosquito coil.

**Protection against adult mosquitoes**

3. Adult mosquito attacks people for getting blood for laying eggs. The followings have to be noted for getting protection against adult mosquitoes:

- Windows and doors could be screened.

- Wear long-sleeved clothes and long trousers when going outdoors.

- Mosquito bednet could be used when the room is not air-conditioned.

- Bodies could be protected from mosquito bite by applying insect repellent (containing DEET) on the clothes and exposed part of the body.

- Some people may be allergic to insect repellent. Apply small amount of insect repellent to small area of the body to check for any allergic response before using the repellent.

Note: Always read and follow label instructions when using pesticides. Please also refer to the leaflet on Safe Use of Household Pesticides produced by Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for further information. (Tel. No. 2150 7010, Fax: 2314 2622, e-mail: afcdenq@afcd.gov.hk, Web-site: [http://www.afcd.gov.hk](http://www.afcd.gov.hk)). The public can also call the telephone hotline of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department at Tel. No. 2868 0000 for more information on mosquito prevention and control.

Last modified date: 5 October 2002
Prevention against Dengue Fever

Dengue Fever is an acute viral disease. It is commonly found in tropical and subtropical regions including South East Asia, South Asia, the Pacific area, Africa, Central and South America.

The incubation period of dengue fever is 3 to 14 days. Symptoms include high fever, severe headache, eye pain, bone and muscle pain, nausea and vomiting. Skin rash usually appears three to four days later. In severe cases, the patient may present with bleeding and shock, and can die from the disease.

Dengue virus is transmitted to humans through mosquito bites. There is no person to person spread. The mosquito *Aedes albopictus*, a vector known to transmit the disease, can be found in Hong Kong. They usually breed in stagnant waters such as that contained in tree holes, disused tyres, discarded containers and saucers of potted plants.

At present, there is no effective vaccine against dengue fever, thus the best way to prevent dengue fever is to eliminate pockets of stagnant water that serve as mosquito breeding sites at home, at schools, workplaces and their vicinity.

"Let's remove stagnant water. Eliminate mosquito for healthy living." Please take the following precautionary measures at all times to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes:

1. Containers that can hold water such as empty soft drink cans and empty lunch boxes should be disposed of properly, e.g., put inside a covered rubbish bin. Change water in flower vases at least once a week and discard water in saucers of potted plants to prevent breeding of mosquito. The use of saucers should be avoided whenever possible.
3. Keep all drains free from choke
4. Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.
Dengue Fever

The Department of Health detected local cases of dengue fever for the first time. It called on members of the public to be on guard against dengue fever by taking preventive measures against mosquito breeding and the spread of mosquito-borne diseases.

What is dengue fever?

Dengue fever is an acute viral disease. The incubation period is 3 to 14 days. Symptoms include high fever for three to five days, severe headache, muscle and joint pain, eye pain, nausea, vomiting and skin rash. In severe cases, the patient may present with bleeding and shock, and can die from the disease. Children normally would have milder symptoms than adults.

How is dengue fever transmitted?

Dengue virus is transmitted to humans through mosquito bites. There is no person to person spread. The mosquito Aedes albopictus, a vector known to transmit the disease, can be found in Hong Kong. The mosquito likes to bite people during daytime, especially two hours after sunrise and a few hours before sunset.

How to prevent dengue fever?

At present, there is no effective vaccine against dengue fever. The best way to prevent dengue fever is to eliminate pockets of stagnant water that serve as mosquito breeding sites at home, at schools, workplaces and their vicinity, and to avoid mosquito bites. "Let's remove stagnant water. Eliminate mosquito for healthy living." Please take the following precautionary measures at all times to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes and avoid mosquito bites:

1. Put all used cans and bottles into dustbins with cover.
2. Change water for plants at least once a week, leaving no water in the saucers underneath flower pots.
3. Cover tightly all water containers, wells and water storage tanks.
4. Keep all drains free from choke.
5. Top up all defective ground surfaces to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.
6. Wear long-sleeved clothes and long trousers.
7. Use insect repellent over the exposed parts of the body.
8. Use mosquito screens or nets when the room is not air-conditioned.
If you notice any mosquito breeding sites in public places, you may call the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department Hotline 2868 0000.

**How to manage dengue fever?**

You should seek medical advice from your doctor and inform the Department of Health.
Please download and install **RealPlayer** to view the video.
Let's Remove Stagnant Water
Eliminate Mosquitoes for Healthy Living

* 蓋好貯水容器
Cover all water containers.

* 經常更換花瓶水，勿讓花盆底的盆碟積水。
Change water for flowers and plants and leave no water in plates or trays underneath flower pots.

* 保持溝渠畅通
Keep all drains clear.

* 適當棄置空飯盒和汽水罐。
Dispose of empty lunch boxes and soft drink cans properly.

* 填平凹陷的地面
Top up defective ground surfaces.

如發現蚊患，可致電2868 0000舉報。
If you have any mosquito problem, please call 2868 0000.
Let's Remove Stagnant Water
Eliminate Mosquitoes for Healthy Living

* 將積水抽乾，經沉澱後排放到雨水渠。
  Drain away accumulated water to rainwater drains after sedimentation.

* 把竹棚的竹端鑽穿或用沙填充。
  Fill up ends of bamboo scaffoldings with sand or drill them with holes.

* 當好貯水容器及清除器皿中的積水。
  Cover all water tanks and remove stagnant water in containers.

* 適當棄置空罐、空飯盒和廢棄車胎。
  Dispose of useless cans, empty lunch boxes and disused tyres properly.

* 經常巡查地盤，確保沒有滋生蚊蟲的積水。
  Inspect regularly to ensure no breeding of mosquitoes.

* 尽快清除積水，如需要時施用殺幼蟲劑。
  Remove stagnant water promptly and apply mosquito larvicides if necessary.
Let's Remove Stagnant Water
Eliminate Mosquito for Healthy Living

食物環境衛生署
FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE DEPARTMENT
Let's Remove Stagnant Water
Eliminate Mosquito for Healthy Living

FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE DEPARTMENT