

Important Public Health Alert Notice for Airlines Passengers Influenza A (H1N1) (Human Swine Influenza)

On 25 April 2009, the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the Influenza A (H1N1) (Human Swine Influenza) situation a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and urged strengthening of surveillance and control.

Hong Kong has so far confirmed a number of imported cases of Influenza A (H1N1) (Human Swine Influenza). Several other Asian countries/cities (Japan and South Korea) have also reported an increasing number of confirmed cases.

In response to this situation, the Emergency Response Level under the Hong Kong SAR Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic was activated on 1 May 2009.

WHO and the Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection (CHP) advise:

- If you are feeling ill, delay international travel
- If you develop symptoms following international travel seek medical attention, in line with guidance from national authorities.

Please be advised that several countries/cities have implemented mandatory health checks for any arriving passengers displaying any flu-like symptoms.

To protect yourself, your fellow passengers and public health, any passenger with the following symptoms are requested to please identify yourself to airline staff for assistance, or to defer your travel plans until you have sought medical attention:

- fever
- or any of the following symptoms:
 - cough
 - sore throat
 - runny nose
 - headache
 - muscle aches
 - vomiting or diarrhoea

If you have any of these symptoms, you should wear a mask. Everyone should observe good personal and environmental hygiene, including the frequent washing of hands.

On arrival in Hong Kong, if you suffer from any of these symptoms, you may be required to undergo further examination and/or taken to hospital for isolation by public health authorities under the law. For enquires, please call the Department of Health Hotline at 2125 1111.

Thank you for your co-operation.

27 May 2009