

Further update on 2019-nCoV

Friday, January 24, 2020 1:21 PM

Dear colleagues and students,

As the local and Mainland 2019-nCoV situation rapidly evolves, we would like to update the campus community on some additional preparedness and preventive measures.

Government measures:

1. The Government has modified the notification criteria related to suspected case. Instead of just fever, suspected cases are now defined as individuals with fever OR respiratory symptoms and have travelled to Wuhan and Hubei, visited hospital in Mainland, or had close contact with 2019-nCoV patients.
2. The Government has also activated a holiday camp, to be used as an isolation centre for close contacts of confirmed cases. The Government will take care of all suspected cases and close contacts of confirmed cases in off-campus Government facilities.
3. The latest Government press release is available at https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/miniweb/press_release/100063.html

University hygiene measures:

1. Staff and students who returned from Wuhan and Hubei Province within the last 14 days are asked to wear a mask, and record their body temperature and assess whether they have respiratory symptoms on a daily basis until the 14th day after their return. Students who reside in hostels will be put temporarily into single residency rooms.
2. Handheld thermometers are available in all student halls, Campus Medical Clinic, and during off- hours, available at Security Control Center at the Piazza and the Security Office at LSK Business Building. Body temperature self-check stations are being planned and will be announced once available.
3. When university offices reopen after the Chinese New Year holidays, all front-line colleagues who have frequent contact with people will wear surgical masks.
4. People who use surgical masks are reminded to use and dispose of them properly according to Government advice https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/her/use_mask_properly_pamphlet.pdf. The University will deploy at least six dedicated bins for the safe disposal of surgical masks. Four will be located in Atrium and two in Academic Concourse.

University operation and academic activities:

1. Up to this point, University still plans to conduct the examination from 3 – 6 Feb and begin the Spring Semester classes on 7 Feb as scheduled. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide further advice when necessary.
2. Special arrangement for examinations and classes will be made for students who cannot come back to campus due to the outbreak.
3. As mentioned in the previous message issued on 22 Jan, study, exchange and official trips to Wuhan and Hubei are cancelled until further notice. The university is considering travel restriction to other affected areas, and will notify the campus community when necessary.

Let us stay healthy and be alert during the Chinese New Year holidays.

Vice President for Administration and Business
Director of Health, Safety and Environment