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<u>Training for healthcare staff in relation to Infection Control</u> <u>and in response to SARS outbreak</u>

In battling against SARS, the Hospital Authority Head Office (HAHO) required all hospitals to provide mandatory training to staff including contractor staff. By end of April, around 98% of staff across all levels and disciplines has attended at least one round of Infection Control Training (as a small percentage of staff was on sick leave, maternity leave, annual leave, overseas training and secondment during this period). To sustain the learning impact, updates briefing, refresher classes, practical workshop on personal skills to wear the PPE are organized at regular basis for targeted groups of staff. VCDs on infection control are also distributed to staff to facilitate self-learning and reinforce key learning points during the training sessions. In addition, Kowloon Central Cluster, Kowloon West Cluster and Hong Kong West Cluster have set up an Infection Control Resource Centre to familiarize staff with the pros and cons of different Personal Protective Equipments and address any staff concerns on infection control.

Furthermore, the Hospital Authority Head Office has also organized a series of infection control training for different disciplines which include the following:

- (a) Infection Control Precaution Training to all healthcare workers, new nurse recruits and HA contractors (25 sessions)
- (b) SARS Precautions Training & Experience Sharing Sessions for HA Hospitals, Contractors and Private Hospitals (4 sessions)
- (c) Training on SARS management for doctors on secondment.

 In preparation for doctors to be seconded to SARS wards, individual cluster has organized tailored training workshop on SARS Management for these doctors. Content includes infection control, SARS management in medical and non-medical wards, emergency procedures in the care of SARS patients. A standard training package that includes learning material on patient care in Intensive Care Unit, SARS wards, and medical wards, a copy of the Handbook of Internal Medicine (2002 version) as well as a VCD on 'Infection Control and Risk Management' was distributed to doctors who would be seconded to the above-mentioned wards.
- (d) Reinforcement Training on Infection Control for healthcare support workers (17 sessions)
- (e) Infection Control Training for Medical Interns (2 lectures: 1 for HKU and 1 for CUHK; 7 skills practice sessions one at each cluster)
- (f) Infection Control Training for Allied Health students (3 lectures by Dr

Infection Control skill demonstration and practices by Infection Control Nurses and staff of Institute of Advanced Nursing of the Hospital Authority Institute of Health Care)

Besides training programs, the Public Affairs and Human Resources Divisions of Head Office have produced posters and multi-media training resources to facilitate communication and training in hospitals such as posting learning material of 'Infection Control Precaution Training' to HA e-Learning Centre to facilitate self-learning, producing and distributing 30,000 VCDs on 'Infection Control Precaution Training' to frontline healthcare professionals and 2,500 VCDs on 'Infection Control and Risk Management Approach' to doctors on secondment to SARS and medical wards. Hospital Authority Head Office has also completed the production of a VCD on 'Pitfalls in SARS Resuscitation' in June and will be released soon.