

# **Contingency Plan for Preparation of Avian Influenza in University Hostel Confinement**

The Centre on Health Protection has new guidelines regarding avian influenza and/or influenza pandemic preparedness and they are now available at the CHP website (<http://www.chp.gov.hk>).

There are three different types of influenza, namely, seasonal influenza (H1N1 and H3N2), avian influenza (H5, H7, and H9) and influenza pandemic (new viral strain emerges and spreads among human beings). As for avian influenza H5N1, the incubation period is 7 days, according to the World Health Organisation, and the disease may be started spreading on the 6<sup>th</sup> incubation day, daily medical surveillance should be done carefully.

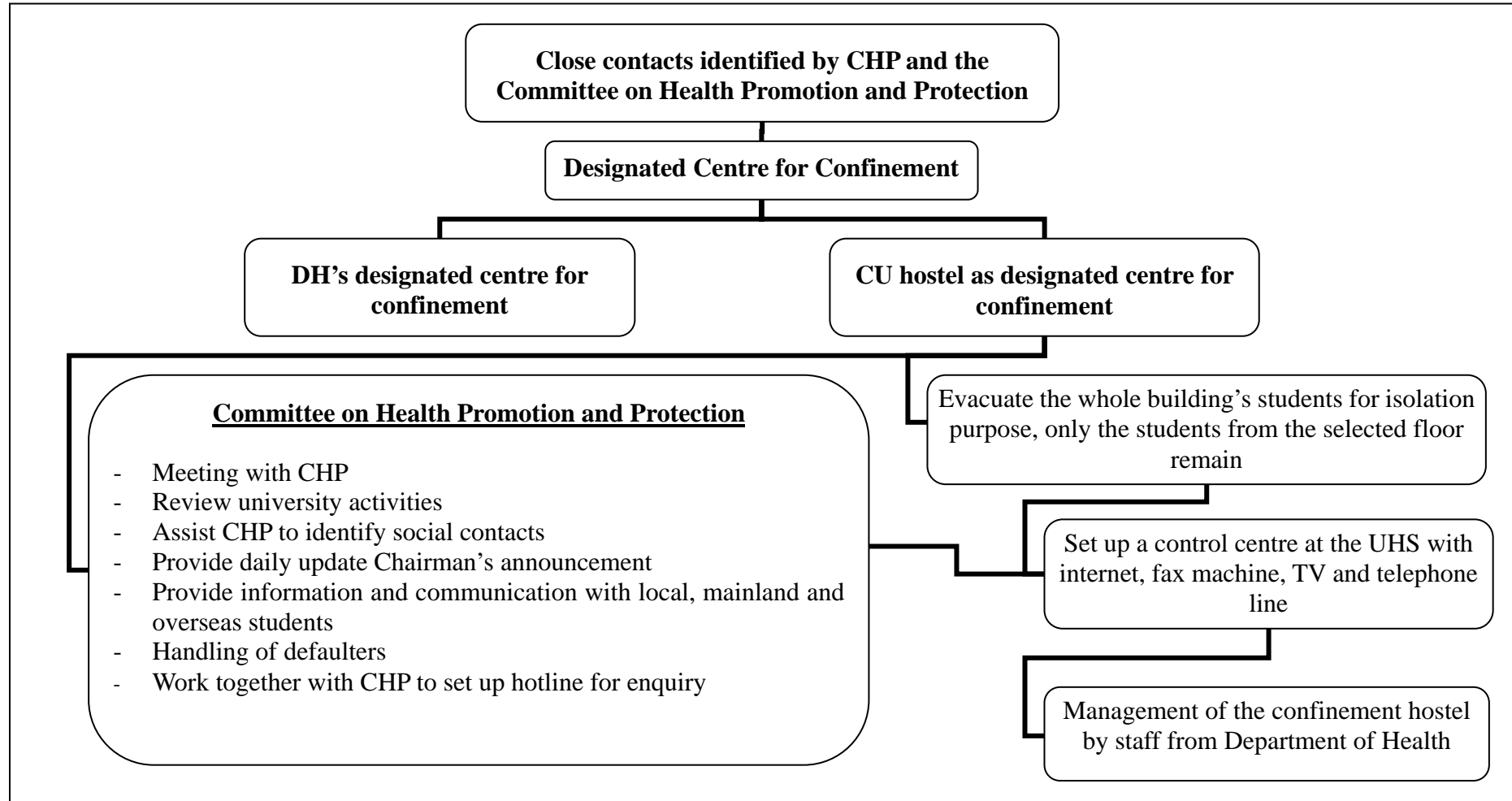
## **Prepare for avian influenza in University hostel Before Hong Kong enters pandemic stage**

### **If there are residents / visitors / staff being affected by avian influenza**

- Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of Department of Health (DH) will inform the management of the university hostels that there are residents / visitors / staff being affected by avian influenza. The role of CHP is to assess the risk of spreading the disease by the affected residents / visitors / staff during the infectious period or to identify the source of infection who may be staying at the hostel during the incubation period.
- CHP will make a site visit to the affected hostel to conduct case investigation and the following may be commenced as appropriate after risk assessment:
  1. Contact tracing
  2. Medical surveillance
  3. Chemoprophylaxis
  4. Disinfection
- Management of the university hostel should cooperate with DH in case investigation and contact tracing by
  - providing details of residents, staff and visitors who have contact with the index patient if available;
  - providing floor plan, resident list, staff list and visitor list;
  - arranging venues for interviews with residents / staff;
  - complying with CHP's instructions regarding confinement of residents and staff;
  - restricting visitors;
  - suspending intake of new residents to the affected floor before thorough disinfection and during on-site confinement period;
  - assisting in follow-up of health status of residents and medical surveillance of contacts (residents and staff) if necessary;
  - assisting in monitoring the residents' compliance to chemoprophylaxis if necessary;
  - giving advice to and facilitating any resident or staff who develops influenza-like symptoms to consult a doctor and take any other measures as deemed necessary;
  - refraining sick staff and staff requiring home / camp confinement from work;
  - disinfecting the hostel with 1:49 diluted household bleach (one part of 5.25% hypochlorite solution in 49 parts of water); and

- strictly observing hostel precautionary measures for maximum protection of residents and staff.
- The contacts (residents / staff) requiring confinement are expected to
  - strictly observe personal and environmental hygiene;
  - refrain from work or attending classes during the confinement period;
  - stay in areas for confinement;
  - report symptoms of influenza to designated person / CHP direct; and
  - comply with the chemoprophylaxis regimen.

# Hostel Confinement



# Contingency Plan for Hostel Confinement

## Management Units

### University Health Service

- Doctors and nurse for daily medical surveillance
  - If symptoms and signs present, for further assessment or refer to hospital
  - If no symptoms, recheck the next day
  - Provide health education
- Distributing Chemoprophylaxis
- SPR ready for admission
- Monitor any incidence of URI in campus
- Issue sick leave certificates

### Hostel Management

- Evacuate students from other floors to another hostel
- Provide a list of contact staff (day & night), visitor list, resident list, and floor plan
- Arrange food supply
- Care takers of the hostel to do frequent cleansing and disinfection in toilets and public area
- Run urgent errands for students, if necessary
- Communicate with students' family and academic departments, if necessary
- Obtain PPE, masks, gloves and disinfectants from Safety Office
- Storage of PPE
- Inform EMO if care takers cannot handle the cleansing and disinfection
- Arrange venues for interview with resident / staff
- Isolate sewage system
- Maintain good indoor ventilation

