

Public Health Management of A COVID-19 Case Imported from The Netherlands And Contacts in 2020

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Abstract

In March 2020, Tainan City had a confirmed case of COVID-19 imported from the Netherlands. After investigation by the Southern Regional Center, Taiwan Centers for Disease Control, we obtained the history of activities during the incubation period of the case, and listed relevant contacts. A total of 128 contacts were identified and classified by the risk of exposure, and were arranged to home isolation or self-health management. The Public Health Bureau of Tainan City Government monitored the health status of the contacts and arranged the hospital visiting. Twelve symptomatic contacts were tested and were all negative for SARS-CoV-2. In the end of the monitoring periods, there were no new confirmed cases. By cooperating with each other, the central and local governments prevented the spread of the disease. Considering the seriousness of international epidemic, there is a risk of sporadic imported cases. We recommended keeping border quarantine and home quarantine for 14 days for all travelers to reduce the risk of transmission. We also recommended using multiple ways of advocacy for COVID-19 control to the public and health care providers to improve the awareness of COVID-19 and control measures.

Keywords: SARS-CoV2 (COVID-2019), Novel coronavirus, imported case, contact tracing

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week 6 (Feb.6–Feb.12, 2022)

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Weekly Data of Notifiable Inases (by week of diagnosis)

Case diagnosis year		Week 6★		Week 1-6			
Classification	Disease Diagnosed	2022	2021	2022		2021	
				Total cases★	Imported cases	Total cases★	Imported cases
Category I	Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SARS	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Acute Flaccid Paralysis	1	0	4	0	4	0
Category II	Acute Viral Hepatitis type A	18	3	27	0	11	0
	Amoebiasis	3	5	25	2	21	11
	Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dengue Fever	0	0	0	0	2	2
	Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Enterohemorrhagic E. coli Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Epidemic Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hantavirus syndrome	0	0	0	0	2	0
	Malaria	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Paratyphoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shigellosis	3	1	8	0	20	0
	Typhoid fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zika virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Category III	Acute Viral Hepatitis type B	3	4	15	0	15	0
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type C	7	6	43	0	81	0
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type D	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Acute Viral Hepatitis type E	1	0	1	0	0	0
	Congenital Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Congenital Rubella Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Enteroviruses Infection with Severe Complications	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Haemophilus Influenza type b Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Japanese Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Legionnaires' Disease	10	5	46	0	51	0
	Mumps	2	12	25	0	55	1
	Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Pertussis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Tetanus	0	0	1	0	1	0
Category IV	Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Complicated Varicella	1	3	2	0	9	0
	Endemic Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	2	0
	Herpesvirus B Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Influenza Case with Severe Complications	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	4	6	17	0	41	0
	Leptospirosis	0	0	2	0	6	0
	Listeriosis	1	5	10	0	15	0
	Lyme Disease	0	0	1	1	0	0
	Melioidosis	0	0	0	0	2	0
	Q Fever	1	0	2	0	0	0
	Scrub Typhus	3	5	14	0	43	0
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	3	0	2	0	
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Category V	Ebola Virus Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Lassa Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Coronavirus Infections	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Novel Influenza A Virus Infections	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rift Valley Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens	425	13	2485	1775	129	108
Yellow Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- ★The weekly and cumulative total numbers include indigenous and imported cases of notifiable infectious diseases.
- MDR-TB, Tuberculosis, Syphilis, Gonorrhoea, HIV Infection, AIDS, Hansen's Disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease are excluded from the table.
- Numbers of mumps and tetanus cases are summed up by the week of report.
- Since 2020/1/15, "Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens" was listed as a Notifiable Infectious Disease.

Suspected Clusters

- Nineteen clusters related to diarrhea (13), tuberculosis (5) and upper respiratory tract infection (1) were reported during week 6.

Imported Infectious Diseases

- There were 308 imported cases from 47 countries during week 6.
Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens : 308 cases from USA 87, the Philippines 24, India 23, Canada 16, Indonesia 14, Netherlands 10, Vietnam 10, and the remaining 40 countries have less than 10 cases.
- During week 1–6, there were 1778 imported cases from 92 countries. The top three countries are USA (746), the Philippines (87), and India (78).
- During week 1–6, the notifiable diseases with the highest number of imported cases are Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens (1775).

Summary of Epidemic

- **Severe Pneumonia with Novel Pathogens** : The COVID-19 pandemic remaining serious globally and the risk of imported cases exists. New clusters in Kaohsiung City and New Taipei City have been reported, and the cases spread to the other counties after the Lunar New Year Holiday. In addition, there are some cases under investigation, the risk of locally-acquired infection in Taiwan continues.

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