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25 January 2007

Dear Doctor,

### Surveillance of Acute Pneumonia Among Live-pig Handlers

Further to my letter dated 29 December 2006, please be informed that the one-month enhanced surveillance period of acute pneumonia among live-pig handlers will expire on 28 January 2007.

So far, extensive laboratory testing has found no etiological agent for the previously reported two fatal cases among pig farmers, while some other tests remain to be completed. As a result of the heightened case finding through hotline, retrospective case review and prospective case reporting, we have identified two cases of acute pneumonia among abattoir workers. One case had onset of illness in December 2006, and was tested positive for pneumococcus and parainfluenza type 3. The other case had onset of illness in September 2006, but had no contact with live pigs during his daily work. No etiological agent was identified for this case. Both abattoir workers responded to antibiotic treatment and had been discharged from hospitals.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Thomas TSANG)

Consultant Community Medicine (Communicable Disease)  
Centre for Health Protection  
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