In June 2015 when South Korea experienced the largest outbreak of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronovirus infections outside the Arabian Peninsula, epidemiological determinants of MERS-Cov outbreaks. We immediately conducted a preliminary epidemiological assessment of the MERS-Cov outbreak in South Korea in order to further describe and update key parameters related to the disease.

Centre Directors: Professor Gabriel Matthew Leung (middle), Professor Seto Wing-hong (second left)

TOR 1 In collaboration with WHO, further the work of Infection Prevention and Control

WHO’s “First Global Patient Safety Challenge” has adopted Hong Kong’s record-breaking model of “Hand Sanitizing Relay” and put the model verified by the HKU as the focus of the global Hand Hygiene Day on May 5, 2015, with a view to promoting hand hygiene compliance and hence reduction of hospital infections all over the world.

TOR 2 Strengthen capacity for surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Together with colleagues in WPRO, a course on AMR testing is formulated (see course information). The plan is to introduce the course in 2017. It is now realized that before good antimicrobial stewardship is conducted, there is a need for “Diagnostic Stewardship”. This is one of the working groups in GLASS and the initial framework for this is formatted. Finally initial plans are made to form a network of centers in China to conduct research and training on antimicrobial testing and infection control (see photo on linkage on Guangzhou). A systematic review of antimicrobial stewardship.

TOR 3 Emergency Response to Outbreaks of Novel Pathogens

Preliminary epidemiological assessment of MERS-CoV outbreak in South Korea, May to June 2015


In June 2015 when South Korea experienced the largest outbreak of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus infections outside the Arabian Peninsula, we immediately conducted a preliminary epidemiological assessment of the MERS-CoV outbreak in South Korea in order to further describe and update key epidemiological determinants of MERS-CoV outbreaks.