

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)122

(Question Serial No. 0889)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health
This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume I Page 248 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 27):

Please advise on the number, nature and causes of local food poisoning incidents in the past three years (i.e. from 2011-12 to 2013-14), the seasons when these incidents took place, the conditions of the affected persons and the pertinence to restaurants and the food business (i.e. food poisoning arising from dining out or home cooking).

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department received 290, 341 and 285 referrals of food poisoning cases related to food premises/food business from the Department of Health in 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively. Food poisoning cases were more commonly reported during the period of June to August. Bacteria were the leading group of causative agents for food poisoning cases. The commonly identified contributing factors included cross-contamination and improper holding temperature. The majority of the affected persons presented mild symptoms and made full recovery.