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## Keep tabs on foreign workers' health, Govt told

THE Health Ministry and Immigration Department must beef up the precautionary steps to closely monitor the health of foreign workers, said *Sin Chew Daily*.

The daily said bosses must also be alert to the living environment of these workers to prevent diseases spreading from their living quarters.

"This is to prevent such diseases from bringing harm to public health,"

it said in its editorial.

The daily said the country was facing the risk of having diseases that had long been eradicated from Malaysia.

"Foreign workers, who came into the country, must have undergone medical examination but many of them did not even have any medical record.

"It is even more difficult for the

country to contain any diseases due to the huge number of illegal foreign workers in the country," it said.

The daily said in 2004, 2.8% in one million foreign workers were found with diseases including sexually transmitted disease and AIDS.

> In its editorial, *Nanyang Siang Pau* advised those who were on the same flights with the two confirmed influenza A (H1N1) patients to seek

medical examination.

"They should stop avoiding the hospital but must realise the urgency of getting to the nearest hospital to be placed under isolation and observation," it said.

The paper said these people were, "like a time bomb" who might bring harm to the public if they refused to take the advice from the authority.