How one case can spiral into 1,000

Arising from one index case....

Carial interval*

Cumulative cluster size

Seriai ilitervai	5	5	5	5	4	4
Reproductive ratio**	1	1.25	2	2.5	1	1.25
Days elapsed	15	15	15	15	16	16

Days elapsed 30 30 30 28 28

Cumulative cluster size 7 15 127 406 8 19

*Number of days between successive cases in a chain of transmission.

**Number of additional cases each case is expected to generate in the course of the case being infectious. Social distancing helps reduce this number.

NOTE: The above numbers are simplified to some extent because it ignores persons being cured or dying from the disease. (Mathematical formula: cumulative cluster size

15

25

4

2

16

31

28

255

2.5

16

64

28

1.016

= 1 + Rt + Rt² + Rt³ + Rt⁴....Cluster size rounded down to nearest whole number)

Source: DR WONG CHIANG YIN STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS