

RISK FACTORS FOR CHIKUNGUNYA INFECTION DURING A RE-EMERGED OUTBREAK
IN TAKBAI DISTRICT, NARATHIWAT PROVINCE, DURING 2014-2015

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In late November 2014, an outbreak of the Central East African chikungunya virus re-emerged in Takbai district, Narathiwat province. An outbreak investigation was conducted to determine the clinical features and risk factors of infection. Sera from 208 volunteers aged 18 years or more had chikungunya IgM antibodies by haemagglutination inhibition test and were interviewed with structured questionnaire. Of 161 infected cases, 122 (58.6 %) had chikungunya-like-symptoms. The dominant symptoms reported were arthralgia (99.2%), headache (94.3%), fever (87.7%) and rash (73.1%). Chikungunya infection was associated with having no outdoor mosquito biting protection (adjusted odds ratio=2.92, 95% CI =1.17-7.32), having an outdoor garbage pile (adjusted odds ratio=3.01, 95% CI =1.33-6.79) and being a rubber farmer (adjusted odds ratio=2.70, 95% CI =1.15-6.34). Therefore, self protection from outdoor mosquito biting and clearing of garbage piles, should be promoted to residents during chikungunya outbreak.

Key words: chikungunya, outbreak, risk factor