

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No. 233_Road Traffic Injuries (27 October – 2 November 2019)

According to the Department of Disease Control (DDC) surveillance for road traffic accident, the Accident Information for Road Safety Culture Promotion Center (as of 24 October 2019) revealed 737,454 injured victims of which 13,291 had died this year. Provinces with the highest number of injured victims and deaths were Bangkok, Chonburi, Nakhonratchasima, Chiangmai, and Samutprakan respectively.

The main risk factors, apart from the drivers' factor and the vehicles' safety condition, there are also environmental factor including road infrastructure and conditions (slippery road and poor visibility due to heavy rains).



According to this week disease forecast, there is a possibility of more road traffic accidents as Thailand has entered the cold season with long holidays. Many tourists will have long distance driving to visit mountainous areas.

The Department of Disease Control encourages all road users and motorists to avoid risky behavior (speed, drink-driving, drowsy-driving, motorcycle helmets, seat-belts and child restraints). Motorists must always carry along the driving license and strictly observe and obey the traffic rules and regulations including the speed limit. Vehicle safety condition should be checked before travelling, i.e. all the main controls (steering, clutch, brake and accelerator), wiper blades, tires, and lights. All motorists should drive slowly and cautiously, leave lots of space from the vehicle in front, i.e. twice as normal and slow down the vehicles before entering the heavy raining or foggy areas.

If motorists feel drowsy, frequent stops for 15 minute naps are crucial. If a long distance driving is planned, another driver should be ready to take turns. Avoid drink-driving by having someone drive for you or use public transport such as taxi instead. There is also an increasing concern over the distracted driving such as the use of mobile phones while driving. Sitting in the open rear area of the pick-up truck has shown a risk of severe injuries or even deaths resulting from falling out of the vehicles.

For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 1422.



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