

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No. 283_Road Traffic Injuries (18 – 24 October 2020)

The Department of Disease Control (DDC)'s surveillance system, based on the information from the Road Accident Victims Protection Co.,Ltd. and the Road Accident Notification Network, has revealed 251,854 road traffic accidents with 760,295 injured patients, 1,901 disabled persons and 11,695 deaths this year (up to 14 October 2020). Provinces with highest incidents were Bangkok (34,907 incidents, 83,933 injured patients and 683 deaths), followed by Chiangmai (10,287 incidents, 28,813 injured patients and 317 deaths).

Provinces with the highest number of the injured and deaths were Bangkok, followed by Chonburi (35,297 injured patients and 404 deaths) and Nakhonratchasima (33,086 injured patients and 409 deaths). Motorcycle accounted for the highest incidence rate (58%), followed by car (48%).

According to this week disease forecast, the risk of road traffic accidents tends to continue as there will be more long-holidays when many people travel to their hometowns or their destinations for travelling or for "Kathin" Buddhism merit ceremony. One of the main risk factors was the rain and storm condition.



The Department of Disease Control encourages all road users and motorists to avoid risky behaviors (fast speed driving, drink-driving, drowsy-driving, as well as lacking use of 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.

In case of seeing an accident, please immediately call Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Teams at 1669.

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

