

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.15/2021_Road Traffic Injuries (11 - 17 April 2021)

According to the surveillance system for road traffic injuries, the Department of Disease Control (DDC) reveals record from the Road Safety Center regarding the countrywide road traffic accidents that occurred during the past new year holiday (25 December 2020 to 4 January 2021). There were 3,333 incidents with 392 deaths. Most of the victims were adults of age group 20 - 24 years old. The top three provinces with the highest number of road traffic accidents were Chiang Rai, Khon Kaen, and Udonthani.

According to this week disease forecast, there is a risk of increasing road traffic accidents as a large number of people will be travelling by road across the country to their hometowns or their tourist destinations during the Songkran holiday.



The DDC 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.

The DDC also requests cooperation from all shop and business owners to strictly follow the Alcohol Control Act, B.E. 2552 (2008) regarding restricted sell time and prohibition to sell alcoholic drinks to a person under 20 years and a drunk person.

In case of seeing an accident, please immediately call the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Teams at 1669. For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 1422.

