

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.125_Influenza (11 – 17 September 2017)

According to the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January – 4 September 2017, there were 95,410 influenza patients with 18 deaths. Among the deaths, 11 were people at high risk of serious influenza.

During last year (2016), there were 44 influenza deaths of which 37 were the high risk people. Study showed that only 60% of the high risk received the influenza vaccine.



According to this week disease forecast, influenza will continue to occur during this rainy season while the weather keeps changing. The number of influenza cases is likely to be higher than last year.

The Department of Disease Control advises people to protect themselves well from the disease especially the high risk people including 1) obese people 2) pregnant women and women after giving birth within 14 days 3) people with underlying chronic diseases such as COPD, asthma, diabetes, heart, kidney, and liver diseases, thalassemia, and people with impaired immunity 4) mentally disabled and people with epilepsy. 5) those under 18 years old receiving aspirin therapy 6) children under 2 years old and 7) people older than 65 years. These most at risk people should get the influenza vaccine to be protected from the disease as well as to reduce the disease severity and chance to be admitted to hospital.

Patients with high fever, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and dyspnea, especially people at high risk of serious influenza, should seek medical care at a hospital immediately.

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

