

# Department of Disease Control

## Weekly Disease Forecast No.155\_Pertussis (9 - 15 April 2018)

From the national disease surveillance system, since the beginning of this year, the DDC has found 12 pertussis patients with no death. One-fourth were Infants aged 1 - 3 months. The latest case was an infant aged 2 months from Nongbualamphu province.

During the past 5 years ( 2013 – 2017), pertussis incidence had shown an increasing trend with a range of 16 to 77 pertussis cases per year. The number of cases of this year is likely to be higher than the median of the past 5 years.



According to this week disease forecast, pertussis is likely to occur sporadically especially in young children who had got incomplete immunization.

Pertussis, or whooping cough, is a bacterial disease easily transmitted through droplet contact from coughing and sneezing. Unimmunized or incompletely immunized person has a 90 % risk of getting the infection. The Department of Disease strongly advises parents to bring their children to receive the complete DTP immunization course at the public hospital nearby at the age of 2, 4, and 6 months, one and a half years and 4 years old.

The disease investigation had shown that children also caught the disease from the household members who did not look unwell. Therefore, any person with mild symptoms such as coughing or sneezing should not stay close to infants. Moreover, infants should not be brought to crowded places.

In case of infants with symptoms of numerous and rapid cough and high-pitched whoop or persistent cough, a medical care at the hospital is crucially needed.

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

