

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.158_Pertussis (29 April – 5 May 2018)

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January – 26 April 2018, there were 19 pertussis cases. The DDC has found 27 pertussis patients with one death. Most of the cases were infants less than 1 year of age (59.26%), followed by 1-3 years (40.74 %)

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. Reported of 4 cases in the last week were from Songkhla, Phuket, Nakhon Phanom and Nakhon Si Thammarat.



According to this week disease forecast, there is a possibility of increasing rates of pertussis.

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.

The Department of Disease Control advises the ill person with coughing should avoid crowded places, especially infants with incompletely immunized should wear a face mask and often have their hands washed . Parents should bring their children to receive the complete immunization course at the hospital. The patient with coughing at least 2 weeks or having numerous, rapid coughs and a high – pitched whoop, a medical attention is crucially needed.

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



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