

Department-of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.161_Dengue (20 – 26 May 2018)

From the national disease surveillance system, the Department of Disease Control reveals 10,446 dengue cases of which 15 died during 1 January to 16 May 2018.

The surveillance shows that most of the cases were in age groups 15 – 24 years, 10 – 14 years and 25 – 34 years respectively.



This week disease forecast reveals a continue trend of dengue occurrence as Thailand has entered the rainy season with more mosquito breeding sites. It is forecasted that number of dengue cases of this year might reach 74,000 to 75,000. It is noted with concern that the case fatality rate of this year might be increasing due to the changing trend of the patient age group from children to adult especially those with underlying chronic diseases and higher risk of severe illness.

The Department of Disease Control (DDC) therefore advises all people to protect themselves and their children from mosquito bites. This can be done by sleeping in rooms with mosquito screens or in mosquito nets and by wearing long sleeve shirts, long pants and applying mosquito repellents such as DEET to exposed skin or to clothing when staying outdoor especially after sunrise and before sunset. All must routinely eliminate mosquito breeding sites in and around houses using the measure called “3 Do’s to prevent 3 diseases (dengue, chikungunya and Zika virus)”, i.e. 1) cover water-storage containers, change water in small containers every 7 days and eliminate all mosquito breeding sites; 2) dispose garbage properly; and 3) keep houses tidy without any corners suitable for mosquitoes to rest.

Dengue patients usually have abrupt high grade fever (more than 38.5 degree Celsius), headache, anorexia, nausea and vomiting but no running nose and coughing. Paracetamol, but not Aspirin, is safe to use as antipyretics. Sponge the patient’s skin is also helpful. If the illness is not improving within 2 days, a special medical care at the hospital is urgently needed.

Watch for warning signs of shock especially when temperature declines, 3-7 days after symptoms began, i.e. bleeding from nose or gums, drowsiness or irritability, pale, cold, or clammy skin or difficulty breathing. Bring the patient to the hospital urgently for life saving.

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



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