Department of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.167_Road Traffic Injuries (8 – 14 July 2018)

According to the Department of Disease Control (DDC) surveillance system for major road traffic accident, i.e. more than 5 deaths or more than 15 injured victims, the Bureau of Epidemiology (BOE) revealed 39 incidents with 112 deaths and 744 injured victims in 2017. The types of vehicles mostly involved were public bus (38.71%), followed by pick-up truck (20.97), and public van (12.90).

In 2018, there were 2 major road traffic accidents causing 7 deaths each in Chonburi and Prachuabkhirikhan provinces.

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According to this week disease forecast, there is a possibility of more road traffic accidents as Thailand has been currently in the rainy season. Moreover, there are usually more rainfalls in July and August.

The most common risk factors, apart from the drivers' and vehicles' factors, are the environmental factors. It is well aware that heavy rains cause slippery conditions and a longer distance to stop vehicles and reduce drivers' visibility.

The Department of Disease Control therefore encourages all motorists to drive carefully in or right after rain as the road condition will be slippery. 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 flooded area.

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

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