

# Department of Disease Control, Weekly Disease Forecast No.17 (20-26 July 2015)

From the national disease surveillance system, last week there were 4 diphtheria cases with one death in 4 provinces, i.e. Chanthaburi, Chachoengsao, Bangkok and Phuket. Since the beginning of 2015, there have been 11 diphtheria cases with 3 deaths from 8 provinces, i.e Tak, Chanthaburi, Chachoengsao, Nonthaburi, Bangkok, Phangnga, Phuket and Yala.



The patients were found in all regions except the Northeastern region which has higher vaccine coverage against diphtheria. Six out of the 11 cases were migrant children. Five cases were Thais, of which 3 were adults. Almost all of the patients had not got any diphtheria vaccination.

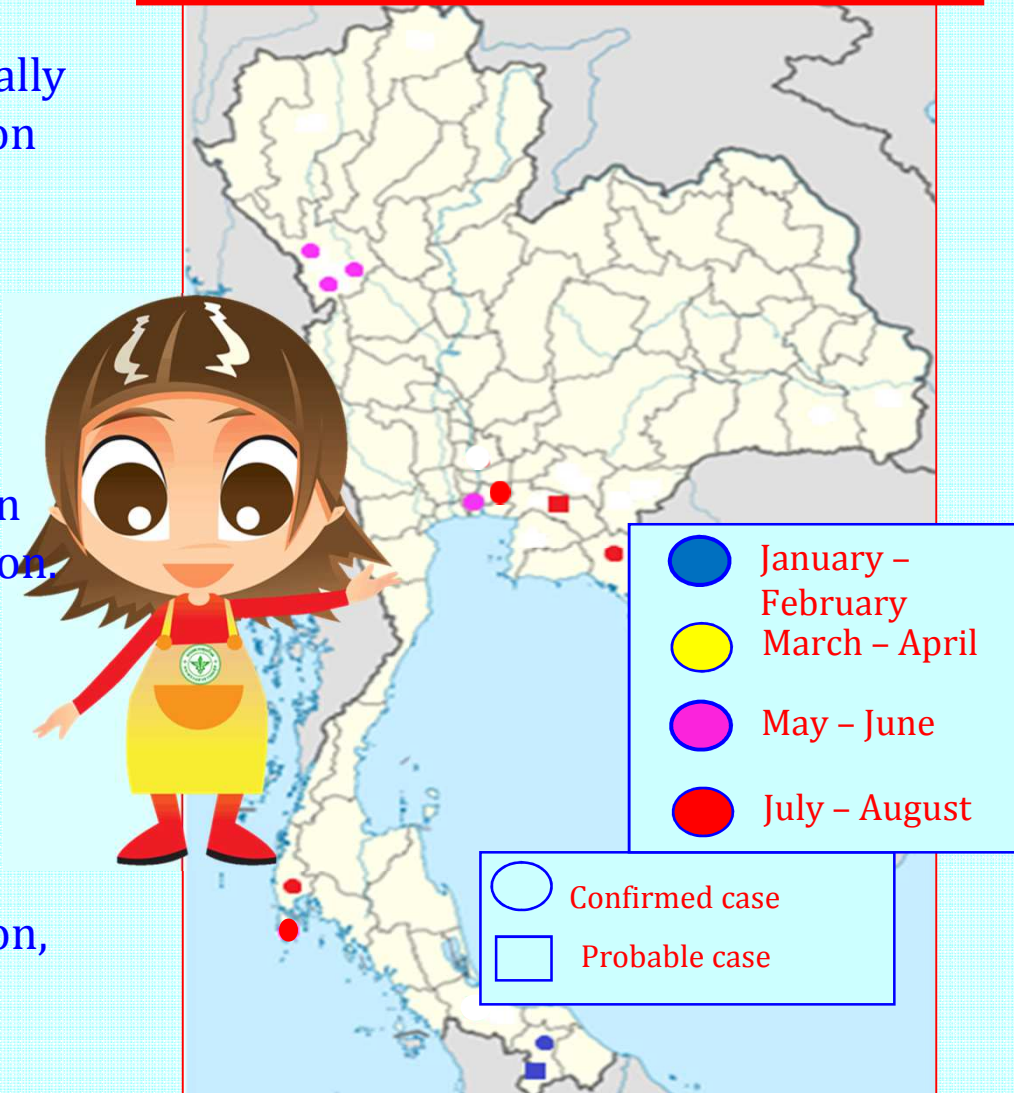


This week forecast is the third warning that there is a possibility of more diphtheria cases and deaths, especially in the provinces with low vaccination coverage against diphtheria while having high number of migrant workers.

The Ministry of Public Health encourages parents to bring their children to receive all immunization injections as per the recommendation. Currently it is also strongly advised that all people aged 20-50 years receive free diphtheria and tetanus vaccination service at all public hospitals nearby.

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

Map of diphtheria cases in Thailand, 2015



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