Department-of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.171\_Aedes Mosquito-borne Diseases (5 - 11 August 2018)

From the national disease surveillance system since the beginning of 2018, the Department of Disease Control reveals 37,793 dengue cases of which 45 died. The total number of patients was 45.6% higher compared with the same period of last year. Most of the cases were students (49.1%).

For Zika virus, there were 201 cases with no deaths and all have recovered. The number of patients were lower compared with the same period last year. The disease occurrence has been on a decreasing trend and sporadic. There were no outbreaks.

There were 79 chikungunya cases with no deaths. Most of the cases were in 25 - 34 years age group (26.6%). All patients were in the Southern region. Provinces with the highest incidence rates were Satun, Narathiwat and Phuket respectively.

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This week disease forecast reveals a continue occurrence trend of Aedes Mosquitoborne diseases during this rainy season. According to the Meteorological Department, rains will continue in many areas resulting in more outdoor standing water serving as mosquito breeding sites.

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. The measure is a key success factor for prevention and control of Aedes Mosquito-borne diseases.

For people who have fever, headache, body aches, red or purple spots (Petechial hemorrhage) or rashes on the skin, an urgent medical care at the hospital nearby is needed.

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

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