

Department of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.183_Diphtheria (28 October – 3 November 2018)

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January to 25 October 2018, there were 14 confirmed diphtheria cases of which 13 were Thais and 1 was Myanmar. There were 2 deaths.

The highest incidence rates occurred among young children less than 5 years and the 5 - 10 years age groups. Provinces with the top five incidences were Yala, Sakaeo, Nakhonratchasima, Pathumthani and Chiangrai respectively.



According to this week disease forecast, there is a continue risk of sporadic diphtheria in some areas with low vaccination coverage against diphtheria especially in crowded places such as worker camps, military camps and boarding schools .

Diphtheria can cause illness in unvaccinated children and adults and those who have got incomplete vaccination including the “booster” doses of diphtheria vaccine every 10 years.

The best way to prevent diphtheria is to get vaccinated. The Department of Disease Control therefore advises parents to bring their children to get the complete vaccination series against diphtheria (DTP vaccine) as per the MOPH recommended immunization schedule. Pregnant women should also get the dT vaccine as per the schedule.

Those who have symptoms of diphtheria such as fever, weakness, sore throat, swollen neck and thick gray or white patch in throat must visit a hospital for a special medical care immediately to save life.

For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 142 2.



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