

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.25 (14-20 September 2015)

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January to 8 September 2015, there were 26,407 Hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) patients. A total of three deaths reported were from Saraburi, Tak and Chonburi provinces. The latest death, at the end of August 2015, was a 4 years old child from Chonburi province.

During the past 4 weeks, most of the HFMD patients were found in Central and Southern regions. The highest risk group, for both cases and deaths from the disease, were infants and small children 1 to 4 years of age. It is noted with concern that this year's ratio of more virulent viruses such as EV71 is much higher than those of other years during the past 10 years.



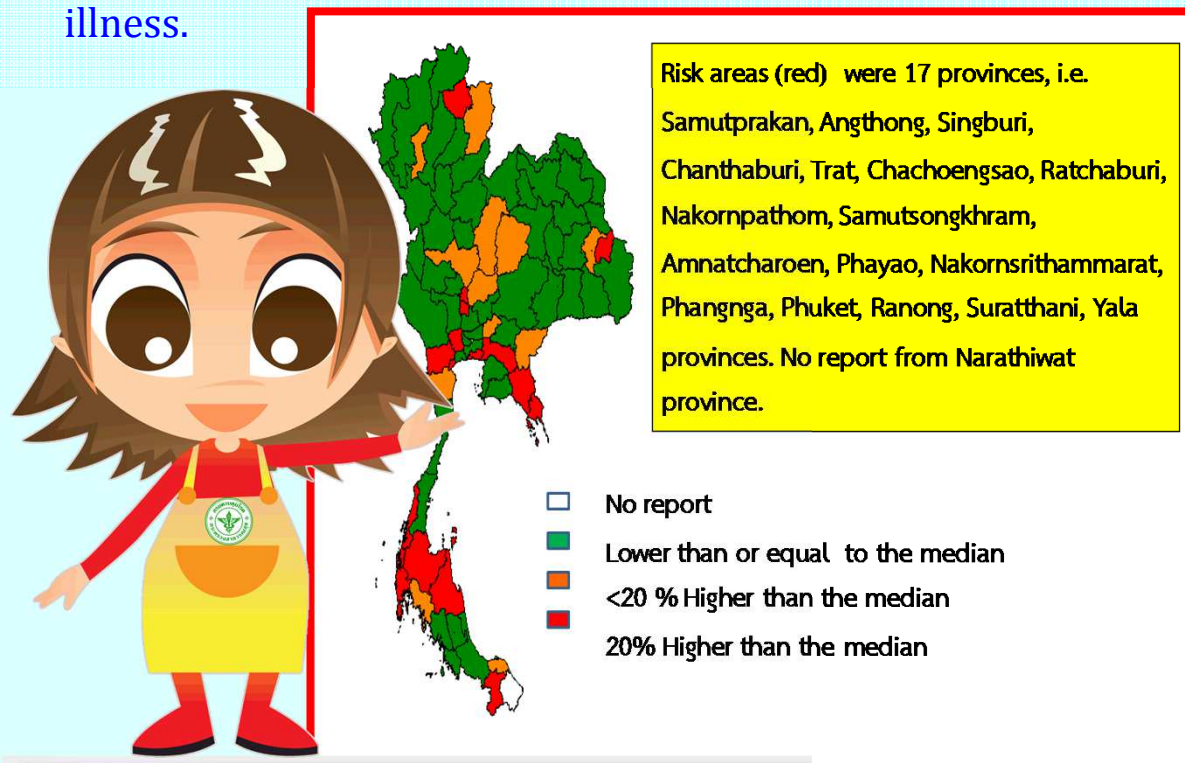
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According to this week disease forecast, there is a possibility of increasing trend of HFMD, especially in young children.

The Department of Disease Control advises parents to observe their children's symptoms , i.e. fever, skin rash, sores or blisters in the mouth and on the hands, feet, and sometimes the buttocks.

To help prevent the disease from spreading, sick children should stay home and avoid close contact with family members or others in the community, especially during the first week of illness.



Home care includes giving the children antipyretics, drinking plenty of cool fluids to help with sore throat, eating enough soft nutritious food and bed rest.

If illness becomes worse, i.e. , high fever lasts for more than two days, vomiting or depression, children should be brought for medical care at a hospital immediately.

For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 1442.

