

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.44_ CO poisoning from gas water heater (8-14 February 2016)

From the national disease surveillance system, in January 2016, there were 27 cases with 7 deaths of Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning from gas water heater in the Northern region. All cases occurred during cold season (December to February).

Last week (during 1 - 5 February 2016), there were 2 cases who lost consciousness due to CO poisoning from gas water heater in Chiang Mai province.



According to this week weather forecast from the Meteorological Department, the temperature during 6 to 9 February 2016 in the Northern region will further drop by 4 - 6 degrees Celsius, thus people often use water heater.

The Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, therefore advises all individuals, especially people with chronic diseases such as heart disease, high blood pressure, anemia, respiratory diseases or breathing problems, to protect themselves well from CO poisoning when taking a shower with gas water heater.

If symptoms, i.e. feeling dizzy, light headed, nauseous, chest pain or difficulty breathing, he or she must get out of the bathroom immediately. The place operator or hotline 1669 should be called for help. After the patient get out of the room, the bathroom door should be left open for at least 15 minutes. There is also an urgent need to call a qualified technician to check and fix the heater before next use.



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



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