

# Department of Disease Control

## Weekly Disease Forecast No.55\_Influenza

### (25 April – 1 May 2016)

From the national disease surveillance system during 1 January - 19 April 2015, There were 43,109 influenza patients with 5 deaths from Phetchaburi (2), Nakhon Ratchasima (2) and Pattani (1) provinces. The highest influenza incidence rates were found in 0-4 years age group followed by age groups 5-14 years and 25-34 years respectively. The highest incidence rates occurred in the northern, the central and southern regions respectively .



According to this week disease forecast, influenza cases may continue to occur especially in areas with summer thunderstorms and hot weather. Close monitoring of the disease situation should be carried out in Chiang Mai, Phitsanulok, Samut Prakan, Nakhon Ratchasima provinces and southern provinces where many Muslim pilgrims will be returning from the Middle East.

The Department of Disease Control advises high risk people who need to be in crowded or poorly ventilated places to wear face masks, avoid close contact with people with suspected influenza symptoms and also follow the principle of “eat freshly-cooked food, use serving spoon and wash hands often”. The Department also strongly recommends that people with risk of severe influenza illness including those with underlying diseases, the elderly, young children and pregnant women to receive annual influenza vaccination at public hospitals from May 2016 onwards.

For patients with severe illness or those who take medicines to relieve influenza symptoms but do not feel better within 2 - 3 days, it is wise to seek a medical care at a hospital nearby.

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

