

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.59_Rabies

23 - 29 May 2015

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January to 19 May 2016, there were 4 human rabies deaths reported from Songkhla, Rayong, Samut Prakan, and Chachoengsao provinces. Another 3 rabies deaths were those bitten by rabid dogs in their countries bordered to Thailand and came in to seek treatment after clinical signs and symptoms developed.

In 2016, there were 203 animal specimens found to be rabies positive in 37 provinces. Most (87 percent) of the rabid animals were dogs.



According to this week disease forecast, the human rabies tends to occur sporadically especially in the Eastern region, where human and animal rabies were found repeatedly, and in border areas of neighboring countries

The Department of Disease Control strongly recommends that local authorities provide continue health education and risk communication regarding rabies. Owners should be encouraged to bring their dogs and cats to receive the annual most cost-effective vaccination. Birth control services for dogs and cats are also one among the very effective measures.

If a person is bitten or scratched by dogs or cats, he or she should wash the wound with soap and water immediately and thoroughly for a minimum of 15 minutes. Povidone iodine should then be applied into the wound to kill the rabies virus. If not available, alcohol 70% or tincture iodine can also be used. Medical care at a hospital nearby is urgent. In case a rabid dog bite is suspected, a complete course of post-exposure treatment is crucial.

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

