

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.66_Diphtheria

(11 - 17 July 2016)

From the national disease system, during 1 January to 9 June 2016, there were 4 Thai diphtheria cases with 2 deaths. Most cases were in 25 - 34 years age group. The highest morbidity rates were found in the Northern and the Southern regions respectively.

During the past five years (2011-2015), the incidence rates were highest in children aged 1- 4 years followed by the 5 - 9 years age group.

In 2016, there were reports of diphtheria in the neighboring countries, i.e. Malaysia (14 cases) and Myanmar (10 cases).



According to this week disease forecast, there will be a continue risk of diphtheria occurrence due to movement of people across borders. The Ministry of Public Health has carried out a booster diphtheria vaccination campaign in adults aged 20 - 50 years during 2014-2015. Those in this age group who have not yet got the vaccination should seek this free service to booster immunity for diphtheria protection at a hospital nearby.

High risk groups of diphtheria are children and adults who have not got immunity to the disease. The Department of Disease Control advises parents to bring their children to get vaccination against diphtheria according to the MOPH immunization schedule. Adults aged 20-50 years and travelers who will be crossing borders into the neighboring countries, can seek advice regarding a booster dose of the vaccine at a hospital nearby.

For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 1422 or the Institute of Preventive Medicine Study of the Department of Disease Control at 02-590-3726.

