

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No. 70_Influenza

(8-14 August 2016)

According to the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January – 31 July 2016, there were 62,912 influenza patients with 5 deaths from Nakhon Ratchasima (2), Phetchaburi (1), Nongbualamphu (1), and Surin (1).

Laboratory surveillance by the Department of Medical Sciences for week 30th (24-30 July 2016) revealed Influenza A H1N1 (2009) as the most common causative agent, followed by Influenza A (H3N2) and Influenza B respectively. The findings were consistent with those of the worldwide WHO Laboratory Collaborating Centers.



According to this week disease forecast, influenza cases tend to occur 1.5 to 1.7 times higher than those of the past 5 years (2011-2015) of the same period. The highest number of influenza patients of around 15,000-20,000 cases per month is expected to occur during the rainy season in August and September.

The high risk groups of having severe influenza include those with underlying chronic diseases (such as COPD, Asthma, Heart disease, Stroke, Kidney failure, Cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, Diabetes and Thalassemia), the elderly aged over 65 years, young children aged 6 months - 2 years old, pregnant women, obese people, mentally disabled, and those with impaired immunity.

Influenza illness varies from mild symptoms with fever, and runny nose to severe complications including pneumonia, encephalitis, myocarditis, hepatitis and death. For patients with severe illness or those who take medicines to relieve influenza symptoms but do not feel better within 3 - 4 days, it is crucially urgent to seek a medical care at a hospital nearby.

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

