

Department of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.72_Diphtheria (22 – 28 August 2016)

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January to present, there were 7 confirmed and probable diphtheria cases with 2 deaths.

The highest diphtheria incidence rate were in 35 - 44 years age group. All were Thais from the northern, central and southern regions of the country.



According to this week disease forecast, there is a continue risk of diphtheria sporadic occurrence, especially in some areas with low vaccination coverage against diphtheria or large numbers of migrant workers.

Diphtheria can cause illness in unvaccinated children and adults and those who have got incomplete vaccination including the “booster” doses of diphtheria vaccine in every 10 years.

The best way to prevent diphtheria is to get vaccinated. The Department of Disease Control therefore advises parents to bring their children to get a complete vaccination series against diphtheria, i.e. the DTP vaccine, as per the MOPH recommended immunization schedule.

Main symptoms of diphtheria are fever, weakness, sore throat, swollen neck and thick gray or white patch in throat. To save life, the patient must visit a hospital for a special medical care immediately.

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

