

Department of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.73_HFMD (29 August – 4 September 2016)

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January to 23 August 2016, there were 55,527 Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD) patients, with one death each in Chiang Mai, Pathum Thani, Chachoengsao, and Phrae provinces.

Last week report found young children patients in several kindergartens and one death case. It is also noted with concern that HFMD incidence of this year is higher than the same period of last year.



According to this week disease forecast, the occurrence of HFMD is likely to continue. An active surveillance should be implemented especially in provinces of the northern region, including Chiang Mai and Phrae.

HFMD is sporadic throughout the year with more cases during the rainy season (June to August). Outbreaks usually occur in nurseries and kindergartens. Therefore, it is highly recommended that child-caregivers and teachers screen all children for the disease symptoms on a daily basis.

The Department of Disease Control advises parents to observe their young children's symptoms such as fever, mouth sores or skin rash with red spots on palms of hands and soles of feet, and sometimes on knees, elbows and buttocks. To help prevent the disease from spreading, sick children should stay home and avoid close contact with family members or others in the community, especially during the first week of illness.

Nearly all patients recover in 7 to 10 days by symptomatic treatment and home care. However, urgent hospitalization is needed in patients with warning signs such as high fever, stiff neck, recurrent vomiting, and limb weakness.

For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 1442.

