

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No. 78_Rabies

(3 - 9 October 2016)

From the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January – 28 September 2016, there were 8 reported human rabies deaths. Last week, there was one probable rabies death in Chachoengsao province. The victim was bitten by a suspected rabid dog without any known rabies vaccination history.

In 2016, the Department of Livestock Development (DLD) revealed that there is an increasing trend of confirmed animal rabies in Bangkok and surrounded provinces and there were 2 human rabies deaths.



According to this week disease forecast, rabies cases may be found sporadically in some areas due to the people's misperception about the disease.

The Department of Disease Control therefore strongly recommends that local authorities provide vaccination service to dogs and cats and also health education about rabies. Public should get easy access to correct information especially the fact that dogs and cats of all ages can transmit the virus through scratch or wound licking up to 10 days before they develop rabies symptoms.

All persons bitten by rabid animals will die within 5 -11 days after becoming ill. Therefore if bitten by a suspected rabid animal, the victim must start the post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) within 48 hours and receive the complete course of immunization. The person bitten or scratched by dogs or cats, must 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. The suspected animals must be kept and observed for 10 days

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

