## Department of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No. 82\_Influenza (7 – 13 November 2016)

According to the national disease surveillance system, during 1 January – 1 November 2016, there were 137,096 influenza patients (209.54 per 100,00 population). There were 35 deaths which was higher than the same period of last year.

During the past week, there was an outbreak of influenza (with more than 25 patients) among workers in a construction camp in Chiang Mai province.



According to this week disease forecast, the occurrence of influenza patients tends to increase as cold weather has begun in several areas causing people to get the illness easily.

The Department of Disease Control recommends that people, especially those with chronic diseases, the elderly, pregnant women and young children, protect themselves well from influenza by avoiding close contact with people with influenza-like Illness and unnecessary visit to crowded or poorly ventilated places.

The Department also strongly recommends that people with risk of severe influenza illness including pregnant women, young children aged 6 months to 2 years, those with chronic diseases, and the elderly aged 65 years or more, receive free annual influenza vaccination at all public hospitals.

For patients with severe illness or those who take medicines to relieve influenza symptoms but do not feel better within 2 - 3 days, it is wise to seek a medical care immediately.

All patients should wear face masks and wash hands often to help prevent spread of influenza virus to others

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

