Department of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.85\_Road traffic injuries (28 November – 4 December 2016)

The national disease surveillance system, from 1 January to 24 November 2016, revealed 725,202 injured victims and 8,665 deaths from road traffic accidents. Last week, there were 17,158 injured victims and 158 deaths.

During last week, there were 2 road traffic accidents causing 18 deaths and 43 injured victims. The first one was an abyss fall of a bus on the mountainous area in Uttaradit province causing 18 deaths and 20 injured persons. The other was a truck crash into people in Ubon Ratchathani province with 23 injured victims.

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According to this week disease forecast, there is a possibility of more road traffic accidents as Thailand has entered the cold season with long holidays. Many tourists are travelling as families or groups to visit national parks and mountains by vans or buses. Unsaved long distance travelling can increase the risk of road accidents.

The Department of Disease Control therefore encourages all individuals and agencies with travel plans during this high season to study the routes of travelling and choose appropriate vehicles. Only reliable companies with safety insurance should be selected. Vehicle safety condition and driver physical fitness must be checked. Ensurthat drivers are skillful. If a long distance driving is planned, another driver should be ready to take turns. Traffic rules must always be observed. Careful driving in foggy and mountainous conditions is helpful.

In case of confronting an accident while lacking of knowledge and skills on rescuing and first aid, do not try to move victims. Please immediately call Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Teams at 1669.

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

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