

Department-of Disease Control Weekly Disease Forecast No.150_Dengue (5 – 11 March 2018)

From the national disease surveillance system during 1 January – 28 February 2018, the Department of Disease Control (DDC) revealed 3,072 dengue cases (4.70 per 100,000 population morbidity rate). There were 9 deaths (0.29 per cent case fatality rate).

It is noted with concern that the dengue case fatality rate is higher than the average rates of the previous years which ranged between 0.10- 0.12 %.



This week disease forecast reveals a continue trend of dengue occurrence that will result in around 74,000-75,000 cases in 2018 which is 28 - 29% higher than last year. The high risk people remains students aged 15 - 24 years. The weather variability with more rainfalls and hot weather is likely to cause more mosquito breeding sites.

The Department of Disease Control (DDC) therefore advises all people to protect themselves and their children from mosquito bites. This can be done by sleeping in rooms with mosquito screens or in mosquito nets, wearing long sleeve shirts and long pants and applying mosquito repellents such as DEET to exposed skin or to clothing when staying outdoor especially after sunrise and before sunset. All must routinely eliminate mosquito breeding sites in and around houses using the measure called “3 Do’s to prevent 3 diseases (dengue, chikungunya and Zika virus)”, i.e. 1) cover water-storage containers, change water in small containers every 7 days and eliminate all mosquito breeding sites around houses, 2) dispose garbage properly, and 3) keep houses tidy.

Dengue patients usually have symptoms such as abrupt high grade fever (more than 38.5 degree Celsius), headache, body aches, anorexia, nausea, and vomiting but no running nose and coughing. Paracetamol, but not Aspirin, is safe to use as antipyretics. If the patient has fever more than 2 days, does not drink enough fluids, or has severe signs such as red spots or patches on the skin of arms, legs and foldable joints, mucosal membrane bleeding from nose or gums, drowsiness or irritability, pale, cold, or clammy skin or difficulty breathing, a special medical care at a hospital is urgently needed for life saving.

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



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