

# Department of Disease Control

## Weekly Disease Forecast No.201\_Measles (10 - 16 March 2019)

From the national disease surveillance system, the Department of Disease Control reveals the measles situation in the four southernmost provinces (Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat, and Songkhla). During 1 January – 5 March 2019, there were 1,161 measles cases with 8 deaths. Children in the age group 0 - 4 years ranked first for measles cases (60%). The highest number of cases were found in Narathiwat (555), Pattani (402), Songkhla (137), and Yala (67).

Most of the patients were unvaccinated or had unclear vaccination history (79%). All of the 8 death cases (aged between 5 months to 4 years) were unvaccinated.



This week disease forecast shows a continue risk of measles occurrence especially in the four southernmost provinces where vaccination coverage against the disease is low.

Measles is a dangerous disease for infants and young children with malnutrition and delay treatment may result in severe complications and death. These patients therefore need urgent hospital visits for prompt treatment. Common symptoms are high fever (usually last for 3 days), dry coughing, running nose, red and watery eyes, and small white spots inside the cheeks that can develop in the initial stage. After several days, the rash erupts, usually on the upper neck and face. The rash then spreads eventually to trunk, hands and feet. The rash usually lasts 5 to 6 days, and then fades.

The Department of Disease Control encourages parents to bring their children to get measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccination as scheduled by the Ministry of Public Health, i.e. the first time at the age of 9 months and the second time at the age of two and a half years.

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



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