

Department of Disease Control, Weekly Disease Forecast No.21 (17-23 August 2015)

From the national disease system during last week, there were food poisoning outbreaks from poisonous mushroom consumption in two families in Udon Thani and Ubon Ratchathani provinces which had resulting in 3 deaths. The families collected mushrooms from the forest and ate the poisonous ones that were mixed and could not be distinguished from the edible ones such as Termite mushroom (Het Kon) and Amanita mushroom (Het rangok).

In this year rainy season, during June to August 2015, there were 551 cases with 5 deaths causing by poisonous mushroom consumption.



According to this week disease forecast, during this rainy season, there is a possibility of increasing number of patients from poisonous mushrooms especially in the Northern and North-Eastern regions of the country. The mushrooms being the cause of illness were mostly Amanita mushrooms (Het ra- ngok hin, Het mong kong and Het khai tai sark) which could cause liver failure or even death.



The Department of Disease Control warns people to carefully collect mushrooms and discard poisonous mushrooms that may be mixed with the edible ones. In addition, the poison of some mushrooms are heat-stable that will not be destroyed despite of well cooking. Above all, it is advised to avoid eating mushrooms together with alcoholic drink as alcohol will make the poison spread more quickly. Grown mushrooms is recommended and people should not collect or buy mushrooms if they are not sure of their safety.

The symptoms of mushroom food poisoning are nausea, vomiting, stomach ache and dizziness. If one has these symptoms after eating mushrooms, he or she should seek medical attention immediately.

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



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