



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia News release

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

Special Announcement of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 on 2 February 2020

1. The situation on 2 February 2020 at 8.00 A.M.

1. There are currently 11 confirmed cases being treated in hospitals and 8 cases who returned to their homes, which brings the total number of novel coronavirus infection cases detected in Thailand to 19.

2. From 3 January to 1 February 2020, the total number of patients under investigation (PUI) was raised to 382 people. Of those, 40 PUI were detected from the airport screening. 342 people sought medical services on their own at hospitals, and 71 cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes. Most of the PUI were infected with seasonal influenza, and 311 PUI are admitted at hospitals. On 1 February 2020, 38 new cases met the criteria of PUI.

3. Regarding the international situation from 5 January to 1 February 2020, there were 11,945 confirmed cases around the world, with 11,791 cases coming from all regions of the People's Republic of China, and 259 have died.

4. The Ministry of Public Health needs the cooperation from the public to follow its recommendations. With the public's cooperation, the situation will improve. The public is advised not to believe all of the circulating rumors from different sources. Please "Check before you Share." Information about patients are prohibited to share on online channels out of respect to the individual. Do not share the news situation from unreliable sources because incorrect information may cause widespread panic. Individuals spreading fake information can be found guilty under Thailand's Computer Crime Act of 2017. Please follow the news from the Ministry of Public Health. If you have any questions, you can ask the Department of Disease Control hotline: 1422, 24 hours per day or visit the website <https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/intro.php>, Line @ / Facebook : ฐัฒันโรค, Coronavirus2019, กรมควบคุมโรค กระทรวงสาธารณสุข. You can avoid fake news by checking the website from the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society www.antifakenewscenter.com as well.

2. Good news! MOPH, Thailand said one of the confirmed cases is allowed to return home and we are ready to bring Thai people from Wuhan back home

The MOPH, Thailand reported that one of the confirmed cases of novel coronavirus has recovered and was discharged from the hospital. Moreover, Thailand is ready to bring Thais from Wuhan back home. Intensive screening has been continuously implemented. People were suggested to self-monitor and follow standard hygiene practices, which includes eating freshly cooked food, and use serving spoons, washing hands, and always wearing surgical masks.

Dr. Sapon Iamsirithaworn, Director of the Division of Communicable Diseases, said today he received good news about one of the Chinese cases who was one of the confirmed cases and was cleared from the hospital. The rest of them were recovering. There was no report of new cases. Meanwhile, the MOPH continues to implement intensive screenings at every international airports. All passengers arriving from outbreak areas must pass thermal scanners including infrared thermal scans and



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handheld thermometers. Immigration Bureau staff are helping to observe any pneumonia-like symptoms and provide health beware cards.

Dr. Sapon also stated about the readiness to bring Thai people living in Wuhan back to Thailand and today there will be a meeting with the consulate, military, police, and other relevant sectors to consult and discuss the best way to operate this important matter. The Ministry of Public Health will be responsible for taking care of all officers' health, both accompanying airport staff and people living in Wuhan with the highest international standards on screening, disease prevention and control in order to ensure the safety of all people after returning to Thailand.

"We have prepared and equipped Thai medical physicians, medical experts on disease prevention and control to ensure the utmost safety to all people (staff, Thai people arriving from Wuhan and people residing in Thailand) during the period before traveling, during the trip and after returning to Thailand. Thai people who return back home and all people in Thailand must be safe"

People are recommended to make a self risk-assessment. The low risk group are the ones who stay at home and have not traveled much. This group can live their life normally but should frequently wash hands. The moderate and the high risk groups are the ones whose work requires contact with passengers arriving from affected areas or who work in an area with low ventilation, such as drivers of public transportation. This group should wear a mask, frequently wash hands with soap or alcohol gel, avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth, and strictly comply with the recommendations of disease prevention called "avoid undercooked food, use a serving spoon, and wash hands". For further information, please call DDC Hotline 1422 (24 hours).

3. Activity Report at Points of Entry

From 3 January to 25 January 2020, among 137 flights to Thailand, 21,522 travelers were screened with thermal scans at five airports, including Suvarnabhumi Airport, Don Mueang, Chiang Mai, Phuket and Krabi. There were 173 flights with 9,340 passengers and air crew members travelling from China that had been screened for suspected symptoms of the disease at Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Krabi, Don Mueang, and Suvarnabhumi Airport between 24 January and 1 February 2020. The Ministry of Public Health has provided staff rotating schedules to support officers at the points of entry for efficient work 24 hours per day.

All tourists will receive health advice (health beware cards) from the immigration officials and officers at the points of entry.

4. Daily recommendations for protecting yourself from pneumonia caused by new coronavirus 2019.

Remind everyone to frequently wash their hands with soap and water or alcohol gel. Do not use your hands to touch your eyes, nose, or mouth unnecessarily and strictly follow the "Avoid eating uncooked food, use serving spoons, wash your hands" instructions.