



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia News release

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

Special Announcement of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 on 3 February 2020

1. The situation on 3 February 2020 at 8.00 A.M.

1. There are currently 11 confirmed cases being treated in hospitals and eight 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 2 February 2020, the total number of patients under investigation (PUI) was raised to 485 people. Of those, 43 PUI were detected from the airport screening. 442 people sought medical services on their own at hospitals, and 97 cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes. Most of the PUI were infected with seasonal influenza, and 388 PUI are admitted at hospitals. On 1 February 2020, 103 new cases met the criteria of PUI.

3. Regarding the international situation from 5 January to 2 February 2020, there were 14,553 confirmed cases around the world, with 14,380 cases coming from all regions of the People's Republic of China, and 304 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 : รู้ทันโควิด, 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.



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2. Ministry of Public Health prepares and informs the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) and medical personnel of both government and private sectors to deal with pneumonia caused by novel coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV).

The Ministry of Public Health provided a workshop for the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) and medical personnel both government and private sectors to emphasize how to look after pneumonia patients infected by novel coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV) with clinical practice guidelines.

Dr. Taweesilp Witsanuyotin, spokesman for the Ministry of Public Health said "On this morning, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health, Anutin Charnvirakul gave opening remarks at a workshop for network development among nationwide investigation teams for dangerous communicable diseases and provincial communicable disease units to respond to novel coronavirus 2019". The aims of this workshop were to rehearse the understanding of operations and prepare to respond to this threat. Approximately 500 participants consisting of medical doctors, nurses, laboratory staff, epidemiological officers attended the workshop to strengthen the disease detection, diagnosis, healthcare treatment and control of the disease in the area. Afterwards, Mr. Anutin visited the confirmed cases and the patients under investigation from the novel coronavirus 2019 at Rajavithi Hospital and he also encouraged the staff to follow the clinical practice guidelines for patient care.

As for this afternoon, Dr. Satit Pitutecha, Deputy Minister of Public Health opened a meeting at the Asia Hotel, Ratchathewi to prepare system management for medical and public health services in Bangkok to respond to 2019-nCoV.

Executive medical staff from the Consortium of Thai Medical Schools and officers from public and private hospitals in Bangkok and the surrounding provinces attended the meeting to prepare and respond to public health emergencies. The aims of the meeting were to establish a one-stop service of flu clinics in hospitals of the network and raise awareness among medical personnel for taking care of patients according to the clinical practice guidelines. Tomorrow (4 February 2020), Dr. Sukhum Kanchanapimai, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health is going to open the "Big Cleaning Week" to build health literacy among the general public by adjusting personal hygiene behavior for clean houses, workplaces, and public places. A video conference with chief medical officers of provincial public health offices and directors of regional and general hospitals nationwide will be held as well.



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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 229 flights with 12,163 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 2 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.