



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia News release

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

Special Announcement of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 on 9 February 2020

1. The situation on 9 February 2020 at 8.00 A.M.

1. There are currently 10 confirmed cases of novel coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV) being treated in hospitals and 22 cases who returned to their homes, which brings the total number of novel coronavirus infection cases detected in Thailand to 32.

2. From 3 January to 8 February 2020, the total number of patients under investigation (PUI) increased to 679 people. Of those, 51 PUI were detected from the airport screening and 628 people sought medical services on their own at hospitals, and 284 cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes. Most of the PUI were infected with seasonal influenza, and 395 PUI are admitted at hospitals. On 8 February 2020, 25 new cases met the criteria of PUI.

3. Regarding the international situation from 5 January to 8 February 2020, there were 34,880 confirmed cases around the world, with 34,546, cases coming from the People's Republic of China, and 724 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/>, Line @ / Facebook : รู้ทันทันโรค, 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. The Ministry of Public Health reported the patients who were infected by Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV) and being treated at Rajavithi Hospital improved.

The Ministry of Public Health reported no additional confirmed case by Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV). Most patients have improved. The case admitted at Rajavithi Hospital is awaiting confirmatory laboratory results. Five PUIs in the group of Thai people returning from Wuhan improved and have been discharged from the hospital. All of them are being observed at the reception building of Sattahip Naval Base. The group of at-risk people for respiratory illnesses or who live in crowded areas should wear hygiene masks and wash hands often to prevent the spread of infection.

Dr. Tanarak Plipat, Deputy Director-General, Department of Disease Control, along with Adjunct Associate Professor, Dr. Tawee Chotpitayasunondh, Senior advisor of the Department of Disease Control and Pharmacist, Pipat Niyomkarn, Deputy Director of the Government Pharmaceutical Organization (GPO) reported the latest updates of 2019-nCoV that the situation of new coronavirus still needed to be closely monitored. In Thailand, there were no new cases of coronavirus infection. The total number of confirmed cases is 32. One third were close contacts of confirmed cases with mild symptoms. This shows the success of strong surveillance and



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investigations systems. As of now, 10 patients were discharged, and 22 patients were taken for treatment with all of them recovering. The severe cases were closely treated by medical teams at Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute and in stable condition. Patients who were admitted at Rajavithi Hospital have now recovered and are waiting for laboratory results.

For the group of 132 Thai people returning home from Wuhan at Sattahip Naval Base, all of them are presenting with general health conditions without fever. One confirmation of infected 2019-nCoV with normal health conditions has been treated in an isolation room in Chonburi Hospital. Five PUI were treated in isolation rooms at the hospital. None of them exhibited fever, cough, and nasal discharge. Laboratory tests showed negative results of infection. Doctors allowed them to leave the hospital and continue to monitor symptoms at the reception building. Today, a chairperson, Dr. Satit Patu-Techa, Deputy Minister of Public Health, announced further progression of health check-ups among Thai people who returned from Wuhan. He also visited them at the Sattahip Naval Base and encouraged the patients at the hospital as well.

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has still intensively implemented disease surveillance and screening at all points of entry both at airports, border areas and sea ports. Providing the knowledge about personal sanitation to the people is crucial, therefore, MoPH assigned all Provincial Health Offices to provide the recommendations on disease prevention and control to the operators in public services, public drivers, people with respiratory diseases, tourist agencies and staff in department stores, i.e. keeping vehicles and service places clean, especially the areas frequently touched by passengers, washing hands, eating cooked food, using serving spoons and wearing a mask. Complying with these recommendations will help prevent people from the disease and reduce disease transmission. In addition, the Ministry of Public Health expedited the process of surveying the number of masks and equipment used for preventing the disease and requested staff to inform the results of the survey to the Ministry of Public Health operational center so that they can stock a sufficient number of masks for hospitals and people in the country.

3. The results of implementation at Health Control

From 3-23 January 2020, the Department of Disease Control has been implementing the surveillance protocol by fever screening of arrival passengers of direct flights from Wuhan, China at the Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang, Chiang Mai, Phuket and Krabi airports. On 24 January, the screening protocol began to be implemented at Chiang Rai Airport. The screening protocol has expanded to cover all arrival and departure flights at Suvarnabhumi airport since January 29, 2020. There were a total of 616 flights and 49,812 passengers and air crew members travelling from affected areas that were screened for the disease (not including data after implementation of the screening protocol for all flights at Suvarnabhumi airport). For more effective screening throughout 24 hours, MoPH has also provided staff to assist the health officers at points of entry.

For the screening protocol outside the airports, there were 899 people that were screened at the Bangkok port since January 28, and 15,733 people at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road since January 30, 2020.

All passengers will receive a Health Beware Card from immigration officers and health officers at health control.

4. The daily recommendation for preventing the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

It is recommended to frequently wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and strictly comply with the recommendations “eating cooked food, using serving spoons and washing hands”



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