

Special Announcement of COVID-19

On 24 March 2020

1. The situation on 24 March 2020 at 8.00 a.m.

1. There are currently 766 confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) being actively treated in hospitals, 57 cases have recovered and have been sent home, and there have been four deaths, which brings the total number of COVID-19 cases detected in Thailand thus far to 827.

2. As of 7:00 a.m. on 24 March 2020, since 5 January 2020, the international situation has involved 192 countries, two special administrative regions of China, and cruise ships. There were 366,866 confirmed cases and 16,098 deaths. 81,093 of these confirmed cases and 3,270 of these deaths are from the People's Republic of China. 63,928 of these confirmed cases and 6,078 of these deaths are from the Italy Republic.

2. MOPH reported 106 new cases of COVID-19 infection, 5 cases were discharged, and 3 more cases died.

The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) reported 106 additional cases of COVID-19 infection, five cases have been discharged and returned to their homes and three more cases died. The MOPH provides information on locations that are at-risk for COVID-19, and people can follow the news through the DDC website and “ไทยรู้สู้โควิด” Facebook page.

Dr. Taweessin Visanuyothin, Senior Medical Officer and Spokesman of the Ministry of Public Health and Dr. Walairat Chaifoo, Director of the Division of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control stated about COVID-19 that today, five patients recovered, were discharged from the hospital and returned home. There were 106 additional confirmed cases and they are divided into three groups as follows:

The first group consists of 25 patients who had close contact history with confirmed cases or were involved with places that had confirmed cases. There are five confirmed cases with history of going to a boxing stadium, six confirmed cases with history of going to entertainment spots, 12 confirmed cases had history of close contact with previous cases and two confirmed cases with history of joining a religious gathering in Malaysia.

The second group consists of 34 additional confirmed cases. 20 confirmed cases returned from abroad, 10 confirmed cases had a history of working or living in crowded places or had close contact with foreigners. Four confirmed cases are healthcare workers.

The third group consists of 47 cases with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2 infection) and are pending further investigation. Three more deaths of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) were reported including two who were being treated at Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute 1) a 70-year-old man who had tuberculosis 2) a 79-year-old male Muay Thai guru (who was in severe condition since he was admitted on March 16 and had several chronic diseases), and 3) a 45-year-old man with diabetes and obesity and who was treated at a private hospital in Bangkok.

There are currently 4 severe cases who have been put on ventilators and are under close supervision. As of now, there have been 57 patients who have recovered and returned home, 766 patients currently being treated at the hospital, and four deaths (the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases is 827).

The MoPH collected information about public places (25 locations and 7 provinces) that made announcements for people to implement self-monitoring, namely Ubon Ratchathani, Khonkaen, Bangkok, Songkla, Nakorn Rachasrima, Nonthaburi and Surin ([For the Thai document click here](#), then click on the banner titled “ประกาศสถานที่พบผู้ป่วยโควิด -19”). If anyone visited these places during the time specified of the announcement, they are requested to contact the disease control officer, i.e. Provincial Health Medical Doctor, Provincial Governor, Hospital Director, Sheriff, District Public Health Office, Subdistrict Headman, Village Headman or Village Health Volunteer immediately and shall strictly implement self-quarantine and monitoring for 14 days. If anyone develops respiratory symptoms, they are recommended to seek medical treatment at the hospital immediately. In addition, people can stay updated on the information regarding places with confirmed COVID-19 cases through the DDC website and Facebook page “ไทยรู้สู้โควิด”

Remind the public to help each other maintain social distance by keeping 1 -2 meters of space between each other, stop/reduce unnecessary travel, avoid going to crowded areas, separate food plates and not sharing spoons, cups, bowls, and glasses. If you have any respiratory symptoms including fever, cough, sore throat, or runny nose, you need to wear a mask, see a doctor immediately, and report your risk history. Everyone is encouraged to work together to prevent the spread of disease in the broader community and to reduce the number of new cases to a minimum.

3. Advice for the general public

The general public was asked for cooperation to be alert and to honor their social responsibility. Please follow the news from the Ministry of Public Health. If there are any questions, you can ask at the Department of Disease Control Hotline 1422, 24 hours per day or website:<https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/eng/index.php>, Twitter, Facebook, Line official, Tik Tok “ไทยรู้ สู้โควิด” and Line official ChatBot 1422 “Kor-Ror-OK”, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health. People can check for scams at the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society at www.antifakenewscenter.com.