



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia News release

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

Special Announcement of the Novel Coronavirus 2019

on January 26, 2020

1. Situation

1. There are 8 confirmed cases in Thailand (5 cases returned to their homes, 3 are admitted in hospitals). Currently, there is still no outbreak in Thailand.
2. The total number of patients under investigation (PUI) is 84 people. Of those, 24 PUI were detected from the airport screening and 60 people sought medical services on their own at hospitals. 45 suspected cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes.
3. The current international situation since January 5, 2020 is that there have been 21 confirmed cases in 10 countries. The People's Republic of China reported 1,303 confirmed cases and 41 have died.
4. The Ministry of Public Health needs the cooperation from the public to follow its recommendations. With the people'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 and the situation on online channels because incorrect information may cause widespread panic and 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 the website <https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/intro.php>, Line @ ฐัฒันโรค, and Facebook: กรมควบคุมโรค กระทรวงสาธารณสุข

2. Thailand Implementation

The Ministry of Public Health reported eight confirmed cases. All cases are imported from outside of the country. Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health, stated in an interview, "Today, the expert committee revealed



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more confirmed cases that raise the total up to eight cases (seven Chinese tourists and one Thai arriving from Wuhan). Five cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes. The other three cases remain in negative pressure rooms at hospitals with good health conditions. When the virus is no longer detected, they will be allowed to return home."

Hence, Thailand has activated the surveillance protocol and is screening patients under investigation from affected areas and are covering public/private health care services and communities. Hotel residences are included for another surveillance sites as well. Although all cases were imported, collaboration with local people, travel agents, tour operators, hotels, and residence operators is critical to implement prevention and control measures effectively.

From January 3 to 25, 2020, the Department of Disease Control has been implementing its surveillance protocol by fever screening 21,552 travelers for all direct flights from Wuhan, Hubei province, China at five main airports including the Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang, Chiang Mai, Phuket and Krabi airports. The screening protocol at Krabi Airport started on January 17, 2020. Starting on 25 January, 2020, among 11 flights which departed from Guangzhou, 1,556 passengers and aircrew members have been screened. All travelers receive the Health Advisory Card from health officers at the international health checkpoint upon arrival to Thailand.

3. Recommendations for protecting yourself from pneumonia caused by novel coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV)

The People's Republic of China announced to close all kinds of public transportation travelling to and from Wuhan and 2019-nCoV outbreak areas and encouraged people to comply with the following recommendations:

- People should avoid travelling to Wuhan and cities that were announced as outbreak areas by The People's Republic of China.



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- While travelling abroad, people should wear a mask and avoid visiting crowded places or making contact with patients who cough and sneeze.
 - People should avoid visiting markets selling carcasses and live animals, and should avoid eating undercooked meats.
 - Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use an alcohol gel. It is also recommended to avoid using your hands to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchief, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions
 - It is recommended to get enough sleep and always keep your body warm
 - If anyone has symptoms including coughing, sneezing, panting or runny nose after arriving from risky areas, please seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the health care provider regarding the history of recent travel to China since a possible complication of pneumonia may occur during this stage, which can lead to death.
- For further information, please call the DDC Hotline 1422 or visit the DDC website at <https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/intro.php> or Line@ / Facebook Page: รู้ทันทันโรค or กรมควบคุมโรค กระทรวงสาธารณสุข

***** January 26, 2020