

Thailand situation update on 12 April 2020

1. International Situation

As of 12 April 2020, there were a total of 1,784,751 confirmed cases with 50,535 patients in critical condition and 109,011 COVID-19 deaths across more than 207 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. The ten countries with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases include: the United States (533,115 cases), Spain (163,027), Italy (152,271), France (129,654), Germany (125,452), the People's Republic of China (83,098 cases, as well as 1,001 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively), England (78,991), Iran (70,029), Turkey (52,167) and Belgium (28,018).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 11 April 2020 showed that among 36,995 flights, there were a total of 4,394,847 passengers screened. Among those, 591 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 134,160 people from 1,535 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 11 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,791,954 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 11 April 2020. Between 30 January to 10 April 2020, a total of 151,913 people who were renewing their passports were screened at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road. The total number of PUI from all ports is currently 593 people.

2.2 Situation of Patients with Suspected Symptoms of COVID-19 in Thailand.

On 12 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 980 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 33,810 PUI, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	33,810
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from the airport screening 	591
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from seaports 	2

Situation	Total number of PUI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals 	33,128
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	2,551
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	1,288
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	1,228
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	38
Characteristic of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,551
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,075
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Case 	476
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	58

Notice: *The quarantine measures for travelers from aboard have been in effect as of 3 April 2020

In Thailand, there have been 2,551 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 1,288 patients have recovered and returned home, and 38 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 11 April 2020, 2 additional cases were reported, which brought the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas to 58 cases. 57 cases were Thai people returning from Indonesia and one case from America. All Thai people returning from abroad are required to comply with State Quarantine measures, meaning they have to quarantine in specific provinces; in total there are 4 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 7 cases in Yala, 18 cases in Songkhla, 16 cases in Satun, and 1 case in Bangkok.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 months to 86 years old). 1,348 cases are male, and 1,121 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.2:1). Gender data is not available for 82 cases.

In terms of nationality, 2,222 cases are Thai, 33 are Chinese, 22 are French, 20 are British, 13 are Burmese, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, nine are American, eight are Canadian, six are German, six are Italian, six are Swedish, five are Danish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Indian, three are South Korean, three are Australian, two are Portuguese, two are Indonesian, two are Spanish, two

are Cambodian, two are Malaysian, two are Filipino, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is a New Zealander, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, one is Laos, one is Taiwanese, one is Serbian, one is Liberian, one is Vietnamese, one is Hungarian, one is Mexican, one is Tunisian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Dutch, one is Brazilian, one is Israeli, one is Palestinian, and data is not available for the remaining 114 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (19 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (15 cases), diabetes (7 cases), other NCDs (11 cases), asthma (7 cases), dyslipidemia (2 cases), thyroid disease (2 cases), psoriasis (1 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (18 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (1 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,458 cases reported without any underlying disease. 40 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,602 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 909 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts.”

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Ministry of Interior made an announcement listing all 47 provinces that are temporarily banned from selling alcohol to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. The provinces include: Chon Buri, Phitsanulok, Rayong, Ranong, Sakon Nakhon, Yala, Phichit, Lopburi, Chiang Rai, Uttaradit, Kalasin, Yasothon, Surat Thani, Nakhon Ratchasima, Phetchabun, Chachoengsao, Nakhon Nayok, Pathum Thani, Trat, Ratchaburi, Chiang Mai, Samut Sakhon, Kamphaeng Phet, Phrae, Chaiyaphum, Samut Prakan, Ang Thong, Lampang, Sukhothai, Uthai Thani, Narathiwat, Nong Khai, Nonthaburi, Chai Nat, Suphan Buri, Mukdahan, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Ubon Ratchathani, Kanchanaburi, Prachinburi, Phetchaburi, Lamphun, Buriram, Surin, Nakhon Pathom, Samut Songkhram, and Roi Et.
- The Airports of Thailand PCL revealed that the Committee on Income of 6 Airports agreed upon the measures to support the business owners in six airports affected by COVID-19. The following measures will be elevated to the Committee Board for consideration on 22 April 2020:
 - 1) Aero businesses: airlines will reduce fees by 50% for airplane take-off and landing, and for leasing areas.
 - 2) Non-Aero businesses: Business owners who must temporarily stop their businesses, including those running businesses in the Phuket Airport, will be exempt from leasing fees. Leasing fees for business owners who are still running businesses will be decreased by 50%.

- The Department of Pediatrics in the Faculty of Medicine at Chulalongkorn University, headed by the Center of Excellence in Clinical Virology (CECV), released information about monitoring the genetic evolution of the viral agent causing COVID-19 that has emerged in Thailand. Genetic sequencing data of thirty SARS-CoV-2 samples in January 2020 revealed they were L-type (leucine), and its origins were traced back to Wuhan, China. The S-type (serine) variation of the same viral strain was found in samples from the localized outbreak in Thonglor back in March 2020 at a boxing stadium and entertainment spots. It is suspected that this S-type strain is not derived from Italy. From March 2020 to present, most of the reported outbreaks in Bangkok are with the S-type (serine) rather than L-type (leucine). Currently, the CECV is trying to monitor this viral agent in Southern Thailand. The CECV is paying close attention to those returning from Indonesia with the goal of figuring out the direction of the pandemic.

4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The measures including disease screening, isolation, quarantine or quarantine for observation to control and prevent the disease are implemented among passengers departing from areas or countries affected by COVID -19.
- In cases where it is necessary to make contact with other people, please wear a mask and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter between yourself and the other person when interacting with others. It is also recommended to only make contact with people for a short period.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchiefs, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- Avoid eating raw food.