

## Thailand situation update on 19 April 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 19 April 2020, there were a total of 2,340,856 confirmed cases with 55,270 patients in critical condition and 160,903 COVID-19 deaths cross 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 (738,923), Spain (194,416), Italy (175,925), France (151,793), Germany (143,724), England (114,217), the People's Republic of China (83,806 cases, as well as 1,026 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively), Turkey (82,329), Iran (80,868) and Russia (42,853).

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 18 April 2020 showed that among 37,255 flights, there were a total of 4,399,728 passengers screened. Among those, 662 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 136,209 people from 1,698 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 18 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,809,743 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 18 April 2020. Between 30 January to 17 April 2020, a total of 156,388 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 664 people.

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

On 18 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 1,441 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 40,897 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
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	40,897
• Detected from the airport screening	662
• Detected from seaports	2

Situation	Total number of PUI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sought medical services on their own at hospitals</li> </ul>	40,145
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	88
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	2,765
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	1,999
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing Treatment</li> </ul>	719
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	47
<b>Characteristic of Infection in Confirmed cases</b>	2,765
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Transmission</li> </ul>	2,277
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imported Case</li> </ul>	488
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Designated Quarantine Places*</li> </ul>	69

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

In Thailand, there have been 2,765 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 1,999 patients have recovered and returned home, and 47 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 18 April 2020, Four additional cases were reported, which brought the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas to 69 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, five cases from America, and two cases from England. 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 5 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 18 cases in Songkhla, 19 cases in Satun, 2 cases in Krabi, 3 cases on Chonburi, and 2 cases in Bangkok.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 months to 91 years old). 1,438 cases are male, and 1,244 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.16:1). Gender data is not available for 83 cases.

In terms of nationality, 2,413 cases are Thai, 33 are Chinese, 23 are French, 21 are British, 17 are Burmese, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, 10 are American, eight are Canadian, seven are Italian, seven are Indian, six are German, six are Swedish, five are Danish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Australian, three are South Korean, three are Filipino, three are Indonesian, two are Portuguese, two are Spanish, two are

Malaysian, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), one is Cambodian, one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, 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 123 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (22 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (15 cases), diabetes (10 cases), asthma (8 cases), dyslipidemia (3 cases), thyroid disease (3 cases), psoriasis (2 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (22 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (2 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), HIV (1 case), depression (2 cases), anemia (1 case), migraine (1 case), liver cirrhosis (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,663 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). 1,749 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 976 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts.”

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- The Director-General of the Department of Health stated that infants and children are another risk group that need special attention during the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents and babysitters should teach children basic personal hygiene habits such as washing hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizers, and always wear a mask. If a nanny or parents have illnesses, especially respiratory illnesses, and symptoms of fever, coughing, and sneezing, they are strongly recommended not to get close to children and infants. Infants should not be taken out in public or outside except for taking them for vaccination programs and visiting the doctor when they get sick, and they should be carried on a nanny or parent's chest or put them in a baby stroller with a veil and strictly maintain a distance of 2 meters from others. They should avoid kissing children and infants cheeks or getting too close. They were also suggested to choose masks that are suitable for children and toddlers when they have to go outside.
- The Singburi Governor was interviewed regarding the disease prevention and control measures and stated that the reason that the province has no reported COVID-19 cases is due to good collaboration with the people who have complied with the government's measures. Singburi has measures for primary screening at the main roads and nine checkpoints. In addition, the heads of villages and village health volunteers have joined hands to screen people traveling to other areas before returning home. For the roles of the provincial government offices, they issued measures allowing officers to work from home and adjusted the working schedule of each staff to avoid congestion of people at the office. For staff working

at the office, they need to comply with the social-distancing measures (keeping a distance of at least 1 meter from other people), the same measure as the one issued by the province encouraging the public to implement. Above all, the governor requested the collaboration from people to stay at home and refrain from unnecessary trips outside. If there is a need to go outside, people are recommended to implement social-distancing. Moreover, people are not allowed to bring people living in other areas to live in the province. If those people are their relatives, they are advised to please tell them not to visit the province during this time.

- The Ministry of Public Health revealed the results of the study of the efficacy of *Andrographis paniculata* (Fah-Talai-jone) and andrographolides in Fah-Talai-jone in vitro. It was found to have antiseptic effects and inhibited the proliferation of SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of COVID-19, but it did not have a protective effect on cells from infection with the viral agent of COVID-19. Therefore, it is not recommended to take it for prophylaxis without symptoms but to take Fah-Talai-jone extract immediately when beginning symptoms similar to flu symptoms. This study was a collaboration of the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, Department of Medical Sciences, and the Government Pharmaceutical Organization. Further human research needs to be conducted in the next phase.

#### 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.