

Thailand situation update on 22 April 2020

1. International Situation

As of 22 April 2020, there were a total of 2,566,920 confirmed cases with 57,275 patients in critical condition and 177,822 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 (819,175), Spain (204,178), Italy (183,957), France (158,050), Germany (148,453), England (129,044), Turkey (95,591), the People's Republic of China (83,867 cases, as well as 1,034 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively), Iran (84,802) and Russia (57,999).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 21 April 2020 showed that among 37,506 flights, there were a total of 4,403,760 passengers screened. Among those, 733 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 137,271 people from 1,785 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 21 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,824,946 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 21 April 2020. Between 30 January to 22 April 2020, a total of 160,259 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 735 people.

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

On 22 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 1,840 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 45,896 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)	45,896
• Detected from the airport screening	733
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	45,073
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Situation	Total number of PUI
Confirmed cases	2,826
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,430
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	347
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	49
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,826
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,334
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Case 	492
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	71

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

In Thailand, there have been 2,826 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,430 patients have recovered and returned home, and 49 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 22 April 2020, no additional cases were reported, which brought the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas to 71 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, seven 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, 3 cases in Krabi, 3 cases on Chonburi, and 3 cases in Bangkok.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 36 years old (ranging from 1 month to 91 years old). 1,460 cases are male, and 1,283 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.14:1). Gender data is not available for 83 cases.

In terms of nationality, 2,470 cases are Thai, 33 are Chinese, 24 are French, 22 are British, 17 are Burmese, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, 10 are American, eight are Canadian, eight 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), two are 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 (24 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (17 cases), diabetes (10 cases), other NCDs (13 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 (26 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (2 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case),

myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), HIV (2 case), depression (2 cases), anemia (1 case), migraine (1 case), liver cirrhosis (1 case), breast cancer (1 case), Hepatitis B virus (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,699 cases reported without any underlying disease. 41 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,793 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 992 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts.”

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Governor of Nakhon Pathom province released an announcement to control the spread of the dangerous communicable disease. If someone would like to donate consumer goods to decrease the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, they should coordinate with the Damrongdharma Center in their province or the Local Administrative Organization in the area to help them organize distribution by informing the type, number of things and number of people who are joining to donate. Moreover, they determined that the district office and Local Administrative Organization provide at least one point in the area as a place to distribute. Donors and recipients must wear hygienic masks, have a point for hand washing and organize to have social distancing. The government officers are prohibited from distributing the items that the donor brings to donate.
- Thailand Science Research and Innovation (TSRI) said that Thailand has now developed medical robots to reduce the chance of healthcare workers getting COVID-19 when treating patients, with collaboration of the Institute of Field roBOTics (FIBO), King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi, Forms Syntron (Thailand) Co Ltd., Cisco Systems (Thailand) Ltd., and Advanced Information Technology Public Co., LTD. who jointly developed a medical robotics platform which is now available in three platform as follows:
 1. CARVER-Cab 2020: a Freely Navigating robot which delivers food, medicine, and medical supplies in the hospital wards with an air purifier system and virus killing functions throughout its operations through the Hydroxyl Generator.
 2. SOFA: a service robot equipped with a display which enables treatment information or examination results linked to hospital systems to be shown. The doctor can control this device from a long distance in the central control room, allowing the robot to move to the target position. This robot can detect symptoms from the patient's external condition remotely and allow video chat with patients.
 3. Service Robot: a robot that delivers drugs and food in specific areas and can be moved to the target position by long distance control. Patients can speak to robots to call a doctor or nurse. At present, it is under consultation about its guidelines for practical use in hospitals.
- The Songkla Governor informed the public regarding the temporary 7-day change at points of entry allowing Thai people to enter the area from the Sadao permanent point of entry located in Sadao District, Songkla and the Padang Besar permanent point of entry located in Sadao District, Songkla. The reason for the change is due to the occurrence of COVID-19 cases in the area. The aforementioned cases were found among staff at Sadao

Immigration Office and staff at the Songkhla Provincial Police Station according to the medical diagnosis.

- Bangkok launched "BKK HELP" to facilitate donors of goods and food by asking the donors to pre-register to reduce crowds of people and risk of COVID-19. To access the system, please follow these steps 1) Enter the website at <http://bkkhelp.bangkok.go.th/> and choose a place to donate from the existing 71 places. Each place will show details of other donors' schedules and coordinators' telephone numbers so that the donors can contact the coordinators directly 2) Call staff at the telephone number listed in the system to clarify details and make an appointment in advance. Then, the donors wait for confirmation from the staff 3) Update the place of donation on the website and 4) Bring donation items as scheduled in which the district office will provide further coordination for the donors

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.