

Thailand situation update on 28 April 2020

1. International Situation

As of 28 April 2020, there were a total of 3,075,102 confirmed cases with 56,229 patients in critical condition and 211,776 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 (1,010,507), Spain (229,422), Italy (199,414), France (165,842), Germany (158,758), England (157,149), Turkey (112,261), Russia (93,558), Iran (91,472), and the People's Republic of China (83,919 cases, as well as 1,038 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 27 April 2020 showed that among 37,815 flights, there were a total of 4,411,727 passengers screened. Among those, 872 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 139,653 people from 1,911 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 27 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,849,391 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 27 April 2020. Between 30 January to 28 April 2020, a total of 164,800 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 874 people.

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

On 28 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 2,436 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 57,922 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)	57,922
• Detected from the airport screening	872
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	56,960
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Situation	Total number of PUI
Confirmed cases	2,938
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,665
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	219
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	54
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,938
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,434
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Case 	504
- Designated Quarantine Places*	78

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

In Thailand, there have been 2,938 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,665 patients have recovered and returned home, and 54 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 28 April 2020, no additional cases were reported, and the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas remained at 78 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, nine cases from America, four cases from the United of Arab Emirates, two cases from England, and one case from the Netherlands. 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, 4 cases on Chonburi, and 9 cases in Bangkok.

On 25 April 2020, 42 confirmed cases were found at the immigration quarantine unit at Sadao district in Songkhla province (34 cases were Burmese, 3 cases were Vietnamese, 2 cases were Malaysian, 1 case was Yemeni, 1 case was Cambodian, and 1 case was Indian).

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 month to 99 years old). 1,612 cases are male, and 1,326 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.22:1).

In terms of nationality, 2,537 cases are Thai, 51 are Burmese, 34 are Chinese, 24 are French, 23 are British, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, 10 are American, eight are Canadian, eight are Italian, eight 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, four are Filipino, four are Malaysian, three are South Korean, three are Indonesian, three are Cambodian, two are Portuguese, two are Spanish, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), 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, one is Malian, one is Yemeni, and data is not available for the remaining 123 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (27 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (19 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 (27 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 2,805 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). 1,749 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,009 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts”. On 28 April 2020, no additional cases were found from the active case finding measures.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Cabinet has resolved to not put off national holidays in May 2020. The four public holidays will remain on the public holiday calendar.
- The Center of Excellence in Clinical Virology, Faculty of Medicine Chulalongkorn University posted messages on Facebook stating that COVID-19 is an emerging disease with no specific antiviral treatment. Therefore, Chloroquine/ Hydroxychloroquine, Favipiravir, Remdesivir (antiviral medication used for HIV patients) and convalescent plasma of recovered COVID-19 patients were used based on their potential for treating COVID-19 patients. Currently, there is no clear conclusion and guidelines for specific treatment for COVID-19. It is also suggested that any decision on the reopening of barber shops and outdoor dining restaurants should be made under precautions for possible spread of COVID-19. Mass gathering places still should not be opened.
- The Royal Thai Police will follow four measures of the Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) i.e. control travel via cars, airplanes and boats, curfew measures (10 pm. – 4 am.), reduce and postpone travel between provinces, cease gathering activities that are at risk of spreading COVID-19.
- The immigration office at Sadao District, Songkla brought five foreigners who were positive for COVID-19 to the hospital since their symptoms deteriorated. The medical doctor diagnosed them with pneumonia. During the transfer of those five foreigners from the quarantine place to the hospital, the police and medical staff implemented the transfer process strictly in order to prevent the spread of the disease and the patients' escape from the hospital since all these patients illegally entered the area (they were considered as COVID-19 patients under close watch).
- Bangkok Airways Public Company Limited said that Bangkok Airways is preparing to operate domestic flights starting May 15, 2020 onwards. Initially, the service will include two round trips Bangkok-Samui to accommodate passengers, who are required to travel. Service provisions are strictly under the safety and hygiene standards with maintaining distance (Social distancing) as the Ministry of Public Health and the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) define.

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



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by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

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.