

## Thailand situation update on 19 May 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 19 May 2020, there were a total of 4,907,135 confirmed cases with 44,710 patients in critical condition and 320,392 COVID-19 deaths across more than 210 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 (1,550,294), Russia (299,941), Spain (278,188), Brazil (255,368), England (246,406), Italy (225,886), France (179,927), Germany (177,289), Turkey (150,593), and Iran (122,492). The 13th is the People's Republic of China (84,061 cases, as well as 1,056 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 18 May 2020 showed that among 38,906 flights, there were a total of 4,433,525 passengers screened. Among those, 1,176 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 144,979 people from 2,433 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 18 May 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,927,760 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 18 May 2020. Between 30 January to 19 May 2020, a total of 178,403 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 1,178 people.

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

On 19 May 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 1,763 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 128,871 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) divided by ports</b>	128,871
• Detected from the airport screening	1,176
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	127,605
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Situation	Total number of PUI
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	3,033
• Recovered and discharged from hospitals	2,888
• Undergoing Treatment	89
• Deaths	56
<b>Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases</b>	3,033
• Local Transmission	2,481
• Imported Cases	552
- Designated Quarantine Places*	100

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

In Thailand, there have been 3,033 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,888 patients have recovered and returned home, and 56 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 19 May 2020, no additional cases were reported, and the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas remained at 100 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, 10 cases from Pakistan, nine cases from America, five cases from the United of Arab Emirates, four cases from Malaysia, two cases from England, two cases from Kazakhstan, two cases from Egypt, one case from the Netherlands, one case from Japan, one case from India, and one case from Russia. 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 6 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 19 cases in Songkhla, 18 cases in Satun, 3 cases in Krabi, 16 cases on Chonburi, 17 cases in Bangkok, and one case in Samut Prakan.

On 8 May 2020, 65 confirmed cases were found at the immigration quarantine unit at Sadao district in Songkhla province (37 cases were Burmese, 20 cases were stateless Rohingya, 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 97 years old). 1,650 cases are male, and 1,383 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.19:1).

In terms of nationality, 2,699 cases are Thai, 56 are Burmese, 34 are Chinese, 29 are French, 24 are British, 20 cases are Stateless Rohingya, 12 are Russian, 12 are American, 11 are Japanese, nine are Indian, eight are Canadian, eight are Italian, eight are German, six are Swedish, six are Belgian, six are Swiss, five are Danish, five are Filipino, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Australian, four are Malaysian, four are Vietnamese, three are South Korean, three are Indonesian, three are Cambodian, two are Kazakh, two are Brazilian, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), two are Spanish, two are Israeli, two are Albanian, one is American-Samoa, one is Malian, one is Kuwaiti, one is Serbian, one is Tunisian, one is Taiwanese, one is Dutch, one is Palestinian, one is Portuguese, one is Finnish, one is Mexican, one is Ukrainian, one is Yemeni, one is Liberian,

one is Thai-Indian, one is Iranian, one is Uzbek, one is Hungarian, and data is not available for the remaining 14 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (27 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (20 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 (28 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 2,895 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). 1,585 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,186 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts”. A total of 55 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- The King Power International Group Co., Ltd. opened King Power Rangnam and Thai Taste Hub food court for Thai and foreign customers. There are sanitation and safety guidelines in place, and the standards for travel businesses have been raised. Under the “KING POWER CARE POWER” operational strategy confirmed that people can be assured of the sanitation standards in each service area.
- The Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration spokesman clarified that changes will be made to certain measures during the second phase of easing lockdown measures. For example, beauty salons and barber shops are not allowed to offer hair coloring or curling services, as it takes more than two hours. As of now, only hair washes, haircuts, and hair thinnings are allowed. The remaining services that are not currently offered will slowly be reintroduced during the third and fourth phases of easing lockdown measures.
- Currently, there are various organizations that are working together to provide inspection teams for businesses to help them adjust and adhere to measures. There are 90 general inspection teams, 1,896 joint inspection teams, and 74 central inspection teams, for a total of 2,060 inspection teams. There will be inspection teams to offer advice and help businesses plan accordingly. If businesses fail to follow measures, the businesses may be closed. The business will only be allowed to resume if they follow instructions.
- The Chulalongkorn University Chief of the Center of Excellence in Clinical Virology (Department of Pediatrics) shared his opinion regarding the opening/closure of Educational Institutes and managing COVID-19:
  1. Students are no more at risk of contracting COVID-19 than adults. Students who have COVID-19 will likely develop mild symptoms, but can easily spread the disease to their family members, which would further exacerbate the spread of COVID-19.
  2. Reopening educational institutes is imperative for students, and the issue should be made a priority. They should be allowed to study, but it must be ensured that none of the students are carriers of the virus; such an inspection

will likely reduce the number of students in class. Furthermore, other precautions should continue to be enforced on campus, such as maintaining physical distance, continuing to wash hands, keep up with personal hygiene, eating cooked food, wearing a mask, and checking the students' body temperature before entering the classroom. These are main precautions that can be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

- The President of the King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL), the KMITL Center for Innovation, the KMITL GO FIGHT COVID-19 unit, launched a Mobile Swab test to accelerate the detection of COVID-19 confirmed cases in various locations across the country. This innovation is helping healthcare workers perform screening tests and treat confirmed cases safely. KMITL is collaborating with the Department of Disease Control. The Ministry of Public Health is increasing surveillance to find more cases in risk groups in many different areas.
- The Faculty of Engineering at Mahidol University has collaborated with Kanchanaphisek Medical Center has collaborated with the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital at Mahidol University to establish two robotic innovations with the goal of reducing the risk of exposure by medical personnel. One robot's name is "Wastety," with the purpose of collecting infectious waste, and the other robot's name is "Foody," with the purpose of delivering food and medicine in the wards. These two robots are an innovation of AGV (Automated Guide Vehicle) system. The AGV will play an important role in the development of digital healthcare in hospitals and public health systems to combat any challenges from COVID-19 infection.
- The Minister of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation revealed that the mRNA vaccine research has been reassigned to the National Research Council of Thailand. The project originated during a collaboration between at The Chulalongkorn University Vaccine Center, in cooperation with The National Institute of Vaccines, and The Department of Medical Sciences.
- Preliminary findings by the University of Pennsylvania, USA showed their mRNA vaccine was able to produce high levels of antibodies, on the order of 1:3000, in COVID-19 infected experimental mice. Using the insight revealed by University of Pennsylvania's preliminary results, a prototype mRNA vaccine was created and injected into mice at the Chulalongkorn University Vaccine Centre, and high antibody levels were observed in the mice. The National Research Council of Thailand is preparing to test if the mRNA vaccine antibody production levels can be reproduced in monkeys next week.

#### 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.

# The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

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by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

- 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.