

Thailand Report on January 27, 2020

1. International Situation

January 5, 2020 - The People's Republic of China reported the total number of pneumonia cases under investigation for infection by novel coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV) was 59, including 41 confirmed cases. On January 27, 2020 there were 2,744 confirmed cases across all regions in the People's Republic of China (except for Xizang). 461 cases are in critical condition, 80 have died and there are a total 2,802 confirmed cases around the world.

On January 27, 2020, there were 50 confirmed cases outside of The People's Republic of China, in the United States, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, France, Australia, Malaysia, Canada, Taiwan, Nepal, Hong Kong and Macao as follows:

Table 1 : International Confirmed Cases and Suspected Cases for Infection by Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV)

Date	Country	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases
January 27, 2020	South Korea	57	4
January 27, 2020	Hong Kong	451	8
January 27, 2020	Macao	-	6
January 27, 2020	Taiwan	-	5
January 26, 2020	Canada	-	1
January 25, 2020	France	-	3
January 25, 2020	Australia	-	4
January 25, 2020	Nepal	-	1
January 25, 2020	Malaysia	-	3
January 25, 2020	Singapore	92	4
January 25, 2020	Japan	-	4
January 25, 2020	Vietnam	-	2
January 25, 2020	The United States	-	5

2. International Precaution

On January 23, 2020, The People's Republic of China began implementing measures to reduce infection by closing Wuhan City and canceling departure flights including 28 AirChina flights, 78 China Eastern flights, and 108 China Southern flights. Moreover all flights to Shenzhen City were canceled until February 10, 2020, and with Cathay Dragon until February 29, 2020, including canceling other public transportation. On January 27th, 13 cities



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia Situation

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

were closed (Wuhan, Huanggang, Chibi, Èzhōu, Zhījīāng, Xianjiang, Xiantao, Enshi, Huangni, Xianning, Jingmen, Huanggang, and Xiaogan). The public was urged to wear masks if living in the city while outsiders were warned not to go to Wuhan City.

Countries and administrative regions such as the U.S., Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, South Korea, and the Philippines have taken surveillance measures by screening travelers who depart from Wuhan, China for fever and respiratory symptoms. Moreover, they have notified all passengers to take precautions and protect themselves from infection.

On January 25, 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the U.S., Australia, and France evacuated their citizens from Wuhan, China. India advised their citizens to avoid non-essential travel to China. Moreover, Hong Kong announced the highest level of public health emergency to implement efficient control measures.

The U.S. increased its implementation of fever and respiratory symptom screening in passengers who depart from Wuhan, China in five airports including San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, and adding Atlanta and Chicago. The situation has been scaled up to be an Immediate Health Risk and the Emergency Response System has been set up to develop disease management and diagnosis guidelines to detect the virus. The Republic of China (Taiwan) announced that 2019-nCoV is a Communicable Disease Type 5 along with Yellow Fever, SARS, Influenza, MERS, and Marburg Virus Disease. Moreover, they have notified prevention precautions to the public. On January 22, 2020, they scaled up the warning level to Level 3 and implemented screening protocol at airports and harbors.

3. The Disease Situation in Thailand

From January 3-25, 2020, the Department of Disease Control has been implementing its surveillance protocol by fever screening of travelers from all direct flights from Wuhan, China to the Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang, Chiang Mai, Phuket and Krabi airports, with the screening protocol starting at Krabi Airport started on January 17, 2020. Among 137 flights, 21,522 passengers and aircrew members were screened for respiratory symptoms and febrile illness. Between January 24 to 27, 2020 the screening protocol was implemented among 3,507 passengers and aircrew members at Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Suvarnabhumi airports for 29 flights from Guangzhou and Changchun.

On January 27th, 13 passengers met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI), raising the total number of PUI to 136 people. Of those, 29 PUI were detected from the airport screening. 103 people sought medical services on their own at private hospitals, four PUI were reported from a hotel residence, the Erawan Medical Center, and a university. 60 PUI are admitted at hospitals, including 33 at government hospitals (Nakhon Pathom, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Nakhon Sawan, Ang Thong, Surat Thani and Phitsanulok), 15 at Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute and twelve at private hospitals. There are 21 PUI in isolation rooms for healthcare providers to monitor their clinical signs. There is one PUI that has severe complications. 55 cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes. Laboratory results identified the novel coronavirus 2019 in eight cases. The etiologic agents for the other cases were identified in the final diagnoses as Influenza A virus (11 cases), Influenza B virus (11 cases), Influenza C virus (1 case), Adenovirus (1 case), Coronavirus OC43 (1 case), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (1 case), Bronchitis (5 cases), Acute

Nasopharyngitis (2 cases), Pharyngitis (2 cases), common cold (1 case), RSV infection (3 cases) and Tonsillitis (1 case). There are 79 cases in which laboratory results are pending.

4. Thailand Precaution

On 22 January 2020, The Department of Disease Control (DDC), Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), Thailand scaled up the Emergency Operations Center to Level 3 to closely monitor the ongoing situation both at the national and international levels. The MOPH has also strengthened the surveillance system by screening travelers from Wuhan for viral pneumonia by strictly thermal scanning passengers for detecting fever and respiratory symptoms at Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang, Chiang Mai, Krabi, and Phuket international airports. Moreover, surveillance and preparedness to respond to emerging infectious diseases have been enhanced in the government and private hospitals, and areas of tourist attractions. There is ongoing cooperation between the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism and Sport, the Royal Thai Police, and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation. Furthermore, the English situation reports and related information sheets were disseminated through the DDC Viral pneumonia 2019 website (<https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/intro.php>). On 23 January 2020, The Travel Alert for the coronavirus outbreak was raised to Level 3. The MOPH recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to outbreak areas.

5. Risk Communication to the Public

- The novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) can be prevented using the principles for respiratory disease prevention, i.e. washing hands, wearing masks and avoiding contact with patients who have a respiratory disease.
- People can still travel to China, however, it is recommended to avoid visiting crowded places and making contact with patients who have respiratory symptoms. If this is unavoidable, people should wear a mask.
- If anyone has symptoms including coughing, sneezing, panting or runny nose within 14 days after departing from Wuhan, China, please seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the doctor regarding the history of recent travel to China
- It is recommended to avoid visiting markets selling carcasses or live animals. If touching or handling live animals, people should wear gloves.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. It is also recommended to avoid using your hands to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchief, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- It is recommended to avoid eating uncooked food.