

Thailand situation update on January 31, 2020

1. International Situation

January 31, 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 27. **On January 31, 2020** there were a total 9,819 confirmed cases around the world with 9,692 cases coming from all regions in the People's Republic of China. 1,527 cases are in critical condition and 213 have died.

Situation in China	Total Number of Confirmed Cases	Total Number of Cases in Critical Condition	Total Number of Deaths
January 31, 2020	9,692	1,527	213
January 30, 2020	7,711	1,370	170

On January 31, 2020, there were 115 confirmed cases outside of the People's Republic of China, in 22 countries and the details are shown in the attached table. On January 31, 2020 at 6 p.m. there were 26 additional cases were reported e.g. Hong Kong (2), Taiwan (1), Japan (3), South Korea (3), Singapore (6), Vietnam (3), Malaysia (1), The United States (1), Australia (2), France (1), Italy (1), and The United Kingdom (2). Furthermore, there has been human-to-human transmission in three countries e.g. the United States, Germany and South Korea.

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

No.	Date	Country	Confirmed cases
1	January 31, 2020	The United Kingdom	2
2	January 31, 2020	Singapore	13
3	January 31, 2020	Japan	12
4	January 31, 2020	Malaysia	8
5	January 31, 2020	Australia	9
6	January 31, 2020	France	6
7	January 31, 2020	Hong Kong	12

Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia Situation

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

No.	Date	Country	Confirmed cases
8	January 31, 2020	South Korea	7
9	January 31, 2020	Taiwan	9
10	January 31, 2020	Vietnam	5
11	January 31, 2020	The United States	6
12	January 31, 2020	Italy	2
13	January 30, 2020	The United Arab Emirates	4
14	January 30, 2020	Finland	1
15	January 30, 2020	Philippines	1
16	January 30, 2020	India	1
17	January 29, 2020	Germany	4
18	January 29, 2020	Canada	3
19	January 28, 2020	Macao	7
20	January 28, 2020	Cambodia	1
21	January 28, 2020	Sri Lanka	1
22	January 25, 2020	Nepal	1

2. International Precaution

On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) conducted an Emergency Committee meeting and officially announced the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV) to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) after the dramatic spread in many countries, for protection and to stop further outbound spread. The virus has become a burden on many public health systems. Meanwhile, WHO did not declare any restrictions on trade or travel to China.

There have been temporary flight cancellations until the 1st of February to stop visiting big cities such as Shanghai and Beijing. The airlines that canceled their flights include British Airways, KLM, Lufthansa, Finnair, EL AL, Scandinavian Airlines, Swiss Airlines, Austrian Airlines, American Airlines, Air Canada, Eva Air, Air Seoul, Indonesia's Lion Air, and Air India.

Some countries announced the closure of areas bordering China, including Russia who announced the closure of the China-Russia border checkpoint. Hong Kong announced temporary suspension of boat trips and around 80% of high-speed trains between Hong Kong and China.

The Philippines and Czech Republic have restrained visa approval for Chinese tourists.

Many countries evacuated citizens from Wuhan to their home countries and have begun investigating their symptoms for 14 days including United Kingdom, United States of America, Australia, France, Japan, South Korea, Morocco, Germany, Kazakhstan, Canada, Russia, and the Netherlands, and Myanmar is planning to evacuate their citizens from Wuhan City.

The U.S. has scaled up the situation 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. Hong Kong announced the 2019-nCoV to be the highest level of public health emergency.

China's prevention measures

1) Closing the city to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus and stopping public transportation services such as buses, underground trains, ships, trains and airplanes in 15 cities including Wuhan, Huanggang, Chibi, Èzhōu, Zhījiāng, Xianjiang, Xiantao, Enshi, Huangni, Xianning, Guangzhou, Lixuan, Tainjin, and Xiaogan.

2) Beijing cancelled Chinese New Year festivities.

3) China's government allowed employees to work from home to reduce going out to public areas.

4) The establishment of a 1,000-bed hospital to support 2019-nCoV patients in 10 days.

5) On January 27th, Tibet scaled up the emergency situation to Level 2 and closed some sightseeing places for disease prevention and control in China.

6) The Bill & Melinda Gate foundation donated 5 million dollars to China for diagnosis, treatment, and vaccine development.

7) The China government mobilized approximately 6,000 health authority personnel for outbreak control and treating patients in Hubei Province.

3. The Disease Situation in Thailand

3.1 Surveillance protocol among passengers at airports

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 on January 17, 2020. Among 137 flights, 21,522 passengers and aircrew members were screened for respiratory symptoms and febrile illness. From January 24 to 31, 2020 the screening protocol was implemented among 8,792 passengers.

3.2 Situation of patients with suspected symptoms of new coronavirus 2019 in Thailand.

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	344
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from the airport screening 	39
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals 	296
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities and tour groups 	9
Confirmed cases	19
Deaths	0
Severe cases	0
Recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes	70

On January 31st, at 19.00, 64 PUI met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI), raising the total number of PUI to 344 people. Of those, 39 PUI were detected from the airport screening. 296 people sought medical services on their own at hospitals, including 174 PUI at private hospitals, 107 PUI at government hospitals, 15 PUI at Bamrasnaradura Infectious Disease Institute and nine PUI at others (hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities and tour groups). Among all PUI, 221 are admitted at hospitals, including 113 at government hospitals (Nonthaburi, Nakhon Pathom, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Nakhon Sawan, Ang Thong, Surat Thani, Phitsanulok, Lampang, Lamphun, Chiang Rai, Phang-nga, and Ranong), 12 at Bamrasnaradura Infectious Disease Institute, 96 at private hospitals, and 53 are in isolation rooms for healthcare providers to monitor their clinical signs. 71 cases recovered from their illnesses and returned to their homes. **Laboratory results identified the novel coronavirus 2019 in 19 cases. Six of them were discharged from hospitals.**

The etiologic agents for the other cases (49) were identified in the final diagnoses as Influenza A virus (11 cases), Influenza B virus (12 cases), Influenza C virus (1 case), Adenovirus (1 case), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (1 case), Bronchitis (4 cases), Nasopharyngitis (2 cases), Pharyngitis (8 cases), Common cold (2 cases), RSV infection (3 cases), Tonsillitis (1 case), Rhinovirus (1 case), Hyperthyroid Fever (1 case) and Pneumonia (1 case). There are 287 cases in which laboratory results are pending.



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia Situation

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4. Thailand Precautions

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 non-essential 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.