

Thailand situation update on 26 March 2021

1. International Situation

	Total Number	Daily Increase	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Confirmed cases	126,128,470	634,529	
Deaths	2,768,663		2.20%

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

Situation	Total Number*
Total number of new cases	134
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	6
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	0
• Cases found in Thailand through the public health service system (Local transmission)	41
• Cases found from active case finding	87
Total number of confirmed cases	28,577
• Cases found in quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	2,394
• Cases found outside quarantine facilities/centers (Imported)	627
• Cases found in Thailand through the public health service system (Local transmission)	9,574
• Cases found from active case finding	15,982
Total number of confirmed cases	28,577
• Total recovered and discharged from hospitals	27,032 (94.59%)
- Newly recovered and discharged from hospitals	86
• Undergoing treatment	1,453 (5.09%)
• Deaths	92 (0.32%)
- New deaths	0

Screening and PUI	Total Number
Total number of People Screened	
• Ports of entry (Airports, ground ports, and seaports)	8,081,821
• People renewing their passports at the Immigration Bureau, Chaeng Watthana	498,861
Total number of laboratory tests	1,678,148
• People who met the PUI criteria	1,250,738
• From active case finding	15,834
• Returnees in quarantine facilities/centers	81,676
• People who did not meet the PUI criteria	329,900
Total number of people who met the criteria of PUI	1,250,738
• Detected from ports of entry	4,742
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (291,655 cases in private hospitals, and 954,253 cases in public hospitals)	1,245,908
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Remark: *PUI (Patients Under Investigation)

3. Thailand Implementations

- The Ministry of Public Health has allocated and distributed COVID-19 vaccines to target areas for the target groups as planned. Provinces that have received the vaccines can proceed. If the government would like to open the country, the safety of the people in the country should be secured. The vaccination for individuals is especially important. Therefore, the people are requested to receive the vaccine. If Thailand can vaccinate about 50-60% of the population, the country will be able to open safely. Business and tourism can move forward and Thailand will recover quickly.
- The Medical Hub Committee, Ministry of Public Health resolved to approve the adjustment of detention centers/quarantine facilities for those arriving from abroad and relaxing measures in these centers as required by the CCSA to support the opening of the country. It also agreed in principle to the "Sand Box" tourism model in three tourist provinces including Phuket, Surat Thani (Koh Samui), and Loei (Chiang

Khan) under the conditions of organizing tourist activities within the safe zones affirmed by from public hearings in the communities. There will be measures in place to control access to the area, tracking systems, and public health readiness.

- The Ministry of Public Health closed the 7th Sakhon Caring Center Field Hospital at Tha Sai Subdistrict, Samut Sakhon Province. The COVID-19 situation reflected an average of 9-15 cases per day and the site was converted into a COVID-19 vaccination facility. The closure of field hospitals is not an announcement that means the COVID-19 situation is over. This signal shows that the outbreak is at a controlled level because the hospital system has the potential and readiness to accommodate the patients. The COVID-19 patients will be referred for treatment at public or private hospitals with adequate capacity in Samut Sakhon province.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the COVID-19 Johnson & Johnson vaccine registration that has been submitted by the private sector. The vaccine of Bharat Biotech International Ltd, India is in the process of document submission and other vaccines including Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine (United States), the Sputnik V vaccine (Russia) and Sino Biopharmaceutical Ltd (China) have consulted with the FDA and they are preparing to apply for registration. Private hospitals, the private sector or those who wish to obtain permission to import pharmaceutical products, can submit documents to request an assessment of the quality, effectiveness and safety of vaccines. If all required documents are submitted, it will take approximately 30 days for assessment and approval to allow people to safely access the vaccine.

4. Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Situation

From the COVID-19 situation analysis on 26 March 2021, it was found that the number of infected cases was stable for an average of about 81 cases per day in the last month. The number of infected cases following contact tracing increased on average by about 8 cases per day. But in the last week, the infected cases increased on average by 13 cases per day. Therefore, there is still transmission to close contacts including family members and colleagues even though Thailand has started administering COVID-19 vaccines. Therefore, people and establishments need to comply with disease preventive measures such as wearing masks, frequently washing hands, reducing unnecessary travel, avoiding crowded places, scanning Thai Chana or Mor Chana applications, monitoring the situation closely and observing symptoms for 14 days after visiting a market that reported the infection. If people have a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, anosmia or loss of taste, they need to see a doctor immediately and report their travel history as much as possible.