

Thailand situation update on 25 February 2020

1. International Situation

On 25 February 2020, there were a total of 80,294 confirmed cases, 9,215 patients were in critical condition and there were 2,707 deaths from COVID-19 around the world in 34 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China and on the Diamond Princess cruise ship. There have been 77,754 confirmed cases in the People's Republic of China (including the Hong Kong and the Macao Special Administrative Regions of People's Republic of China), 160 confirmed cases in Japan, 977 confirmed cases in South Korea and 90 confirmed cases in Singapore.

Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 25 February 2020

- The World Health Organization and epidemiology experts predicted the epidemic of COVID-19 will soon rise to pandemic levels due to the rapid spread of infection occurring in many countries e.g. South Korea, Italy, and Iran. Thailand has confirmed that it has not yet reached level 3. Thailand's National Committee for the Control of Infectious Diseases agreed to put COVID-19 as the 14th dangerous infectious disease under Thailand's Infectious Disease Act to prevent and control further spread efficiently.
- The People's Republic of China announced the prohibition of wildlife trading for consumption as well as hunting and transportation because of the epidemic of COVID-19 and determined the conditions of illegal consumption and trading wildlife. If someone does not follow the announcement, they will be penalized.
- South Korea has found one passenger infected with SARS-COV-2 in one of the airlines. There has been a temporary closure of offices near the Incheon Airport since the afternoon of 25 February 2020. Moreover, the screening in Shincheonji group includes around 200,000 people.
- Singapore restricted fellowships to South Korea, and suggested that exchange students return to Singapore.

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-2019

The accumulated data from 3 January to 24 February 2020, showed that among 12,363 flights, there were a total of 2,703,559 passengers screened. Among those, 70 people met the case definition criteria of PUI. For the screening protocol outside the airports, 95,734 people from 431 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 23 February 2020. There were two PUI among that group. There were 602,250 people screened at ground ports from 1 to 24 February 2020. A total of 57,362 people renewing their passports at the Government Complex

Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road were also screened from 30 January to 25 February 2020.

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

On 25 February, 2020 at 18.00, 218 additional people met the criteria for patients under investigation on 24 February 2020 raising the total to 1,798 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)	1,798
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 44, Don Mueang: 18, Phuket: 6, Chiang Mai: 1, U-Tapao: 1) 	70
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from seaports 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (Private hospitals: 921 cases, Government hospitals: 790 cases) 	1,711
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities and tour groups 	15
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	1,798
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under ongoing treatment (Private hospitals: 243 cases, Government hospitals: 308 cases) 	551
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered from their illnesses and discharged from the hospitals 	1,244
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home 	3
Confirmed cases	37

Situation	Total number of PUI
Recovered and discharged from hospitals	24
Being treatment	13
Severe cases	2
Deaths	0

3. Thailand Precautions

On 25 February 2020, the Department of Medical Services has prepared hospitals in Bangkok in case Thailand enters the third phase of the outbreak including Rajavithi Hospital, Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, and Bamrasnaradura Infectious Disease Institute. In other provinces, general and tertiary hospitals have also been prepared.

4. Recommendation to the Public

- The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) 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 should avoid travelling to China and countries with local transmission, and 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 and affected areas, please seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the doctor regarding the history of recent travel to China or affected areas.

- 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.