

## Thailand situation update on 27 February 2020

### 1. International Situation

On 27 February 2020, there were a total of 82,524 confirmed cases, 8,469 patients were in critical condition and there were 2,812 deaths from COVID-19 around the world in 48 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China and on the Diamond Princess cruise ship. There have been 78,616 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), 207 confirmed cases in Japan, 1,766 confirmed cases in South Korea and 93 confirmed cases in Singapore.

#### Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 26 February 2020

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the United States reported its first person who was infected by the virus that causes COVID-19 in California who did not have a history of traveling outside the country or have exposure to someone known to be infected.

#### Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 27 February 2020

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) warned travelers about the COVID-19 epidemic in Italy and Iran and that both countries are in phase 2 of the epidemic and they emphasized hygiene (washing hands with soap and water or alcohol gel).
- Singapore was recognized by other countries for their management guidelines of COVID-19 including cooperation with the police investigation team and CCTV for following people who were suspected as carriers. Moreover, Singapore's Ministry of Health has a law about communicable diseases to prosecute people who give fake information to health officers about travel history and COVID-19 close contacts.
- The President of the United States stated that Thailand is one of the 10 best countries in the world on preparation capacities to manage medical and public health threats.

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 26 February 2020, showed that among 14,568 flights, there were a total of 2,850,772 passengers screened. Among those, 82 people met the case definition criteria of PUI. For the screening protocol outside the airports, 97,819 people from 470 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 26 February 2020. There were two PUI among that group. There were 624,747 people screened at ground ports from 1 to 26 February 2020. A total of 64,300 people renewing their passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road were also screened from 30 January to 27 February 2020

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

On 27 February 2020 at 18.00, Thailand announced 373 additional people met the criteria for patients under investigation, raising the total to 2,437 PUIs 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)</b>	2,437
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 55, Don Mueang: 18, Phuket: 7, Chiang Mai: 1, U-Tapao: 1)</li> </ul>	82
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from seaports</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (Private hospitals: 1,212 cases, Government hospitals: 1,118 cases)</li> </ul>	2,330
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities and tour groups</li> </ul>	23
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	2,437
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under ongoing treatment (Private hospitals: 449 cases, Government hospitals: 542 cases)</li> </ul>	991
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered from their illnesses and discharged from the hospitals</li> </ul>	1,421
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home</li> </ul>	25
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	40
<b>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</b>	28
<b>Being treatment</b>	12
<b>Severe cases</b>	2
<b>Deaths</b>	0

### 3. Thailand Precautions

On 26, February 2020, the announcement to designate COVID-19 as a dangerous infectious disease, was officially signed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health, Anutin Charnvirakul. This announcement comes into effect on the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette. The MOPH has advised that people with travel history to affected areas should always notify travel history to health authorities, as concealing information has had a negative impact on decision-making of health care providers and is harmful to your close contacts and coworkers by putting them at risk of the virus causing COVID-19. Therefore, MOPH asked the public to engage in standard preventive actions to prevent the spread of infections.

In preparation for a surge in transmission, The Ministry of Public Health is making preparations in case Covid-19 outbreak develops and enters to the third phrase. The MOPH is also preparing measures for not allowing personnel to travel to at-risk countries or affected areas.

### 4. Risk Communication 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. handkerchiefs, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- It is recommended to avoid eating uncooked food.