

Thailand situation update on 2 March 2020

1. International Situation

On 2 March 2020, there were a total of 89,248 confirmed cases, 7,375 patients were in critical condition and there were 3,058 deaths from COVID-19 around the world in 67 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China and on the Diamond Princess cruise ship. There have been 80,136 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), 4,335 confirmed cases in South Korea, 1,701 confirmed cases in Italy, 978 confirmed cases in Iran, 256 confirmed cases in Japan, 106 confirmed cases in Singapore, 130 confirmed cases in France, 150 confirmed cases in Germany and 40 confirmed cases in Taiwan.

Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 2 March 2020

- The People's Republic of China - A Chinese court ordered the death penalty for the Chinese man who murdered two public health officers at a COVID-19 check point in Yunnan, China. The man driving the van passed the COVID-19 checkpoint and neglected to follow the recommendations of the officer. The officer recorded the situation as evidence but the driver stabbed both officers to death.
- The United Arab Emirates - The United Arab Emirates Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced to prohibit UAE nationals from traveling to Thailand because of the COVID-19 epidemic since 24 February 2020. The announcement is enforced for UAE citizens and does not prohibit or quarantine those who travel from Thailand, but increases measures to screen people who enter the UAE especially people from countries with local transmission. Moreover, UAE requests Thai nationals and others living in the country to consider postponing travel to countries with ongoing transmission, including Thailand, until the situation has been resolved.
- Italy - There were 34 additional deaths. The government enacted the measures to close schools and universities in the affected area for two weeks. Large public meetings are still prohibited to stop the spread of disease.
- The United States - The Washington State Department of Health announced that one person who lived in a long-term care facility, died of COVID-19 at a hospital in Kirkland. This is the 2nd COVID-19 death in the U.S.

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 1 March 2020, showed that among 19,760 flights, there were a total of 2,884,717 passengers screened. Among those, 95 people met the case definition criteria of PUI. For the screening protocol outside the airports, 102,098 people from 531 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 1 March 2020. There were two PUI among that group. There were 708,565 people screened at ground ports from 1 to 1 March 2020. A total of 72,027 people renewing their passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road were also screened from 30 January to 2 March 2020.

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

On 2 March 2020 at 18.00, Thailand announced that 267 additional people met the criteria for patients under investigation, raising the total to 3,519 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)	3,519
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 61, Don Mueang: 25, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 1) 	95
<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: 1,756 cases, Government hospitals: 1,638 cases) 	3,394
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	28
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	3,519
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under ongoing treatment (Private hospitals: 810 cases, Government hospitals: 610 cases) 	1,420
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered from their illnesses and discharged from the hospitals 	2,044
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home 	55
Confirmed cases	43
Recovered and discharged from hospitals	31
Being treatment	11
Severe cases	1
Deaths	1

3. Thailand Precautions

The Administrative Court of Thailand committee has announced preventive measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Administrative Court of Thailand personnel, government employees, and civil servants were asked to avoid non-essential travel to the 11 countries/administrative regions at-risk for COVID-19 (as determined by MOPH) including 1) People's Republic of China, 2) Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong, 3) Special Administrative Region of Macao, 4) Taiwan, 5) Republic of Korea, 6) Japan, 7) Republic of Singapore, 8) Republic of Italy, 9) Islamic Republic of Iran, 10) French Republic, and 11) Federal Republic of Germany.

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 traveling 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.

- Travelers who departed from China (including Macau and Hong Kong) and countries with ongoing local transmission (e.g. Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Italy, Iran, etc) are recommended to implement self-quarantine and check their body temperature for 14 days. It is also recommended to avoid visiting public or crowded places, not share personal stuff with others and keep at least 1 meter away when making contact with others. In addition, if anyone has symptoms including coughing, sneezing, sore throat, shortness of breath and runny nose, please wear a mask and seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the doctor regarding the travel history.

- 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.