

## Thailand situation update on 9 March 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 9 March 2020, there were a total of 110,617 confirmed cases, with 5,979 patients in critical condition. There are now 3,831 COVID-19 deaths, spanning across more than 106 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, one city state, and on the Diamond Princess Cruise ship. There have been a total of 80,739 confirmed cases in the People's Republic of China. In the Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, there have been 115 confirmed cases in Hong Kong, and 10 confirmed cases in Macau. There have been 7,478 confirmed cases in South Korea, 7,375 confirmed cases in Italy, 6,566 confirmed cases in Iran, 1,209 confirmed cases in France, 1,151 confirmed cases in Germany, 502 confirmed cases in Japan, 150 confirmed cases in Singapore, and 45 confirmed cases in Taiwan.

### Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 9 March 2020

- State of Qatar - The Public Relations and Communication Department announced measures that went into effect today to prevent a COVID-19 epidemic in Qatar by temporarily preventing travelers from entering Qatar if they are coming from the following 14 countries: People's Republic Of Bangladesh, the People's Republic of China, Egypt, India, Islamic Republic Of Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Syria, and Thailand. This applies to travelers with accommodations/households in Qatar and people who can enter a country without a visa.
- India - Today, India started isolating passengers arriving from the following 12 countries: People's Republic of China, South Korea, Japan, Italy, Islamic Republic of Iran, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Nepal and Indonesia. When passengers traveling from any of these countries arrive at the airport, they must undergo compulsory screening, as India is still in the process of implementing measures to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2. The Spokesman of the Airport Authority of India (AAI) stated that the isolation protocol that occurs in 21 airports across India.
- Saudi Arabia - Temporarily ceasing all air and sea transportation from the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Lebanon, Syria, South Korea, Egypt, Italy, and Iraq.

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 9 March 2020 showed that among 26,206 flights, there were a total of 3,475,430 passengers screened. Among those, 210 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). For the screening protocol outside the airports, 115,121 people from 668 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 9 March 2020 and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,116,478 people screened at ground ports from 1 February to 9 March 2020. Between 30 January to 9 March 2020, a total of 91,407 people who were renewing their passports were screened at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road. The total number of PUI from all ports is 214 people.

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

On 9 March 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 164 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 4,682 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
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	4,682
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 160, Don Mueang: 41, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 3)</li> </ul>	212
<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: 2,196 cases, Government hospitals: 2,221 cases)</li> </ul>	4,417
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	51
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	4,682
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing treatment (Private hospitals: 1,006 cases, Government hospitals: 832 cases)</li> </ul>	1,838
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered from illnesses and discharged from the hospitals</li> </ul>	2,807
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home</li> </ul>	37
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	33
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing treatment</li> </ul>	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	1
<b>Severe cases</b>	1

There are 50 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Thailand. Among the confirmed cases, 33 patients have recovered and returned home, and one patient has died. Of the 4632 PUI cases, laboratory results revealed that 2,773 cases returned negative for the COVID-19 virus, and results are pending for remaining 1,859 PUI.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 38 years old (ranging from 3 to 74 years old). 29 cases were male, and 21 cases were female (ratio of male to female: 1.4:1). In terms of nationality, 26 cases are Chinese, 22 are Thai, one is Italian, and one is British.

Underlying diseases were found in some of those cases including hypertension (4 cases), hypertension with cardiovascular disease (1 case), stroke (1 case), hepatitis B viral infection (1 case), and osteoporosis (1 case). There were 42 cases reported without any underlying disease. Four cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports, 29 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 16 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as close contacts, and one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan.

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- The Governor of The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration has implemented clinical practice guidelines for health care personnel who are screening patients both inside hospitals and at public health centers. The guidelines of infection prevention measures for personnel were reviewed and there is preparation for a Big Cleaning Day every Tuesday in every government office in Bangkok.
- Dr. Sathit Pitutacha asks for cooperation from the people in communities. If community members come into contact with and discover unregistered Thai workers, we ask that they encourage these workers to report to the provincial public health office. If the unregistered Thai workers are uncooperative, then we encourage the community members who hold this knowledge to report these workers to the public health office so that the workers can be registered into the disease prevention control systems.
- Travelers purchasing an airplane ticket coming from one of the Disease Infected Zones must submit a medical certificate. A ticket will only be issued if the medical certificate confirms that the passenger is not at risk of being infected with COVID-19. If the passenger does not submit a medical certificate, they will not be issued a boarding pass.

### 4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) can be prevented using basic respiratory disease prevention measures: washing hands, wearing masks, and avoiding contact with patients who have respiratory disease.
  - People should avoid traveling to China and countries within the Disease Infected Zones, or Ongoing Local Transmission Areas. Avoid visiting crowded places and avoid being in contact with people who have respiratory symptoms. For uncontrollable scenarios, it is highly recommended that a mask is worn to protect yourself and others.
  - Travelers flying from Italy, Iran, the Republic of Korea, and China (including Macau and Hong Kong), are required to self-quarantine at designated areas or at their own residence. For travelers from areas with Ongoing Local Transmission (Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Germany, France) are recommended to implement self-monitoring at residences and check their body temperature for 14 days. Avoid visiting public or crowded places. Do not share personal stuff with others. Maintain at least 1 meter of distance between yourself and another person when interacting with others. In

# The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control



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 your travel history.

- 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. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- 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.
- Avoid eating raw food.