

## Thailand situation update on 21 March 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 21 March 2020, there were a total of 278,557 confirmed cases, with 7,925 patients in critical condition and 11,554 COVID-19 deaths across more than 183 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. There have been a total of 81,008 confirmed cases in the People's Republic of China. In the Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, there have been 273 confirmed cases in Hong Kong, and 17 confirmed cases in Macau. There have been 8,799 confirmed cases in South Korea, 47,021 confirmed cases in Italy, 20,610 confirmed cases in Iran, 12,612 confirmed cases in France, 21,571 confirmed cases in Spain, 19,774 confirmed cases in the United States, 5,616 confirmed cases in Switzerland, 1,994 confirmed cases in Norway, 1,007 confirmed cases in Japan, 1,255 confirmed cases in Denmark, 2,994 confirmed cases in the Netherlands, 1,639 confirmed cases in Sweden, 3,983 confirmed cases in England, and 19,910 confirmed cases in Germany.

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 20 March 2020 showed that among 34,678 flights, there were a total of 4,156,730 passengers screened. Among those, 341 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). For the screening protocol outside the airports, 124,982 people from 1,019 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 20 March 2020 and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,556,207 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 20 March 2020. Between 30 January to 20 March 2020, a total of 116,702 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 currently 335 people.

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

On 21 March 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 673 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 10,343 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>	10,343
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 160, Don Mueang: 41, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 3)</li> </ul>	341
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from seaports</li> </ul>	2

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by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

Situation	Total number of PUI
<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>	9,912
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	88
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	10,343
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing treatment (Private hospitals: 1,006 cases, Government hospitals: 832 cases)</li> </ul>	4,072
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered from illnesses and discharged from the hospitals</li> </ul>	5,447
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home</li> </ul>	842
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	411
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing Treatment</li> </ul>	365
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	1
<b>Severe cases (including undergoing treatment)</b>	7

In Thailand, there are 411 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 45 patients have recovered and returned home. One patient has died, and one is in critical condition. Of the 9,932 PUI cases, laboratory results revealed that 6,166 cases returned negative for the COVID-19 virus, and results are pending for the remaining 3,766 PUI.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 38 years old (ranging from 6 months to 79 years old). 274 cases are male, and 132 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 2.1:1) and gender data is not available for 5 cases. In terms of nationality, 26 cases are Chinese, 358 are Thai, four are Danish, three are Japanese, three are British, two are Italian, two are American, two are Canadian, one is Singaporean, one is French Guianese, one is Belgian, one is French, one is Pakistani, one is Burmese, one is Malaysian, one is Swiss and data are not available for three.

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), osteoporosis (1 case), and dyslipidemia (1 case). There were 402 cases reported without any underlying disease. 16 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports, 249 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 146 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

- Representative of The World Health Organization, Thailand praised the Ministry of Public Health's excellent efforts in battling the spread of the disease. Thailand was the first country to confirm a case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outside of China and has also timely isolated infected people from society in order to contain the spread of the virus, recommending social distancing measures to stop the virus.
- The committee responsible for the situation management center of the COVID-19 outbreak at the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration made a resolution to order the closure of all department stores and markets throughout Bangkok for 22 days from March 22 to April 12. Food zones and drug stores can remain open. Private agencies were asked to allow employees to work from home and the government agencies were urged to switch or shift working hours as appropriate. The mass transportation system was requested to provide extra space between fellow passengers to reduce passenger congestion. The public was also asked for cooperation to reduce traveling in densely populated areas.
- The Ministry of Interior sent an urgent letter to governors of every border provinces regarding the consideration of temporary suspension at permanent border crossing points, border trade checkpoints and special relief points during the COVID-19 outbreak situation.
- The Department of Livestock Development, commissioned by the Director General, the Director of the Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services, along with special operations officers from Phayathai, officers from the Division of Veterinary Inspection and Quarantine, officers from the Division of Animal Welfare and Veterinary Service, and officers from the Bangkok Livestock Office were assigned to join cleaning activities and a campaign to prevent COVID-19 which may be transmitted from animals to humans, as well as provide knowledge about the Cruelty Prevention and Welfare of Animals Act, B.E. 2557 for pet dealers in Chatuchak Weekend Market.
- Thai AirAsia Airlines announced a temporary halt for all international flight services from 22 March 2020 until 25 April 2020.

### 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. Travelers from areas with Ongoing Local Transmission (see the updated list at <https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/eng/index.php>) are recommended to implement self-monitoring at residences and check their body temperature for 14 days.
- Avoid visiting public or crowded places. Maintain at least 1 meter of distance between yourself and another person when interacting 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 your travel history.



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- 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.