

## Thailand situation update on 5 April 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 5 April 2020, there were a total of 1,204,077 confirmed cases with 44,090 patients in critical condition and 64,797 COVID-19 deaths across more than 203 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. The ten countries with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases include: the United States (311,637 cases), Spain (126,168), Italy (124,632), Germany (96,092), France (89,953), the People's Republic of China (82,603 cases, as well as 890 and 44 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively), Iran (55,743), England (41,903), Turkey (23,934) and Switzerland (20,505).

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 4 April 2020 showed that among 36,591 flights, there were a total of 4,388,232 passengers screened. Among those, 560 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). For the screening protocol outside the airports, 131,855 people from 1,366 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 4 April 2020 and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,766,064 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 4 April 2020. Between 30 January to 3 April 2020, a total of 143,664 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 562 people.

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

On 5 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 597 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 25,071 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>	25,071
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 160, Don Mueang: 41, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 3)</li> </ul>	560
<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>	24,421

Situation	Total number of PUI
<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>Confirmed cases</b>	2,169
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	793
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing Treatment</li> </ul>	1,373
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	23
<b>Severe cases (including undergoing treatment)</b>	23

In Thailand, there have been 2,169 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 793 patients have recovered and returned home, 23 patients have died, and 23 are in critical condition undergoing treatment.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 35 years old (ranging from 5 months to 86 years old). 1,171 cases are male, and 931 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.26:1) and gender data is not available for 67 cases.

In terms of nationality, 1,870 are Thai, 33 cases are Chinese, 22 are French, 20 are British, 10 are Japanese, nine are American, nine are Russian, eight are Canadian, seven are Burmese, six are German, six are Italian, five are Danish, five are Swedish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, four are Pakistani, three are South Korean, three are Singaporean, three are Australians, two are Portuguese, two are Indonesian, two are Spanish, two are Cambodian, two are Malaysian, two are Filipino, two are Albanian, one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is a New Zealander, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, one is Laos, one is Taiwanese, one is Serbian, one is Liberian, one is Vietnamese, one is Hungarian, one is Mexican, one is Tunisian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Dutch, and data are not available for 103.

Underlying diseases were found in some of those cases including hypertension (15 cases), allergy (13 cases), diabetes (6 cases), other NCDs (10 cases), asthma (7 cases), dyslipidemia (1 case), psoriasis (1 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (13 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (1 case), thyroid disease (1 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), and valvular heart disease (1 case). There were 2,094 cases reported without any underlying disease. 40 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports, 1,351 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 778 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 Royal Gazette published an announcement from the Medical Committee under the Social Security Act regarding the principles and the medical service costs for COVID-19. According to the announcement, the Social Security Office shall disburse the costs of COVID-19 diagnosis to health care providers or to the insured who meet the MoPH criteria for PUI and have not already received a disbursement from other government sectors and

shall disburse the cost of Personal Protective Equipment for laboratory staff as appropriate in accordance with the actual cost (not over 3,000 baht per test).

- Phichit Governor announced additional closures of high-risk places including Luang Pho Ngein Temple, Wat Phra Non (the Reclining Buddha Temple), Sukhumaram Temple, and restaurants and beverages shops (they can open for takeout-only). No gatherings with more than 20 people are allowed except for implementation of preventive measures. The governor requested the village leaders, subdistrict headmen, village headmen, and community presidents to temporarily prohibit people from other areas to enter their villages and communities under their jurisdiction and notify people in the areas who currently reside in different areas, not to travel in and out of villages and communities temporarily from now until 30 April 2020.
- The Governor of Ratchaburi Province ordered the temporary closure of premises and stores i.e. convenience stores or similar retail stores from 5 - 30 April 2020, which has changed from being open 24 hours to a defined period of time (04:00am - 10:00pm) without seating or standing service space to eat or drink in the stores. Private nurseries including centers for the development and rehabilitation of children with disabilities are temporarily closed as well.
- The Governor of Udon Thani province commanded to close hotels, restaurants in the Udon Thani International Airport, the parking and vehicle registration and driving license service center in Kham Chanot, Wat Pa Phu Kon temple, Thale Bua Daeng (Red Lotus Lake) and Nam Phan lake until 30 April 2020.
- The Governor of Songkhla province commanded to close the province and prohibit people from entering and exiting Songkhla province both by land and sea transportation, except in some cases such as the shipment of necessary goods, consumption goods, agriculture commodities, medical equipment and ambulances. This command is being enforced from 6 April 2020 until 30 April 2020.
- The Chaing Rai Provincial Governor announced a travel restriction between Chaing Rai - Chaing Mai, and Chiang Rai - Phayao between 9 - 30 April 2020 or until the situation returns to normal. Moreover he ordered screening checkpoints to screen all people who travel between the districts.
- The National Blood Center is undertaking a project to accept plasma donations from people who have already recovered from COVID-19, with the aim to inhibit severe pneumonia and treat severe COVID-19 patients. Those wishing to donate plasma must be asymptomatic, fully recovered COVID-19 patients who have been detained at home for 14 days and remain healthy.
- Kerry Express (Thailand) Limited made an announcement about the methods of delivering parcels during the period under the Emergency Decree. According to the announcement, the duration of delivering parcels will be temporarily changed from 1-day to be 2-3 days depending on the destination. In addition, Kerry Express (Thailand) Limited also prioritizes urgent orders for delivery which is necessary for society during this period, which includes two main types of goods: 1) medical equipment for preventing COVID-19 and goods which have an upcoming expiration date.

- Don Mueang International Airport has changed its service time and set up control measures at the in and outbound building, as a result of the Emergency Decree. The International Terminal still offers services 24 hours/day but the Domestic Terminal has services only from 6.00 AM - 8.30 PM.
- The Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) will add about 2-3 buses at the end of the day as appropriate for each route and increase the frequency of releasing those buses to every 3-5 minutes to solve the crowd problems during the last bus schedule of the day before the curfew. The BMTA will release the last bus from the terminal at approximately 8:00pm with a notification attached in the window of the bus stating "Second to last bus" and the last bus messaged "the last bus" to inform the users.
- The Bank of Thailand, the Thai Bankers' Association, the Association of International Banks and the State Financial Institutions Association informed that from 7 April 2020, all banks are ready to resume normal services including account opening services, Bind PromptPay services, but will limit the number of customers each day in order to avoid overcrowding and to help to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- The research team of the Faculty of Environmental Management, Prince of Songkhla University developed the EnviTrap (a 3D shaped cloth mask) which can prevent dust and the spread of COVID-19 as well can be washed and cleaned. The research team plans to provide the 3D shaped cloth mask to medical staff.

#### 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.
- 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.
- 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.