26 APRIL 2020

WHO Thailand Situation Report

THAILAND SITUATION IN THE PAST 24 HOURS

HIGHLIGHTS

- On the 26th of April 2020, 15 new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, bringing the total number of cases to 2,922.
- Of these, 88% (2,594) have recovered, about 1.8% (51) have died, and 9.5% (277) are receiving treatment.
- No cases were identified in persons returning from outside Thailand; likely reflecting restrictions on entry.
- Four of the new cases are close contacts of previously confirmed cases, three cases attended a crowded place.
- Two cases were detected through enhanced surveillance (active case finding) in Yala Province.
- To date, 68 of the total 77 provinces have reported cases. A total of twelve of these provinces have not detected any new cases for the past 28 days.

UPDATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COVID-19 response plan for Thailand

- COVID-19 response measures are managed by local authorities based on a national framework. The enhanced measures to be applied will vary according to the level of assessed risk (the degree to which the epidemic is under control).
- Basic measures that will be implemented by all provinces, regardless of level of risk are as follows:
  - Promoting health literacy on prevention and control of COVID-19, including personal hygiene
  - Active case detection and isolation of case, tracing and quarantining their contacts
  - Protection of vulnerable groups i.e. the elderly those with chronic diseases
  - Healthcare facility preparedness, including enhanced infection prevention and control
  - Increasing social distancing by promoting:
    - Working from home: (70% of government employees) and flexible / staggered working hours to reduce crowding of public transportation
    - Online business (shopping, banking, etc.)
    - Measures to be applied in the direct service sector (e.g. shops and businesses)

NEW AND CUMULATIVE COVID-19 CASES IN THAILAND | BY DATE OF REPORTING

Change in criteria for lab diagnosis

Source: MoPH, 25 April 2020
• Additional measures – may be applied locally on a compulsory basis, or based on the assessed level of risk
  ○ Travel restrictions and screening
  ○ Closure of establishments where people may gather in large numbers or the risk of transmission is high
  ○ Curfew

• Principles for easing the compulsory measures
  ○ Continuous monitoring and assessment of risk at local level
  ○ Assessment of whether establishments/venues are considered to provide essential services
  ○ Degree of compliance with measures by establishments/service providers and the local population

HOW TO WEAR A MEDICAL MASK SAFELY

Do’s

1. Find the top side, where the metal piece or stiff edge is
2. Ensure the colored side faces outward
3. Place the metal piece or stiff edge over your nose
4. Cover your mouth, nose, and chin
5. Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides
6. Wash your hands before touching the mask
7. Inspect the mask for tears or holes
8. Wash your hands after discarding the mask

Don’ts

1. Do not wear a loose mask
2. Do not touch the front of the mask
3. Do not touch the mask to talk to someone or do other things that would require touching the mask
4. Do not leave your used mask in the reach of others
5. Do not re-use the mask
6. Do not wash the mask only over mouth or nose
7. Do not use a damp mask

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

Antibody testing

• The MoPH does not recommend antibody tests to confirm COVID-19 diagnosis. Selling kits online is illegal.
• During days 1-7 after symptom onset the tests are only about 17% sensitive. During days 8-14 this can rise to 42% sensitivity. After 14 days, the tests may be 85% sensitive. Therefore, antibody tests are not useful for confirmation of current infection.

Mask use

• The Ministry of Public Health notes that an online survey on mask use showed that 4% of survey respondents said they don’t wear a mask when they are sick. 53.2% wear cloth masks and 40.1% wear surgical masks.
• The MoPH recommends that everyone wear masks in public places to prevent pre-asymptomatic transmission.

What who is doing to provide support to Thailand

WHO Thailand is in frequent direct contact with the Royal Thai Government through the Ministry of Public Health, sharing information on key developments, guidelines and scientific updates.
WHO supports the wider UN response, including working with key partners and the Ministry of Public Health to support migrant populations in Thailand. WHO also provides information and advice to staff of the UN system in Thailand.

USEFUL LINKS

• The Thailand COVID19 situation report is available in Thai and English
• Regular updates on WHO’s response in Thailand
• Global figures and technical advice from WHO

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Visit WHOThailand on Twitter and Facebook accounts, regularly provide content on all aspects of the outbreak in Thailand and around the world. Media queries can be directed to sethawebmaster@who.int and kanpirom@who.int