



Highlights of Diseases and Event in October 2015

Dengue hemorrhagic fever

Regarding to the situation of dengue hemorrhagic fever in Thailand from 1 January to 24 October 2015, total 98,403 cases and 108 deaths were attributable for dengue infection, with attack rate of 151.10 per 100,000 population, death rate of 0.16 per 100,000 population and crude death rate of 0.11%. The age group with the highest attack rate was 5-14 years old (392.46 per 100,000 population), followed by 15-24 years old with attack rate of 290.92 per 100,000 population. Five provinces with the highest cumulative attack rate per 100,000 population were Rayong (525.17), Phetchaburi (485.43), Ratchaburi (435.72), Uthai Thani (373.34) and Krabi (361.35).

The number of case in 2015 was higher than that of every month in 2014, with about one time more than that of January to March and 2-3 times more than that of end March to October. Although the number of case in 2015 was similar to the median of last 5 years (2010-2014) since in the beginning of the year, it was likely to get higher from 18th week (May) until now.

The trend of dengue in previous 4 weeks is not clear yet since the reported cases are still lower than the actual situation. In addition, the statistics show that it takes average 4 weeks to achieve more than 80% of completeness in reporting.

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)

In Thailand, data from 1 January to 27 October 2015 showed that total 425 patients met the case definition to investigate for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV), including 344 Thai and 81 foreigners. Laboratory testing revealed that one person was tested positive for nucleic acid of MERS-CoV while other 418 persons were negative and no data was available for 5 persons.

From 30 September to 27 October 2015, 10,350 pilgrims (99.5% of total pilgrims) have returned to Thailand. Out of 176 persons under investigation (PUI), there were 15 persons tested positive for influenza A (H1), 40 persons for influenza A (H3), 7 persons for unknown type of influenza, 4 persons for influenza B and 6 persons for other types of viruses (adenovirus, human metapneumovirus, rhinovirus, human coronavirus OC43) while 104 persons were negative.

World Health Organization reported that total 1,611 confirmed cases and 575 fatalities attributable to MERS-CoV were identified in 26 countries around the world from September to 30 October 2015, with case fatality rate of 35.7%.

Diphtheria

According to the data from 506 and event-based surveillance system, total 59 suspected cases and 10 deaths of diphtheria, with attack rate of 0.03 per 100,000 population, were reported from 1 January to 21 October 2015. Among them, 22 cases were confirmed and probable cases. In addition, 17 cases were indigenous cases and 5 cases came from neighboring countries to receive treatment. Five provinces with the highest attack rate per 100,000 population included Yala (0.78), Phang Nga (0.77), Tak (0.56), Chonburi (0.19) and Pattani (0.15).

Out of 17 indigenous cases, there were 9 confirmed cases and 8 probable cases. Nine cases were 1.5-11 years old and 8 cases were 15-60 years old. Ten of them were Thai and 7 were foreigners (5 Myanmar, 1 Lao and 1 Cambodian).

One Lao and 2 Myanmar, who were 3-12 years old, received treatment in Tak Province and were confirmed to have diphtheria. There were 2 fatalities from Lao PDR, including 1 confirmed case from Khammouane Province and one probable case from Savannakhet Province.