



Highlights of Diseases and Event in January 2016

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)

On 23 January 2016, a 71-year-old male from Oman was confirmed to have Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) in Thailand. He began to sick on 14 January 2016 when he was in Oman. He arrived in Thailand and received treatment on 22 January 2016. Then, he was transferred to Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute on 23 January 2016. Results of laboratory testing showed that he had MERS-CoV infection and treatments were provided for him in an isolation room of Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute. Although he had cough and tiredness, he was able to walk by himself. On 28 January 2016, he got fever with 38°C.

Investigation and contact tracing identified 52 close contacts with high risk and 275 contacts with low risk. Among those contacts with high risk, 40 persons could be traced back, 26 of them were quarantined in a place for close observation and followed up them until there was no more symptoms on 5-6 February 2016.

On 11 February 2016, the patient with MERS-CoV infection showed no more symptoms. After no more virus was identified for 2 times in 3 reference laboratories according to the guideline from World Health Organization, the patient was discharged from the hospital and coordinated with the embassy for sending him back to Oman.

As for MERS-CoV situation on 2 February 2016, World Health Organization reported that total 1,638 confirmed cases and 587 fatalities attributable to MERS-CoV were identified in 26 countries around the world. In Thailand, 2 persons from Oman were confirmed to have MERS-CoV infection. The first case was a 70-year-old male who entered into Thailand on 15 June 2015. He has already recovered from the illness and already returned back to his country. The second case was a 71-year-old male. He came to Thailand on 22 January 2016 and was transferred to Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute for treatment on 23 January 2016. He had also recovered and discharged from the hospital on 11 Feb 2016.

Dengue hemorrhagic fever

According to the (R506) surveillance data for 3 codes of dengue infection, total 142,925 cases and 141 deaths were reported during 2015, with attack rate of 219.465 per 100,000 population and mortality rate of 0.22 per 100,000 population.

During 1-16 January 2016, total 2,380 dengue cases were identified in Thailand, with 1,797 new cases reported in the previous week. No death was reported and attack rate was 3.65 per 100,000 population. Five provinces with the highest attack rate per 100,000 population were Bangkok (17.28), Nakhon Pathom (13.51), Phuket (11.62), Phichit (4.33), Sisaket (7.08) and Phitsanulok (6.75). The central part had the highest attack rate of 6.06 per 100,000 population, followed by the southern part (2.96), northeastern part (2.29) and northern part (2.20).

More dengue cases were reported during the first and second weeks of 2016 when compared with 52nd week of 2015. In addition, when the same periods of 2015 and 2016 were compared, the disease trend is clearly increasing in 2016. Nevertheless, the current data is not completed yet as it takes average 4 weeks to achieve more than 80% of completeness in reporting.