



Highlights of Diseases and Event in March 2016

Influenza

The data from R506 surveillance system during 1 January – 23 March 2016 identified total 33,221 influenza cases and 2 deaths from 77 provinces. The attack rate was 51.01 per 100,000 population and case fatality rate was 0.01%.

The number of influenza cases starts to decrease gradually in compliance with ILI cases reported in 11th week (3.9%). Nevertheless, the number of cases reported in this year was still higher than that of the previous year and the median. About 13,691 cases are estimated to be identified in March 2016.

The influenza type B was the most common type of influenza virus according to the laboratory results from the R506 surveillance system and total 4,150 cases (12.49%) were tested to have influenza type B virus. In addition, among 2,462 cases (7.41%) of influenza A identified, there were 2,361 cases (95.9%) with unknown subtype, 75 cases with H1N1/2009 (3.5%), 17 cases with H1 (0.69%) and 9 cases with H3 (0.37%).

The age group with the highest attack rate was 0-4 years old with 135.60 per 100,000 population, followed by 5-14 years (179.56), 25-34 years (34.74) and 15-24 years (31.21).

The attack rate in the northern part was 82.51 per 100,000 population, which revealed the highest attack rate when compared with other parts of Thailand.

The attack rates in other parts were 71.39 per 100,000 population in the central part, 25.09 per 100,000 population in the northeastern part and 22.82 per 100,000 population in the southern part.

Close monitoring of influenza situation should be continued in some provinces, including Bangkok, Pathum Thani, Ayuthaya, Nakhon Pathom, Nakhon Nayok, Nakhon Ratchasima, Surin, Amnat Charoen, Bueng Kan, Loei, Maha Sarakham, Nakhon Phanom, Ubon Ratchathani, Chiang Mai, Kamphaeng Phet, Uthai Thani and Tak provinces.

Dengue hemorrhagic fever

Since 1 January to 29 March 2016, total 13,411 dengue cases were reported in the R506 surveillance system from Bureau of Epidemiology. The attack rate was 20.59 per 100,000 population. The reported dengue cases increased about 90.95% (1.9 times) when compared with the number of cases reported in the same period of 2015. Total 8 dengue deaths were identified and the case fatality rate was 0.06%.

People aged 10-14 years old showed the highest attack rate (55.81 per 100,000 population), followed by 5-9 years (51.26), 15-24 years (34.78), 25-34 years (21.37) and 0-4 years (20.57). Furthermore, the highest attack rate was found in students (2.79%) while other occupations with high attack rate were employee (18.98%) and unknown (22.70%).

The male to female ratio was 1.05:1. The dengue transmission was the highest in the central part with 30.18 per 100,000 population. The attack rates in other parts were 22.61 per 100,000 population in the southern part, 14.37 per 100,000 population in the northeastern part and 13.00 per 100,000 population in the northern part.

Top 5 provinces with the highest attack rate from the cumulative dengue cases during 1 January to 29 March 2016 were Rayong (55.75), Bangkok (52.67), Samut Sakorn (40.99), Nakhon Pathom (38.38) and Phuket (38.32).

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease

Total 8,328 cases of hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) were reported from 76 provinces during 1 January to 23 March 2016 through the R506 surveillance system. The attack rate was 12.79 per 100,000 population. One death was identified and the case fatality rate was 0.01%. When compared with the same reporting period, the number of HFMD cases in 2016 was higher than that of 2015 and the 5-year median. About 3,428 HFMD cases were likely to be reported in March 2016.

The central part of Thailand was found to have the highest attack rate with 17.08 per 100,000 population, followed by the northern part (16.99), the southern part (10.19) and the northeastern part (7.23).

The surveillance on HFMD should be closely monitored in Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son, Lampang, Phrae, Nan, Phayao and Pitsanulok Provinces.