



Highlights of diseases and event in November 2016

Measles Situation in Thailand

Since 1 January to 8 November 2016, a total of 1,352 measles cases with no fatalities were reported and attack rate was 2.07 per 100,000 population. During last three years, measles cases were detected throughout the year, with average 100 cases per month. More cases were identified in August 2016. Children under four years was the group with the highest risk and attack rate was 19.46 per 100,000 population, followed by 5-14 years old (3.02 per 100,000 population) and 15-24 years old (1.79 per 100,000 population). During the previous four weeks, the southern part of the country revealed the highest attack rate with 0.63 per 100,000 population, followed by the central (0.35 per 100,000 population), the northeastern (0.09 per 100,000 population) and the northern (0.05 per 100,000 population) parts.

Provinces with the attack rate higher than 0.25 per 100,000 population in the previous four weeks included Pattani (3.04 per 100,000 population), Yala (2.52), Narathiwat (2.18), Bangkok (1.16), Phuket (0.78), Rayong (0.55), Phrae (0.44), Nakhon Nayok (0.39), Surin (0.36) and Pathum Thani (0.28).

The disease is commonly found among children and in the winter. Hence, children should be vaccinated completely following the national program. In order to achieve the comprehensive protection, two doses of measles vaccination should be provided to more than 95% of children in all areas and people with measles symptoms should be isolated for 4-5 days after onset of rashes. Measles outbreaks are still occurring in some areas with low vaccination coverage. In addition, high number of teenagers and people in early adulthood who have never received the

measles vaccination can come and stay in academies, institutions, companies and organizations. Thus, vaccination campaigns or additional measures such as providing vaccination to people in the working age should be carried out in order to increase the vaccination coverage among high risk people.