



## Highlight of Diseases and Events in June 2018

### Situation of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever in Thailand

According to the national disease surveillance system (R506) reported to Bureau of Epidemiology as of 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018, there were total 19,804 cases of dengue fever (DF), Dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) and dengue shock syndrome (DSS) during 2018, with 2,502 new cases reported in the previous week and the attack rate of 30.08 per 100,000 population. Compared to the same period of 2017, the number of dengue cases reported has increased by 29.78%.

Most cases were people aged 10-14 years and attack rate was 101.86 per 100,000 population, followed by 5-9 (74.35 per 100,000 population), 15-24 (55.34 per 100,000 population), 0-4 (36.29 per 100,000 population) and 25-34 (28.88 per 100,000 population) years.

According to the national disease surveillance system (R506) and event-based surveillance system, there were 24 deaths and case fatality rate was 0.12%. Out of twenty-four deaths, three were from Ubon ratchathani province, two each from Nakhon Sawan, Pathum Thani, Ayutthaya, Samut Sakhon, Chachoengsao and Phuket province, and one each from Phrae, Nonthaburi, Kanchanaburi, Samut Songkhram, Maha Sarakham, Nakhon Ratchasima, Krabi, Phangnga and Surat Thani province.

During the past four weeks, 13 May – 9 June 2018, the province with the highest attack rate per 100,000 population was Phichit (51.59), followed by Phrae (35.25), Uthai Thani (30.55), Krabi (29.52) and Mae Hong Son (29.47).

The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito is the primary vector of dengue. The virus that causes dengue is transmitted to humans through the bites of infected female mosquitoes. *Ae. Aegypti* infests urban habitats and breed mostly in artificial containers.

Recommendations: there are currently no vaccines. The best method of prevention is to avoid mosquito bites. Anyone who lives in or travels to an at-risk area such as Central and South America, part of Africa, parts of Asia, the Caribbean, and the Pacific, can use a number of ways to avoid being bitten.

1. Reduce the amount of skin exposed by wearing long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and socks, tucking pant legs into shoes or socks, and wearing a hat.
2. Use a repellent with at least 10 percent concentration of diethyltoluamide (DEET).
3. Use mosquito nets that are treated with insecticide if you are spending time in a tropical region.
4. Checking for and removing stagnant water can help reduce the risk of mosquitoes breeding.
5. See your healthcare provider if you have high fever and one or more of the following: intense headache, aching muscles and joints, nausea and vomiting, rash, unusual bleeding (nose or gum bleed, small red spots under the skin, or unusual bruising), eye pain (typically behind the eyes).

Information resource: Outbreak Verification Summary of 24<sup>th</sup> week during 17 – 23 June 2018