

## Situation of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Thailand

(as of February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016.)

### Situation - February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

1. One laboratory confirmed case, a 71 years old Omani, was detected. (remain the same)
2. All 40 “high risk contact” were successfully followed. Currently, 26 persons are in designated facilities for proper isolation and all remain healthy.
3. Global situation – WHO reported, as of February 3rd, 2016, a total of 1632 cases in 26 countries with 587 deaths.
4. Avoid all rumors and mis-information. Always follow the information providing by the Ministry of Public Health or call 1422 for further inquiry.

MOPH released news on MERS case – Stable, no fever, remain on oxygen support. Continue high alert on surveillance, focusing on travelers from endemic area – port of entries and at hospitals

Dr. AmnuayKajeena, Director General, said the patient’s condition was stable, had no fever. The patient could walk, eat as normal, but still need oxygen support. A sputum specimen had positive test for MERS and the patient was still in isolation room for proper medical care at Bamrassnaradura Infectious Institute. Of all 40 “high risk” contacts, twenty six were in observation at designated facilities, consisted of one relative, 2 taxi drivers, 4 hotel staffs, 11 hospital staffs, 8 passengers on the same flight. All remain healthy.

MOPH continue the stringent surveillance and control measures at port of entries and at hospitals, focusing on travelers from endemic area. Dr.Amnuay Kajeena reassured the competency and efficiency of public health surveillance and control measures. He urged the public to take care personal health. Those who have cough or sneeze should always wear mask and use handkerchief or tissues. Persons who have unstable health or chronic disease should avoid traveling to MERS endemic area. Whenever traveling to-from endemic area, please contact hospital, doctor immediately if having fever cough or respiratory symptoms within 14 days after departure. Call 1422 for more information

## Hot Line 1422 services in the past 24 hours (February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016)

A total of 45 calls received, there were 43 calls asking for MERS on hospital screening and service for suspect MERS case, general knowledge of MERS and Zika fever.

Advices on MERS prevention

1. Always avoid direct or close contact with persons who have respiratory symptoms such as cough, sneezing
2. Keep good health and good hygiene. Always eat hot-clean food, regular hand washing and use proper utensils while eating with others
3. Whenever having respiratory symptoms, please avoid exposure to others, wear mask, using handkerchiefs or tissue and dispose them properly. Contact health facilities, doctors or nearby hospital if you return from MERS endemic area (such as Middle East) or you have contacted to person who is MERS suspects.