

Situation of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Thailand (as of February 1st, 2016.)

Situation - February 1st, 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 no symptoms.
3. Global situation – WHO reported, as of January 29th, 2016, a total of 1632 cases in 26 countries with 587 deaths.
4. Avoid all rumors and mis-information, please see the information providing by the Ministry of Public Health or call 1422 for further inquiry.

Update MOPH: MERS case clinically improved and no fever. All contacts were in good health, without any symptoms.

Dr. AmnuayKajeena, Director General of the Department of Disease Control said the patient, 71 years old Omani, had no fever, still in isolation room for proper medical care at Bamrassnaradura Infectious Institute. The patient was able to walk, talk, eat, able to help himself and was continued under proper medical care. Of all 40 “high risk” contacts, all were successfully followed by medical team and trained public health staffs. Twenty six were in isolation and proper medical care at designated facilities, consisted of one relative, 2 taxi drivers, 4 hotel staffs, 11 private hospital staffs, 8 passengers on the same flight (5 foreigners and 3 Thais). All are in good health and will complete 14 days observation on February 5th and 6th.

Dr. AmnuayKajeena also added that Public should be assured of safety by the continuing of stringent control measures by the government, continue normal daily life and follow the advices providing by MOPH. Always eat clean hot foods, regular hand washing and use proper utensil while eating in group. Persons who have unstable health or chronic disease should avoid traveling to MERS endemic area. If you had been traveling to-from endemic area please contact hospital, doctor immediately in case of having fever cough or respiratory symptoms within 14 days after departure. Call 1422 for more information.

Call 1422 services in the past 24 hours with MERS

During the past 24 hour service, January 31st, there were 19 calls with 4 lines on MERS inquiry. There were inquiries for advice when travel to endemic area, advice for travel to European countries, control measures in private hospitals and general knowledges of MERS.

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 contact to person who is MERS suspected case(s).