

Situation of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Thailand (as of February 3rd, 2016.)

Situation - February 3rd, 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 February 2nd, 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.

Update patient’s information – MOPH: Clinically stable, no fever and continue oxygen therapy

Dr. AmnuayKajeena, Director General of the Department of Disease Control updated the patient’s condition of 71 years old Omani, had no fever. Sputum specimen collected yesterday still 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, 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 hospital staffs, 8 passengers on the same flight (5 foreigners and 3 Thais). All are in good health.

Dr. AmnuayKajeena urged all people to take care and keep good health, avoid getting close to individual who have cough or respiratory symptoms. 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 2nd, 2016)

A total of 49 calls received, there were calls asking for several issues such as MERS, Zika virus, Hand Food Mouth Disease and Dengue infection.

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).