SPOTLIGHT

- On the 15th of May 2020, seven new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand (MoPH), bringing the total number of cases to 3,025.
- No deaths were reported today.
- Of the 3025 cases reported to date, 94% (2854) have recovered, 4% (115) are still receiving care and 2% (56) have died.
- The seven newly reported cases were detected among Thai returnees from Pakistan (6 males and 1 female) who are now held in state quarantine in Chonburi Province.
- Less than 2% of persons under investigation (PUI) have been confirmed positive for COVID-19.
- To date, 68 of 77 provinces have reported cases.

UPDATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The MOPH presented some key lessons from an analysis of both the current situation, and possible future scenarios:

- Short-term measures and restrictions reduced the community transmission rate by 77%, which helped Thailand avoid a large-scale epidemic in April 2020.
- Effective disease control measures should be in place to ensure that there will be no second wave of infections.
- Quarantine and isolation are the most effective measures to control the epidemic.
- Increasing the capacity to “Trace, Test, Treat” will be critical to ensure effective control in the future.

The New Normal Medical Service

COVID-19 has had an impact on non-emergency care and some services were on hold, delayed or access points were changed. In addition, some people have been avoiding healthcare facilities as they are afraid of contracting the virus there.

The Department of Medical Services is adjusting to the New Normal Medical Service with two key strategies:

- Process redesign of the 3S (staff, safety, system) using a patient-centred approach
- Applying digital solutions such as use of apps and telemedicine.
UPDATES FROM THE CENTRE FOR COVID-19 SITUATION ADMINISTRATION

Today the Prime Minister chaired the CCSA meeting. Key issues discussed included:

- The importance of integrating efforts between the state public, private sector.
- Decentralization of local administration - led by the Governor of each province - and how the cooperation of the public is the key to success.
- The need for all sectors to collaborate and individuals to adjust to the "new normal" to prevent a second wave of infections.
- The establishment of a central coordination unit to monitor and evaluate the situation and draft guidelines based on considerations of health and impact on livelihoods.
- Promoting digital technology: the ThaiChana application is rolled out for contact tracing and informing the public of risks.
- The setting up of a study team to assess and compare the infection control efficiency of the emergency decree.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

Certain restrictions designed to limit the spread of COVID-19 will be lifted this weekend.

As businesses and public venues reopen, the new measures must be implemented carefully. Now more than ever, each of us has a role to play in protecting themselves and others from infection.

WATCH this video to learn what you can do to keep yourself and the community safe and healthy

WHAT WHO IS DOING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THAILAND

WHO Thailand is in frequent direct contact with the Royal Thai Government through the Ministry of Public Health, sharing information on key developments, guidelines and scientific updates.

WHO supports the wider UN response, including working with key partners and the Ministry of Public Health to support migrant populations in Thailand. WHO also provides information and advice to staff of the UN system in Thailand.