

Department of Disease Control

Weekly Disease Forecast No.95_Influenza

6 – 12 February 2017

According to the national disease surveillance system, during 1 – 31 January 2017, there were 4,875 influenza cases (7.45 per 100,000 population) with no death.

Most of the cases were infant up to 14 years old children. Most patients were reported from the Northern region. Outbreaks were detected in schools.



According to this week disease forecast, the occurrence of influenza patients tends to continue during the influenza season from January to April. Approximately 13,000 influenza patients per month may occur during February and March.

The Department of Disease Control advises people to follow measures, i.e. “cover, wash, avoid, and be absent” to prevent the spread of influenza virus to others and protect themselves well from the disease as follows:

- 1)Cover - wear face masks when having symptoms of flu such as coughing, sneezing, and runny nose;
- 2)Wash - wash hands with soap and water often;
- 3)Avoid - avoiding close contact with people with influenza-like illness;
- 4)Be absent - patients with flu symptoms should be absent from school, work, and activities in crowded or poorly ventilated places.

Patients at high risk of serious flu illness, i.e. young children, the elderly, pregnant women and people with chronic diseases, should seek a medical care at a hospital. Also for those under good home care but symptoms do not improve within 2 days, urgent hospital care is crucial.

For queries or additional information, please call DDC hotline 1422.

