

## **Measures under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) to control the Coronavirus Disease 2019 or COVID-19**

### **Version 2 updated on 16 March 2020**

1. By virtue of the provisions of Section 6 (1) of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015), the Minister of Public Health (MOPH) hereby declared coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a dangerous communicable disease under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) enforced since March 1, 2020. The declaration allows disease control officers in local areas to have the power to order or authorize others to bring the confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases to be tested, treated, clinically diagnosed, isolated, quarantined, or controlled for observation until the lapse of the infectious period or until the situation has ended or any action under Section 34 of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) on a case by case basis.

2. By virtue of the provisions of Section 8 of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015), the Minister of Public Health announced the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, including Macau and Hong Kong Special Administrative Regions, the Republic of Italy, and the Islamic Republic of Iran to be defined as Disease Infected Zones of the dangerous communicable disease outside the Kingdom of Thailand under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) enforced since 6 March 2020.

The announcement allows the disease control officers at quarantine offices to order or authorize others to direct the vehicle owners or vehicle controllers (any conveyance by land, air, or sea) from the four Disease Infected Zones entering the Kingdom of Thailand to bring passengers traveling in those vehicles to be checked by medical practitioners for possible isolation, quarantine or control for observation at designated areas for a designated period of time or to prohibit entry/exit of anyone from that vehicle unless approved by the disease control officers at the quarantine offices or any action under Section 40 of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) on a case by case basis. Moreover, the Disease Infected Zones of the dangerous communicable disease outside the Kingdom of Thailand can be amended when the situation has ended or on a case by case basis.

3. According to the [Department of Disease Control \(MOPH\) COVID-19 website](#), there are several countries with ongoing local transmission of COVID-19. The Department of Disease Control has alerted Thai people to refrain from unnecessary travel to those areas, through the Department of Disease Control website. For all travelers returning from the said areas, they must pass the screening procedures at airports and are recommended to implement control for observation (meaning supervision without quarantine) in order to ensure self-monitoring at their residence for no less than 14 days.

4. The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) complied with the policy determined by General Prayut Chan-O-Cha (the Prime Minister of Thailand and the Minister of Defense) and Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health). This policy requested the MOPH to implement the following measures as needed and as appropriate to ensure the safety of the people:

3.1. If a traveler is a COVID-19 patient or is a suspected COVID-19 patient by exhibiting a fever of 37.5 degrees Celsius or higher, accompanied by at least one of the symptoms such as cough, runny nose, sore throat, and shortness of breath, officers will strictly apply the law to bring those suspected travelers to a medical facility specified by the MOPH so that the aforementioned traveler can be tested, treated, clinically diagnosed, isolated or quarantined on a case by case basis.

4.2 If a traveler is not a COVID-19 patient or is not a suspected COVID-19 patient, the following measures apply:

4.2.1 In the case of a traveler arriving from a territory outside the Kingdom of Thailand defined as **Disease Infected Zones** of the dangerous communicable disease, the traveler must implement the following:

Before check-in at the origin of airport, the travelers must show the documents to the airlines including:

- Health certification describing "No evidence of COVID-19 infection in the previous 48 hours and no signs of sickness in the 14 days prior to the departure date"
- Health insurance (in an amount of at least 100,000 USD that should cover all expenditures of medical treatment while traveling abroad. The travelers need to purchase health insurance before traveling. This does not apply to Thai citizens and people already covered under the Thai government health insurance plan or foreign diplomats who are covered by their host countries).

People arriving in Thailand must fill in the health form (T.8 form) accurately and truthfully.

- Travelers with fever and at least one of the following symptoms: runny nose, sore throat, and difficulty breathing, must notify the disease control officers at the quarantine office immediately upon arrival in Thailand.

- All travelers will pass a fever screening through a thermal scan. Travelers who meet the criteria of surveillance will be referred to a designated hospital.

- Travelers who pass the initial fever screening must implement self-quarantine and comply with the recommendations.

- In the case of foreigners, they are to be quarantined at designated hotels
- In the case of Thai citizens, they must implement self-quarantine at their own residence
- The aforementioned travelers must record their location with the disease control officers in the required channel of communication
- If those travelers exhibit clinical symptoms, they have to report to the disease control officers within three hours

4.2.2 In the case of a traveler arriving from **an area with ongoing local transmission** as announced by the MOPH, they have to do as follows:

People arriving in Thailand with fever and at least one of the following symptoms: runny nose, sore throat, and difficulty breathing, must notify disease control officers at the quarantine office immediately upon arrival in Thailand.

- All travelers will pass a fever screening through a thermal scan. Travelers who meet the criteria of surveillance will be referred to a designated hospital.

- All travelers are recommended to implement control for observation (meaning supervision without quarantine) in order to ensure self-monitoring at their residence for no less than 14 days and comply with the recommendations.

In the case of foreigners, they are recommended to implement self-monitoring at their registered hotels/accommodations. The location must match the information which was given in the required channel of communication.

In the case of Thai people, they are recommended to implement self-monitoring at their own residence. The location must match the information which was given in the required channel of communication.

The aforementioned travelers must record their location with the disease control officers in the required channel of communication.

If those travelers exhibit clinical symptoms, they have to report to the disease control officers within three hours.

- They have to obtain permission from the officers for going out of their hotels/residences when deemed necessary.

4.2.3 In the case of a traveler arriving from **other areas**, they needed to abide by the requirements as follows:

- Travelers with fever and at least one of the following symptoms: runny nose, sore throat, and difficulty breathing, must notify the disease control officers at the quarantine office immediately upon arrival in Thailand.

- All travelers will pass a fever screening through a thermal scan. If the travelers exhibit disease symptoms, the officers will take their history for further details and to provide recommendations.

- The travelers should take care of themselves with good sanitation, self-protection, avoiding crowded places, eating cooked food, using serving spoons, washing hands and wearing cloth masks. While coughing or sneezing, cover mouth and nose in an appropriate way.

For more information, please refer to the Q&A or contact the Office of International Cooperation,  
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