

First Thai infected with coronavirus as death toll rises to nine

THAILAND: The Public Health Ministry today (Jan 22) confirmed a 73-year-old woman being treated at a hospital in Nakhon Pathom was the first Thai found to be infected with the new strain of coronavirus.

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By Bangkok Post

Wednesday 22 January 2020, 12:57PM



Passengers queue up for health screening at Suvarnabhumi airport in Samut Prakan province. Photo: Bangkok Post.

The woman fell ill after returning from the Chinese city of Wuhan late last year. She was being treated in Nakhon Pathom. Health officials confirmed she was infected with the new strain of coronavirus.

There have now been four reported cases of novel coronavirus infection found in Thailand - three Chinese tourists and one Thai.

Nine people in China have been confirmed to have died as a direct result of the virus.

The second Chinese tourist found to be infected has since been completely cured and has returned home, the Department of Disease Control announced yesterday (Jan 21).

Dr Sophon Iamsirithavorn, the director, said the 74-year-old Chinese woman arrived in Thailand from Wuhan on Jan 13. She was quarantined on arrival with a fever and tests confirmed she was carrying the 2019-nCoV virus.

She was treated at the Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute in Nonthaburi province.

She had since been declared free of the infection and had returned home to China yesterday, Dr Sophon said.

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The Public Health Ministry has sought to still public fears over the new disease, a viral respiratory infection similar to SARS, with assurances that measures are in place to prevent the spread of the virus.

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Kurt | 23 January 2020 - 03:58:54

What thai measures are in place to prevent the spread of the virus as long they not lock down on all 9 daily flights from Wuhan? This nonsense talk is disturbing, they not even know about incubation time.

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