Announcement of Mahidol University

Safety and Precaution Measures Regarding the Coronaviruses (2019-nCoV) Pandemic

The worldwide pandemic of the coronaviruses (2019-nCoV), which was originated from Wuhan, the People’s Republic of China, has caused ramifications leading to virus contractions and deaths in many cases. The incubation period of the coronaviruses is estimated between 2-3 days before the symptoms appear, including ones similar to a common cold. The infection is primarily transmitted through respiratory droplets or contact with infected secretions from individuals. Currently, there have been reports of infected individuals travelling through to Thailand.

Mahidol University is concerned and very cautious with the situation. Therefore, in order to limit the spread of the coronaviruses and to follow the recommendations announced by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI), the University requests that all Faculties, Colleges and Institutes follow the instructions suggested below:

1. For the Chinese students who travelled back to their hometown within the previous two weeks and have not yet been back to Thailand, the Faculties/Colleges/Institutes are to inform those Chinese students to stay in China for another two weeks. The Faculties/Colleges/Institutes shall regularly inform students of further instructions and make-up classes can be provided afterwards.

2. For the Chinese students who have stayed in Thailand throughout these past weeks, the Faculties/Colleges/Institutes are to inform them to refrain from having direct contacts with those who have recently travelled back from China to prevent the spread of the coronaviruses.

3. Students and staff who travelled back from China after 17th January 2020 are requested to be on-leave or suspended their travels to the University for 10 days after the date of return to Thailand. Those staff
and students are requested to submit the detailed information, including names, phone number and address to their respective Faculties/Colleges/Institutes. The information is to be reported back to ‘MU Health’, Student Affairs Division, Mahidol University (Tel: 028494529-30). The Faculties/Colleges/Institutes are requested to follow the situation closely with their respective staff and students.

4. Students and staff who have got fever or suspected to any difficulty breathing or problems with their respiratory tract are to report their symptoms to the Faculties/Colleges/Institutes and to seek medical advice from the experts at the hospitals. Due to the nature of the spread of viruses, it is not recommended to do self-hospitalization for safety precaution.

5. Students and staff who have planned to visit China should refrain from doing so. If the postponement cannot be achieved, it is recommended to avoid gathering in enclosed or crowded spaces including animal markets, wear a mask in these areas, avoid close contact with people who are sick with runny nose and coughing, and wash your hands frequently with soap and water or alcohol gel.

6. The University will follow the outbreak situation very closely and may necessarily need to further ask for kind cooperation from all Faculties, Colleges, and Institutes in order to prevent the spread of the coronaviruses.

In this regard, students, faculty members and staff can find out more information and updates on the outbreak situation from the website of the Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health at http://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/intro.php.

Any report or incident regarding this matter is welcome at MU Health, Division of Student Affairs, Tel. 02 849 4529-30.

Announced on 26th January 2020

Prof. Dr. Banchong Mahaisavariya
Acting President, Mahidol University