

TUBERCULOSIS – A HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS DISEASE PUSHING THAILAND TO RANK 18TH IN THE WORLD



In Thailand, approximately 91,000 people are infected with Tuberculosis (TB) each year. Out of this number, about 5,000 - 7,000 people are resulted in death and 1,500 are drug-resistant patients. From this statistic, Thailand has regretfully stepped up to rank 18^{th} in the world from the 22^{nd} in the previous year due to the tuberculosis epidemic.

Professor Arth Nana, President of the Thoracic Society of Thailand and the Local Organizing Committee for the 13th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology stated, "Tuberculosis or TB is a bacterial infection disease caused by germs, which usually attack the lungs and can cause damage in other parts of the body including bones, brain etc. TB is a highly contagious disease that is transmitted through coughing, sneezing, talking, or even spitting. TB Symptoms in the lungs may include chest pain, coughing up blood, prolonged cough that lasts 3 weeks or more, weight loss, fever, chills, night sweats, nausea, patients have tendency to fatigue easily.

Therefore, the Thoracic Society of Thailand will organize the 13th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology from 19 to 22 November 2008 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand. This event aims to promote the development of medical technology and innovation as well as provide information for medical staffs and people in general to realize the importance of taking good care of their health.

For more information about the Congress, please contact 662 229 3333 or at secretariat@apsr2008.org.

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