

# International Influenza Surveillance Assessment Thailand

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# Assessment Overview

## ■ Purpose

- Systematic and standardized review of influenza sentinel site surveillance systems
- Provide feedback on strengths and opportunities for improvement

# Assessment Tool

- Tool contains six check lists
  - National overview of sentinel site surveillance
  - National ILI/SARI overview
  - ILI overview
  - SARI overview
  - Laboratory overview
  - Site visits to evaluate ILI and SARI

# Assessment Visit Overview

May 21 – 23, 2012

- Meetings with representatives of Thailand NIH and Bureau of Epidemiology to discuss sentinel surveillance project
- Two sentinel site visits to evaluate process
  - Patient enrollment
  - Data collection
  - Specimen collection, packaging, and transport

# Strengths of the Project

- Good leadership committed to making the project successful
- Initial sites established in 2004 with expansion of project goals in 2009
- 11 geographically diverse ILI sites
- 5 of 11 sites conducting SARI surveillance

# Strengths of the Project con't

- Extensive laboratory testing of specimens
  - Influenza virus type, subtype, strain, resistance, and gene sequencing
  - Testing for other respiratory viruses
    - Parainfluenza 1-3, RSV, human metapneumovirus, and adenovirus
- Data from the projects is shared weekly in a report posted to the website

# Strengths of Project con't

- Sentinel sites
  - Sites are doing great job
  - Timely and complete data submission
  - Timely sample submission
    - Specimens received in good condition

# Opportunities for Improvement

- Standardization of data/specimen collection at the sites
  - Strict adherence to case definition and protocols set up by project staff to allow for comparisons between sites
- Increased analysis of project data
  - Guide policy and clinical decisions
  - Produce data on burden of disease for entire country



# Looking to the Future

- Strong program collecting a lot of data
- Continuation of the project will provide ability to track influenza, increase data and allow for thorough analysis
- Data should be shared with global community via reports or publication to guide others who are interested in setting up similar projects