**Thailand’s Review of the Health System Response to COVID-19**

On July 24th Thailand became the first country to complete an assessment of how the health system responded to COVID-19, using a WHO Intra-action Review (IAR) tool.

**Sixteen** external experts made recommendations. **Ninety-Six** policy-makers, technical experts and healthcare workers provided their inputs.

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**Six Key Success Factors**

- Strong leadership, informed by the best available scientific evidence
- Administrative systems that adapt to changing demands
- Strong, well-resourced and inclusive medical and public health systems
- Previous experience with major infectious disease outbreaks including SARS, Avian Influenza, H1N1
- Consistent and transparent communication leading to compliance of the public with protective measures
- A ‘whole of society’ approach, including engagement with academia and the private sector

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**Six Key Recommendations**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information for action</th>
<th>Protecting health workers &amp; patients</th>
<th>Improved Detection</th>
<th>Strengthened workforce</th>
<th>World class quarantine</th>
<th>Enhanced coordination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrate epidemiological, laboratory, clinical and logistic data in a new digital information system</td>
<td>Establish a national programme for Infection Prevention and Control</td>
<td>Expand COVID-19 surveillance to strengthen detection of cases and monitor the pandemic impact</td>
<td>Review existing COVID-19 human resources against assessed needs - to identify and address shortfalls</td>
<td>Establish a national quarantine authority - to facilitate inter-sectoral coordination and an expansion of capacity</td>
<td>Increase the operational efficiency of Emergency Operations Centres - to strengthen the COVID-19 response</td>
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**World Health Organization Thailand**