

# TEA NEWSLETTER

*ASEAN+3 Field Epidemiology Training Network*

What's inside this issue:

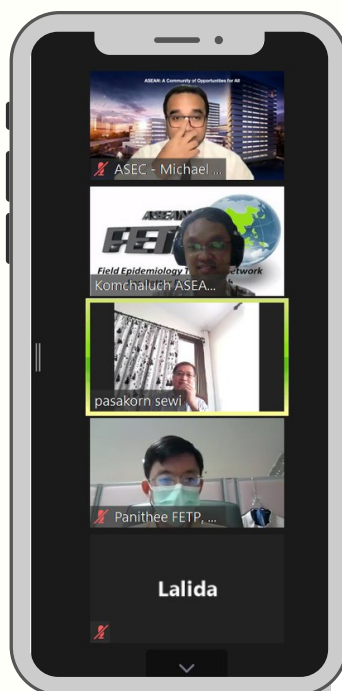
First & Second TEA Meeting

## 1<sup>st</sup> TEA Meeting 29 July 2021

HOW TO MONITOR THE  
EPIDEMIC EFFICIENTLY?

Present 13 Expert TEA members. There were 2 discussion issues- **monitor the epidemic** and **contact tracing**. The secretariat team reported the resulted from a mini-survey gathering the feedback from TEA members. Integrated surveillance which having at least 3 types of surveillance system may be practical to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic recently and soon and must be adjusted suitably.

Integrated information technology into contact tracing procedure, contact tracing application, could reduce the workload of contact tracing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Practical contact tracing such as the fencing approach would be good to be implemented at the household level but we must be aware of the variant of concerns, especially for the Delta variant of COVID-19.

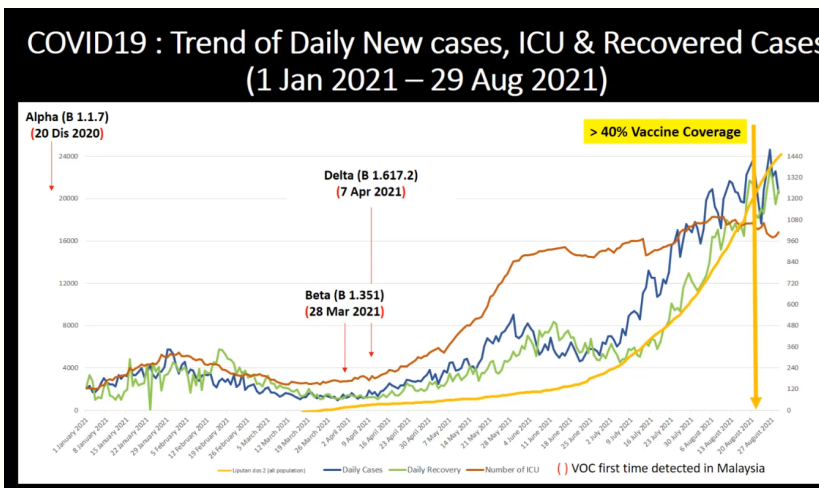
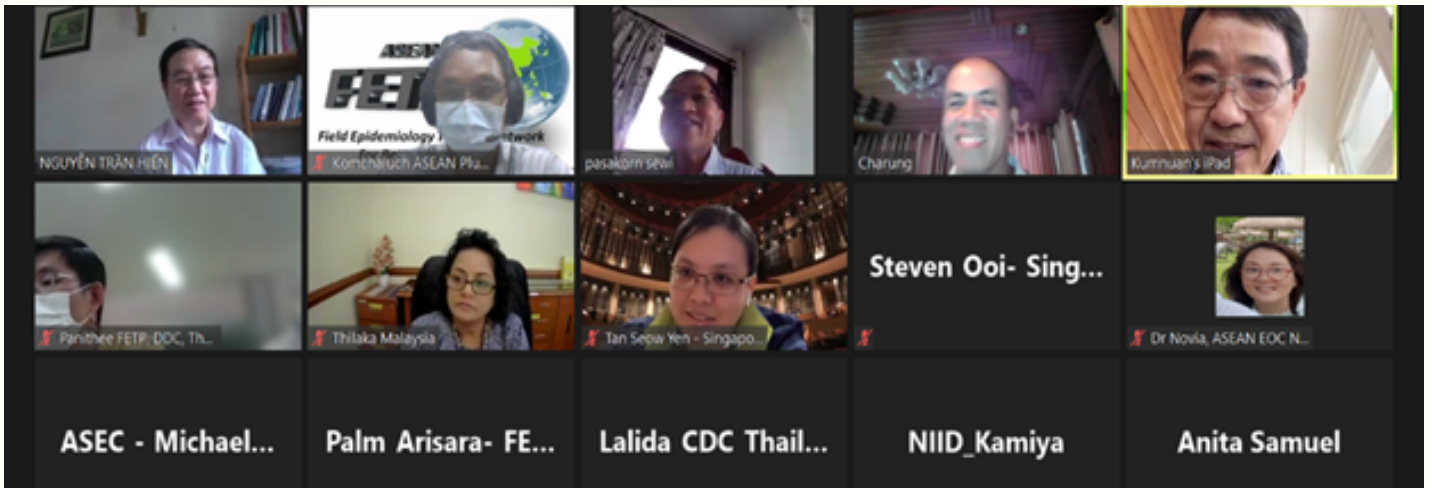


### Contacts networking Python scripts – network visualization

```
python3 network_visualization.py
import networkx as nx
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

pairs = [ ('sp', 'sb'), ('sp', 'cah'), ('sp', 'ak'), ('sp', 'kt'), ('sp', 'jy'),
          ('jp', 'ak'), ('jp', 'cah'), ('jp', 'sb'), ('jp', 'kt'), ('jp', 'jy'), ('sp', 'ak'),
          ('sp', 'kt'), ('sp', 'cah'), ('sp', 'ak'), ('sp', 'cah'), ('sp', 'jy'), ('sp', 'kt'),
          ('sp', 'pm'), ('sp', 'ak'), ('kt', 'ohm'), ('kt', 'jy'), ('kt', 'ad') ]

G = nx.Graph()
the_nodes = ['sp', 'jp', 'av', 'dp', 'kt']
the_edges = pairs
G.add_nodes_from(the_nodes)
G.add_edges_from(the_edges)
nx.draw(G, with_labels=True)
plt.show()
```



## 2<sup>nd</sup> TEA Meeting 30 August 2021

### COULD VACCINE STOP AN ONGOING PANDEMIC?

Present 21 valuable participants. Dr. Charung Muangchana was the guest speaker for vaccine & the role of epidemiology topic. Important epidemiologic studies and principles were central to the evaluation of COVID-19 vaccines & policy formulation. Next, Dr. Steven Ooi and Dr. Tan Seow Yen from Singapore shared the Covid-19 experiences in Singapore. **Delta variant has a short incubation period** (might be less than two days), **contagiousness** (within minutes), **high reproduction number**, making super-spreading events common in a crowded urban center like Singapore.

Also, Dr. Thilaka Chinayah from EIP-Malaysia shared three topics as follows; 1) vaccine rollout, 2) effectiveness of vaccine program, and 3) lesson learned in Malaysia. The impact of vaccines is noticeable only when > 40% of the population is covered with a complete dose. Vaccine administration needed to be prioritized in the high morbidity group and the outbreak area.

*Vaccine could help prevent severe outcomes, but may not be effective enough to prevent the spread of the infection.*