



ASEAN BIOLOGICAL THREATS SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

DISEASE ALERT



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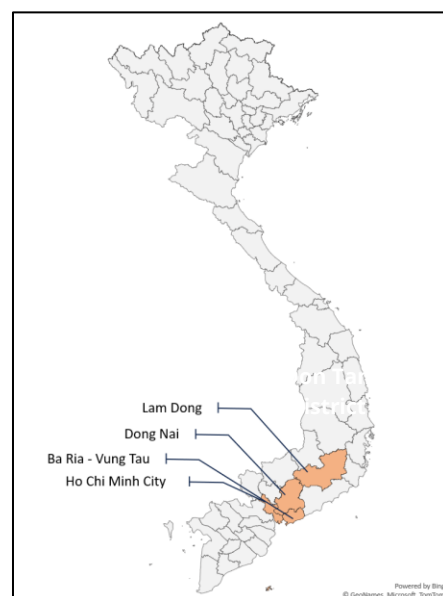
First alert: May 10, 2025 | Meningococcal Disease in Viet Nam

Sub-Locations Affected

Ba Ria - Vung Tau, Dong Nai, Ho Chi Minh City, and Lam Dong

Event Description

On May 9, 2025, the Ho Chi Minh City Center for Disease Control (HCDC) announced that 12 cases of meningococcal disease had been reported in southern Vietnam, including Ho Chi Minh City, Dong Nai, Ba Ria-Vung Tau, and Lam Dong, during the first four months of 2025. This information was obtained from the Pasteur Institute of Ho Chi Minh City.



Map of location affected

Epidemiological Information

- From January to April of 2025, eight of the 20 provinces and cities in southern Vietnam reported 12 cases of meningococcal disease. This is triple the number of cases reported during the same period in 2024. The affected provinces include Ho Chi Minh City, Dong Nai, Ba Ria-Vung Tau, and Lam Dong. Ho Chi Minh City alone has recorded four cases since the beginning of the year.
- On May 6, 2025, Thu Duc City Hospital successfully treated a 13-years-old boy with meningococcal meningitis admitted on April 25, 2025 with high fever, severe headache and drowsiness lasting 2 days.

- On April 29, 2025, Thong Nhat General Hospital confirmed the first case of meningococcal meningitis in Dong Nai Province in 2025, a 37-year-old woman with underlying chronic hepatitis B and diabetes. The patient was hospitalized on April 16 with high fever, severe fatigue, and nausea. Laboratory tests confirmed *Neisseria meningitidis* group B infection.
- On April 13, 2025, the Hanoi Center for Disease Control reported the first confirmed case of meningococcal disease, involving a 3-month-old male from Thanh Xuan District. Symptoms included high fever and poor feeding, and tests confirmed a meningococcal infection. He was admitted to the National Children's Hospital on March 30, where tests confirmed a meningococcal infection.

Response Measures

- According to experts, the current increase in meningococcal disease cases in the Southern region compared to last year indicates a high risk of additional cases in the community in the near future.
- Health authorities are urging the public to improve personal hygiene, wear masks, limit gatherings, and disinfect surfaces to prevent meningococcal disease. Residents, especially those in contact, are advised to wear a mask when going to crowded places, especially to the hospital.
- Although meningococcal vaccines are not mandatory, authorities emphasize the importance of timely and complete vaccination against serogroups A, B, C, Y, and W-135, as it is the most effective preventive measure.
- Residents in close contact with a person with meningococcal disease are advised to notify local health care provider to receive preventive antibiotics. Close monitoring of patient contacts and prophylactic treatment with penicillin or sulfonamides are recommended to minimize transmission and complications.

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