

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

February 01 – 02, 2024



This report is the result of media monitoring on infectious and emerging diseases happening around the world and among the ASEAN Member States. In order to improve pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region. We provide this report three times a week starting from January 2024.

Global Situation

Avian Influenza

- **China:** A 63-year-old female from Xuancheng, Anhui Province, died after contracting avian influenza A (H10N5) and H3N2 in Zhejiang Province (Herriman, 2024). The virus was isolated from case specimens in January 2024. The H10N5 infection is the first known case in a human, and most H10 infections involve exposure to infected poultry. The virus is of poultry origin and has not been effective in infecting humans. Experts recommend avoiding contact with sick and dead poultry, dietary hygiene, and self-protection awareness. [\[Full article\]](#)

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported 49 COVID-19 positive cases and zero deaths, with 8.07% positive cases in the last 24 hours (BSS, 2024). The virus has killed 29,482 people and infected 2,047,199. The recovery count increased to 2,014,443 as 19 patients were discharged. 98.40% of COVID-19 patients recovered, while 1.44% died. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India** experienced a single-day rise in COVID-19 cases, with 1,333 active cases, according to the Union health ministry (ETHealthworld, 2024). The number of daily cases dropped to double-digits until December 5, but increased after the emergence of a new variant and cold weather conditions. A maximum of 841 new cases were reported on December 31, 2023, with 92% of active cases under home isolation. India has experienced three waves of COVID-19, with the peak incidence occurring during the delta wave in April-June 2021. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Ohio's COVID-19 cases decreased from 7,719 to 7,468 this week, marking the fourth consecutive decrease (Washington, 2024). At least 1,264,340 Ohioans received the updated one-dose vaccine, representing 10.8% of the state's population. The number of hospitalizations and ICU admissions increased by 247 and 13, respectively, while deaths from COVID-19 related issues rose to 43,517. The state reported a total of 3,698,152 cases and 14,589. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** In the last 24 hours, 17 patients were admitted to hospitals, with four from Dhaka and 13 from outside Dhaka (Tribune B, 2024). Currently, 97 patients have been admitted to public and private hospitals, with 40 in Dhaka and 57 in other departments. [\[Full article\]](#)



Measles

- **Israel:** Two new cases of measles have been detected in Israel, a limited outbreak that began in September (GHERT-ZAND R, 2024). The Ministry of Health has reported twenty cases in recent months, with two new cases involving unvaccinated brothers from Haifa who contracted the disease during a stay abroad. Anyone on Metronit (Israeli bus rapid transit system) with the infected person should ensure they have been vaccinated, and pregnant women and immunocompromised individuals should seek medical attention. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Russia:** The measles incidence in the Southern and North Caucasus federal districts is worsening, with the majority of cases being children (The Main Events, 2024). In the Rostov region, only 160 cases have been recorded since the beginning of the year, despite 375 cases for the entire 2023. The majority of measles cases were registered in Rostov-on-Don, with over 62% of them being children. The Ministry of Health of the Chechen Republic reported 17 cases of measles since the beginning of the year, including 11 in children. In 2023, 271 cases of measles were recorded, but measles was not detected in the region. In Ingushetia, 59 cases of measles were recorded, with 44 being children. In 2023, 2,547 people were vaccinated, including 1,195 children and 1,312 adults. The measles incidence in the Krasnodar Territory is almost 20 times higher than a year earlier, with 143 cases recorded as of September 7. In the Stavropol Territory, 290 cases of measles were identified, with a growth rate of 44.2%. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Los Angeles County health officials have confirmed a case of measles in a resident who traveled through Los Angeles International Airport while infectious (Radin, 2024). The patient, who arrived on Turkish Airlines flight 009, was also known to have visited a food-chain restaurant in Northridge. Measles is highly contagious and can cause severe disease, including complications for young children and vulnerable adults. [\[Full article\]](#)

Melioidosis

- **Australia:** Northern Territory (NT) Health is urging Territorians to be vigilant for melioidosis, a disease caused by the *Burkholderia pseudomallei* bacterium (Mirage News, 2024). Since the start of the wet season on 1 October 2023, 22 cases and two deaths have been reported in the NT, with six cases diagnosed in the past week. More cases are expected throughout the wet season. If left untreated, melioidosis can lead to severe pneumonia and blood poisoning, with around 10% of infections leading to death. The risk is higher in those with immunocompromised conditions. Precautions against melioidosis include wearing waterproof footwear, gloves, washing and covering sores, wearing face masks, staying indoors during heavy weather, and seeking medical attention early. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- **Maldives:** A new case of whooping cough has been discovered in Villingili island of Gaaf Alif Atoll, bringing the total number of pertussis cases detected from the island to five (Raajje.mv, 2024). The outbreak began on January 23 with three children testing positive for the highly contagious respiratory virus. The Health Protection Agency (HPA) has been working to control the spread of the virus through contact tracing, testing, and providing antibiotic profiles to contacts, children below one year of age, and pregnant women. Gaaf Alif Atoll Hospital has established a special task force to control the spread of the virus. Vaccination can reduce the chance of getting infected and getting sick, and the Pentavalent Vaccine can be administered to babies at two, four, and six months of age. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Spain:** A whooping cough outbreak has been confirmed in Guadalajara, with 124 affected, mainly children (Becerril F, 2024). The Ministry of Health reported six adults and two cases in Madrid schools. A contact study was carried out, and chemoprophylaxis and vaccination were recommended. The highly contagious infection, characterized by a severe dry cough and high-pitched sounds, is mainly affected by children who have not completed the vaccination schedule. Pregnant women and those in direct contact with babies are advised to get vaccinated. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Chikungunya

- **Indonesia:** Hundreds of residents in Trenceng, Mrican Village, Jenangan Sub-district, Ponorogo District have been infected with the chikungunya outbreak, which can cause sudden fever and severe joint pain (Widiyana E, 2024). The virus, which can be transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, is also mediated by the *Aedes sp* mosquito. Despite no confirmed cases in Surabaya, the District Health Office has confirmed that no confirmed cases have been found. The mosquito eradication movement and the “one house, one *jumantik* (mosquito larva watcher)” movement are the main preventive measures. [[Full article](#)]

COVID-19

- **Cambodia** reported two new COVID-19 cases, raising the total to 139,085 (Chivorn, 2024). No deaths were reported, with 3,056 fatalities. Over 15.3 million doses of vaccines have been administered, with over 10 million shots for people aged 18 and above. The sixth dose is being accelerated. [[Full article](#)]
- **Philippines:** The Department of Health reported 1,600 new COVID-19 cases from January 23 to 29, a 26% decrease from the previous week. 30 severe cases are critical, and 13 deaths occurred (Makati, 2024). The agency emphasized the importance of implementing protective measures to limit transmission. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** In January 2024, 219 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever were recorded in Cianjur, with two deaths (Noviandi, 2024). The majority of cases were productive, with the highest number occurring in Cianjur, Cilaku, and Karangtengah subdistricts, which are prone to dengue fever attacks due to their densely populated environment. 30 patients are currently undergoing hospital treatment. [[Full article](#)]



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