

ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

May 1 - 2, 2025



This report is based on media monitoring of infectious and emerging diseases globally and within ASEAN Member States. To enhance pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region, we publish this report three times a week.

Global Situation

Mpox

- **Brazil:** Amazonas Health Surveillance Foundation (FVS-RCP) reported 63 suspected mpox cases from January to April 2025, with 33 confirmed, 29 discarded, and one still under investigation (G1 Globo, 2025). All confirmed cases involved male patients aged 30 to 39 years, with 100% occurring in Manaus. Authorities are promoting preventive measures, including avoiding direct contact with skin lesions, maintaining hand hygiene, wearing masks indoors, and practicing safe sex. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** reported over 20,000 cases and 49 deaths of mpox as of mid-April 2025, making it the most affected country in the ongoing outbreak (Gavi, 2025). In response, the DRC has administered over 500,000 vaccine doses out of 950,000 provided by various sources. A shipment of 200,000 doses from Gavi is expected to arrive this week to further support outbreak control efforts. [[Full article](#)]
- **Malawi** confirmed its sixth mpox case on May 1, 2025, involving an 18-year-old male student from Area 36 in Tumbwe, Lilongwe District (Nyasa Times, 2025). The patient sought treatment at Bwaila Hospital after experiencing fever, fatigue, and skin rashes. Health authorities have activated response measures, including contact tracing and home-based care, and intensified surveillance efforts. The public is urged to remain alert and follow hygiene practices due to concerns about community transmission. [[Full article](#)]

Anthrax

- The **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** has confirmed an anthrax outbreak in North Kivu Province, with one human case and one death reported on May 1, 2025, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) (TRT Afrika, 2025). The outbreak, initially detected on March 22 following the deaths of dozens of buffalo and hippopotamuses in Virunga National Park, has now affected four health zones near Lake Edward, with 16 suspected cases. The situation is linked to a concurrent outbreak in Uganda's Kabale District, with seven suspected cases. Authorities, together with WHO and partners, are intensifying response efforts, including livestock vaccination and community engagement. [[Full article](#)]



Dengue

- **Sri Lanka** has reported 17,459 dengue cases and six deaths in the first four months of 2025, with 5,018 cases recorded in April (Daily Mirror, 2025). Health authorities urge the public to seek medical attention within 24 hours of symptoms, especially for pregnant women, and eliminate mosquito breeding sites to prevent further transmission. Community participation is also emphasized in public health campaigns. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Mongolia** has reported 49 new cases of measles on May 1, 2025, bringing the total to 1,035, predominantly involving school-age children who have only received one dose of the measles vaccine (Xinhua, 2025). The National Center for Communicable Diseases (NCCD) urged parents to ensure their children receive the full two-dose vaccination to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]
- **Netherlands** recorded 37 new measles cases as of late April 2025, up from 25 in the previous week (Drimble, 2025). The country has recorded a total of 347 cases so far this year, nearly matching the total cases from the past decade. New clusters were identified at a primary school in Amsterdam and a daycare center in the Hollands Midden region. The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment is monitoring the situation, especially with the upcoming holidays. [[Full article](#)]

Melioidosis

- **Australia** has reported two more melioidosis-related deaths in Queensland, raising the total to 28 (ABC News, 2025). The Cairns region also confirmed one new case, contributing to a total of 212 cases. Experts stress the need for stronger surveillance and preventive measures in anticipation of future extreme weather events. [[Full article](#)]

Typhoid

- **India** reported 78 suspected fever cases in Tejli village, Yamunanagar-Jagadhri Municipal due to contaminated water and poor sanitation between April 28 to 30, 2025, with two patients hospitalized (The Times of India, 2025). Health authorities deployed a Rapid Response Team (RRT) which surveyed 380 households and identified 78 patients with symptoms of suspected fever; 40 blood samples were taken for testing hepatitis, leptospirosis, typhoid, and scrub typhus. The RRT also distributed ORS and halogen tablets, provided symptomatic treatment, and established a first-aid post. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Anthrax

- **Thailand's** Department of Disease Control confirmed a fatal anthrax case involving a 53-year-old man from Mukdahan Province on May 1, 2025 (DDC of Thailand, 2025). The man developed symptoms after participating in cattle slaughter during a merit-making event, with laboratory tests confirming *Bacillus anthracis* infection. Authorities identified 247 contacts, provided medication to high-risk individuals, and implemented disease control measures. The public is urged to avoid undercooked meat and promptly report unusual animal deaths. [[Full article](#)]



Dengue

- **Indonesia:** The Ciamis District Health Office (DHO), West Java Province, reported 302 dengue cases and one death from January to April 2025 (Harapan Rakyat, 2025). The number has decreased compared to 2024 due to continuous preventive measures. Authorities attribute the sustained reduction to the ongoing outreach of 37 community health centers and larvae monitoring teams, as well as intensified public education campaigns. [[Full article](#)]

Situbondo District, East Java Province reported 171 dengue cases from January to April 2025, a decrease from 273 cases during the same period in 2024 (Ring Times Bali, 2025). The authorities attributed this decline to more stable weather conditions and moderate rainfall. The DHO is actively implementing preventive measures and community education and urging residents to maintain environmental hygiene. These efforts are receiving multisectoral support, including from the Indonesian National Armed Forces. [[Full article](#)]

Bojonegoro District, East Java Province reported a significant rise in dengue fever cases, with 117 cases and two deaths recorded since January 2025 (Nawabineka, 2025). The DHO is urging public participation in mosquito eradication programs, including draining water containers, covering storage areas, and recycling. [[Full article](#)]

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Malaysia:** Johor reported 1,441 cases of HFMD during the 17th epidemiological week (April 21–27, 2025), a 20.5% increase from the previous week (The Star, 2025). The majority of cases were concentrated in Johor Baru, Batu Pahat, and Kluang. Fourteen new clusters were identified, bringing the total to 74 this year. In response, the Johor Health Department has intensified disinfection measures, issued health alerts, and urged childcare facilities to improve hygiene practices, including regular sanitation and handwashing. [[Full article](#)]

Sabah reported 4,385 HFMD cases from January 1 to April 19, 2025, with 83% involving children under seven years old (The Star, 2025). Kota Kinabalu had the highest number, followed by Papar, Penampang, Keningau, and Tawau. All cases were mild with no ICU admissions or deaths. To curb the transmission, authorities implemented disinfection, closed schools, and conducted inspections. Parents are advised to maintain strict hygiene practices. [[Full article](#)]

- The **Philippines** reported 487 cases of HFMD in Iloilo Province as of April 26, 2025, with 473 involving children aged nine years and below (Panay News, 2025). The highest cases were in Carles, Concepcion, and Barotac Nuevo. The Department of Health Region VI (DOH-6) advised frequent handwashing, disinfection, proper waste disposal, and avoiding crowded areas to curb transmission. [[Full article](#)]



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