

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

June 01 - 03, 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 January 2024.

Global Situation

Chikungunya

- **Maldives** has been hit by a chikungunya outbreak, with 389 cases reported in the Malé and Hulhumalé regions (Herriman, 2024). The disease, caused by the chikungunya virus, is spread through mosquito bites and is most common in males. Symptoms include fever, joint pain, headache, muscle pain, joint swelling, or rash. Risk factors include newborns, older adults, and those with medical conditions. Death from chikungunya is rare, and the US CDC issued a travel notice for the Maldives. [\[Full article\]](#)

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported 16 new COVID-19 cases in 24 hours, increasing its total caseload to 2,050,493 (Daily Sun, 2024). The official death toll remains at 29,495, with recovery and death rates at 98.41% and 1.44%, respectively. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Canada:** Oakville reported an increase in daily cases in May, with Halton reporting an average of 25 new cases per week (Oakville News Staff, 2024). Halton regional health announced that public reporting of COVID-19 health metrics will be paused until the fall 2024 respiratory illness season. Two more outbreaks were resolved in the region, and 5% of adults are up to date on their vaccinations. Canada reports an increase in active cases and hospitalizations, while the CDC warns of a new variant from the JN.1 strain. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Sri Lanka:** Health departments warn of a surge in dengue cases due to rain, urging residents to eliminate mosquito breeding ground (ProMED, 2024a). Sri Lanka has reported 24,815 cases and 9 deaths in 2024. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Taiwan:** The dengue fever epidemic has reached its peak season, with 164 cases nationwide, 9 in Pingtung County, and 135 in Kaohsiung City (UDN, 2024). The Pingxiang County Government has deployed rapid diagnostic reagent screening services and designated seven grassroots clinics in high-risk towns as sentinel detection clinics to prevent the spread of the epidemic. County Magistrate Zhou Chunmi emphasized the importance of working together to control the spread of the epidemic. The county government has also designated high-risk towns, such as Pingtung City, Chaozhou Town, Donggang Town, Wantan, and Neipu Township, as "sentinel clinics" for detection. [[Full article](#)]

Leptospirosis

- **India:** Rain and waterlogging in Kerala have significantly impacted lives, cases of a disease called leptospirosis are increasing rapidly in some districts of Kerala (ProMED, 2024b). According to reports, 41 people have died due to leptospirosis in the state so far. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Pakistan:** Punjab's Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare, has blamed the department's failure for unvaccinated measles cases (The News International, 2024). He reported 286 cases in a week, 18 deaths, and 3,143 cases in the current year. Between 2011 and 2017, 87% of children were vaccinated against 12 diseases due to 'Shehbaz Speed'. By 2022, only 68% of children were immunized. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US):** Yavapai County has reported one confirmed measles case, with Yavapai County Community Health Services (YCCHS) identifying five public locations where individuals may have been exposed (Prescott eNews, 2024). Individuals should monitor for symptoms and contact their healthcare provider if needed. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Germany:** The number of whooping cough cases in Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein is now slightly rising. In Hamburg, 87 cases have been reported this year, while in Schleswig-Holstein, 284 cases have been registered since March (Welt, 2024). The Robert Koch Institute (RKI) reported around 4,500 cases in 2023, while in Schleswig-Holstein, 1,500 cases were reported. The disease often manifests in a long-lasting cough, but deaths are rare in Germany. Vaccination is recommended for newborns and booster vaccinations are important for adults. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **India:** Ten out of 13 rabies victims in Kerala this year died without taking the anti-rabies vaccine, raising questions about public response to health awareness schemes (Kumar, A.J., 2024). Out of 13 deaths, five had no history of animal bites or scratches, and three died from domestic dogs. The anti-rabies vaccination drive for pets, which was aggressively promoted in 2022, has been questioned due to the rise in rabies deaths in Kerala. [[Full article](#)]



Regional Situation

COVID-19

- The **Philippines:** The Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines (PHAPI) has reported an increase in COVID-19 cases in their facilities, despite reports of a new wave of infection (Villanueva, 2024). Most cases are mild, with symptoms generally mild. Most patients are outpatients and tested with the Rapid Antigen Test. If they test positive, they are advised to be confined. [[Full article](#)]
- **Malaysia** are urged to take additional COVID-19 vaccines due to a surge in cases and the need for booster shots (Vethasalam, 2024). The vaccines offer protection for up to six months, but the stock of vaccines is uncertain. Health experts suggest that COVID-19 shots should be taken annually, similar to flu shots, to better protect against the mutating virus. As of June 2, there were 9,398 active COVID-19 cases with 142 hospitalizations. The World Health Organisation has classified KP.2 as a variant under monitoring. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** The trend of dengue fever cases in Indonesia is showing a significant increase in 2024, with 91,269 cases reported up to May 2024, with 641 deaths (Koto, 2024). This triples from the 29,822 cases and 227 deaths in 2023, as per data from the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines;** According to Hanoi Department of Health, from May 24 to May 31, the city recorded 21 cases of dengue fever, down 2 cases compared to last week (Baomoi, 2024). However, this week a new outbreak was recorded in Hue street, Hai Ba Trung district. [[Full article](#)]

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

- The **Philippines:** Hanoi recorded 72 cases of hand, foot and mouth disease, down 4 cases compared to last week (Baomoi, 2024). Cumulatively in 2024, 37 outbreaks of hand, foot and mouth disease have been recorded, and there are currently 3 active outbreaks in Hoan Kiem and Ba Vi. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Vietnam :** The number of pertussis cases recorded in Hanoi this week was 16 cases, an increase of 14 cases compared to the previous week (Baomoi, 2024). Patients are distributed in 14 districts. Cumulatively in 2024, Hanoi recorded 98 cases in 25 districts, towns and cities; while in the same period in 2023 there were no cases. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Malaysia:** Kuching South City Council Mayor reported six positive rabies cases this week (Sim, 2024). The incidents occurred in Mukah, Padawan, Bau, Kuching, Sri Aman, and Serian. [[Full article](#)]



Reference

- Baomoi (2024) *HÀ Nội Tăng vọt 16 ca mắc ho gà Trong Một Tuần, dự Báo Còn Tăng*, <https://baomoi.com>. Available at: <https://baomoi.com/ha-noi-tang-vot-16-ca-mac-ho-ga-trong-mot-tuan-du-bao-con-tang-c49255022.epi> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Daily Sun (2024) *16 cases reported in 24Hrs, Daily Sun*. Available at: <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/751065> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Herriman, R. (2024) *Chikungunya cases up in the Maldives, CDC issues travel notice, outbreaknewstoday.substack.com*. Available at: <https://outbreaknewstoday.substack.com/p/chikungunya-cases-up-in-the-maldives> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Koto, Y. (2024) *Demam Berdarah Meningkat, Ini Penyebab Dan Cara Mengatasinya, Harian Fajar*. Available at: <https://harian.fajar.co> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Kumar, A.J. (2024) *Kerala's biting truth: 13 die of rabies in 5 months, 10 didn't take vaccine, Onmanorama*. Available at: <https://www.onmanorama.com/news/kerala/2024/06/01/kerala-13-die-of-rabies-in-5-months.html> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Oakville News Staff (2024) *June 2, 2024 coronavirus update for Oakville, Oakville News*. Available at: <https://www.oakvillenews.org/local-news/june-2-2024-coronavirus-update-for-oakville-8932005> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Prescott eNews (2024) *Measles case reported in Yavapai County: Prescott eNews, Prescott eNews | Covering Northern Arizona*. Available at: <https://prescottnews.com/2024/06/01/measles-case-reported-in-yavapai-county/> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- ProMED (2024a) *Promed Post - ProMED-mail, ProMED*. Available at: <https://promedmail.org/promed-p> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- ProMED (2024b) *Promed Post - ProMED-mail, ProMED*. Available at: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8716808> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Sim, A. (2024) *MBKS mayor: 6 positive rabies cases reported in Kuching, surrounding areas this week (May 20-24), DayakDaily*. Available at: <https://dayakdaily.com/mbks-mayor-6-positive-rabies-cases-reported-in-kuching-surrounding-areas-this-week-may-20-24/> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- The News International (2024) *Measles Cases Dept's failure: Health minister, thenews*. Available at: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1195939-measles-cases-dept-s-failure-health-minister> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- UDN (2024) *登革熱蔓延屏東 縣府設快篩、哨兵診加強清除孳生源, 聯合新聞網*. Available at: <https://udn.com/news/story/7327/8003101> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Vethasalam, R. (2024) *'time for annual covid-19 jabs', The Star*. Available at: <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2024/06/03/time-for-annual-covid-19-jabs> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Villanueva, R. (2024) *Hospitals report hike in mild covid-19 cases, Philstar.com*. Available at: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/06/02/2359693/hospitals-report-hike-mild-covid-19-cases> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).
- Welt (2024) *Wieder mehr Fälle von Keuchhusten im Norden - Welt, DIE WELT*. Available at: <https://www.welt.de/regionales/hamburg/article251811034/Wieder-mehr-Faelle-von-Keuchhusten-im-Norden.html> (Accessed: 03 June 2024).