

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

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Korea Disease Control and
Prevention Agency



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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

- The **United States (US)** officials reported the fourth human case of bird flu linked to the current outbreak in dairy cattle (Phys.org, 2024). The person worked on a farm and was exposed to infected cows. While the risk to the general population remains low, experts are concerned about the growing number of mammals contracting the disease, fearing that high circulation could facilitate a mutation. The disease has also been found in farm-raised alpacas. [[Full article](#)]

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported 21 more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, increasing its total caseload to 2,051,075 (Daily Bangladesh, 2024). The total number of recoveries was 2,018,550, while the official death toll remains at 29,498. The daily case test positivity rate was 4.4%. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)**: The highly contagious variant, LB.1, now accounts for 17.5% of US cases in the two weeks ending June 22, with cases more than doubling since May (Lombardi, 2024). Experts believe LB.1 could surpass two offshoots of the Omicron variant, KP.3 and KP.2, which account for over half of COVID-19 infections in the US. CDC data shows increasing virus levels in wastewater samples. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: In the last 24 hours, 32 people have been infected with dengue fever, with no deaths reported (Staff Reporter, 2024). The Health Emergency Operation Center and Control Room reported that 46 patients have been discharged from hospitals in the past 24 hours. From January 1 to December 31, 2023, there were a total of 1,705 deaths due to dengue and 321,179 hospitalizations. As of July 4, 2023, there have been 3,844 dengue cases and 46 dengue-related deaths this year. [[Full article](#)]
- **India**: Dengue cases in Hassan District have reached 213 this year, with two deaths confirmed (Bureau, T.H., 2024). The district health officer confirmed the deaths and has implemented measures to prevent disease spread. [[Full article](#)]



- **Pakistan:** Five individuals, including four children, have been diagnosed with dengue in Peshawar, an Afghan refugee community (Correspondent, 2024). The outbreak was caused by a water shortage during the heatwave, which led to residents storing water, which became a breeding ground for dengue larvae. Authorities have conducted fogging and indoor residual spraying to control the spread of the disease. The Additional Deputy Commissioner directed the source of the outbreak to be identified and the area made safe by eradicating larvae. He also urged intensifying anti-dengue operations. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- The **United Kingdom (UK):** The Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) has confirmed 68 measles cases in Ireland this year, with 17 more under investigation (Pepper, 2024). The majority of cases (65) are in people aged 34 or younger, with two cases in children under 12 months. Ten outbreaks have also been reported, with two to 13 cases each. Doctors recommend an additional measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine for young infants aged six to 11 months before traveling abroad. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Seattle & King County has confirmed a measles infection in an adult who could have exposed others to the disease (Mapes, 2024). The sickened person was in multiple locations in Bellevue, Seattle, and Woodinville between June 27 and July 2, posing a public health risk. Two doses of MMR vaccine provide about 97% protection that lasts lifelong. Vaccination is recommended for optimal protection, given widespread immunity through vaccination in the region. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Russia:** 20 measles cases have been registered in the Pskov region since the start of the year, with 70% of cases being unvaccinated children (PSKOV, 2024). The outbreaks were stopped by Rospotrebnadzor Administration employees. The most effective means of prevention is vaccination, with vaccines registered in Russia meeting WHO requirements. Vaccination is carried out according to the National Immunization Schedule. [\[Full article\]](#)

Mpox

- **Australia:** Victoria is urging eligible individuals to get vaccinated against mpox due to an increased risk of local transmission (Mirage News, 2024). 61 cases have been reported since April 2024, with most cases acquired in Australia. The virus can start with flu-like symptoms and can persist up to 21 days after exposure. The current outbreak is primarily affecting gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men. Vaccination is the best defense against mpox. Additional preventive measures include avoiding contact with infected people, limiting sexual partners, and maintaining good hygiene. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- **Canada:** The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit has declared a local whooping cough outbreak, with 16 cases reported since January 2024 (MacDonald, 2024). This is an increase from the previous five years, with an average of only 3.8 cases per year. Symptoms include sneezing, a runny nose, low fever, and a mild cough that worsens over two weeks, often ending in a 'whooping' sound. The health unit advises people experiencing a new or worsening cough to avoid contact with high-risk individuals. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **France:** The resurgence of whooping cough in France has caused at least 17 deaths, including 13 infants, and 80 hospitalizations since January (Kattou, 2024). The disease, which is extremely contagious, is causing concern for authorities as the Olympic Games approach. The virus has been detected in 70 cases between January and March. The first victims are children, with 13 infants under two months old among the 17 deaths. The disease is difficult to get rid of, and vaccination is the best way to combat it. Vaccines are offered to children, pregnant women, and adults. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Dengue fever cases in the East Bunguran Sub-district, Natuna District, Riau Islands Province area reached 20 cases in July 2024, according to Ranai Health Center Head (Afrizal & Nadya, 2024). Despite efforts to prevent the outbreak, three patients were detected. Mosquito nest eradication, epidemiological investigation, and fogging were performed. Public are urged to maintain cleanliness in their homes to prevent mosquito breeding. Ranai Health Center Head appeals to public discipline during the rainy season. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Vietnam:** A 67-year-old man from Ba Na, residing in Klek village, Krong commune, Kbang district, died from rabies after being bitten by a loose dog (Baotuoitre, 2024). The patient had not been vaccinated nor receiving anti-rabies serum. He developed symptoms such as fever, vomiting, fear of water, fear of wind, fatigue, and poor appetite. The Gia Lai Provincial Center for Disease Control requested the Krong Commune Health Station to review rabies cases and coordinate with commune veterinary medicine to deploy epidemic prevention and control activities. Since the beginning of the year, Gia Lai province has had three people die from rabid dog bites. [[Full article](#)]

Typhoid

- **Malaysia:** Three food handlers were suspected of causing a typhoid outbreak at a secondary school in Malaysia (Abdullah, 2024). They were sent for treatment and prohibited from handling food until further notice. Six students contracted the disease, and two were discharged from the hospital. A total of 35 suspected cases have been referred for investigation and treatment. All students and teachers will undergo screening tests by Kota Baru district health office officers. [[Full article](#)]

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