ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION December 05 – 06, 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

Mpox

• **Kenya:** The Nakuru Public Health Emergency Operation Centre (PHEOC) has reported three new suspected mpox case in the last three days; one confirmed (KNA1, 2024). The county has activated its Incident Management System (IMS) to coordinate responses, sensitization efforts, and surveillance, which has been enhanced across all sub-counties. Eight high-risk areas along the northern transport corridor have been identified, with targeted interventions implemented. [Full article]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: Five people have died from dengue infection in Bangladesh, with 570 new patients hospitalised in the past 24 hours (bdnews24.com, 2024). The number of people in hospitals with the fever has reached 94,884 this year, with 514 deaths. As many as 2,369 patients are currently undergoing treatment in hospitals across the country. [Full article]
- The United States (US): Florida Department of Health reported four more locally transmitted dengue fever cases in Miami-Dade County, raising the total to 70 cases since the start of 2024 (Herriman, 2024). Of these, 83% were identified as DENV-3. The state has reported 824 travel-associated dengue cases, with Cuba being the country of exposure in 436 cases. [Full article]

Lassa Fever

Nigeria: The Ebonyi State Governor confirmed 48 Lassa fever cases, including 23 deaths, between January and December 2024 (Agbodo, 2024). Doctors Without Borders' Lassa fever project, which partnered with the state in 2018 to support surveillance, diagnosis, case management, prevention, control measures, and humanitarian aid for Lassa fever, was praised for saving the lives of survivors. The state government remains committed to improving healthcare for Ebonyians, with a focus on life-threatening diseases such as Lassa fever and cholera. [Full article]



Measles

• **Japan:** A measles case has been confirmed in Fukuoka Prefecture for the first time in 3.5 years, involving a child under 10 returning from Vietnam in November (Fukuoka Now, 2024). Health officials urge vaccination to achieve 99% immunity. [Full article]

Regional Situation

Avian Influenza (H5N1)

• **Vietnam:** The Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Long An province reported a case of Influenza A (H5N1) in a patient with symptoms of fever, headache, and muscle pain (Shiloh, 2024). The patient was hospitalized and diagnosed with respiratory failure, pneumonia, and sepsis. The patient's family had hundreds of dead poultry, which were not reported to authorities. The case was investigated by CDC Long An and local authorities, who are now handling it according to regulations. [Full article]

Dengue

• **Indonesia:** The Bandung Municipality Health Office is concerned about an increase in dengue fever cases during the rainy season (Miranti, 2024). This year, the death toll from dengue fever in Bandung Municipality has increased, with 7,310 cases and 29 fatalities reported. [Full article]

HIV/AIDS

• Indonesia: The Health Office in Parepare City, South Sulawesi Province, reported 243 HIV-AIDS cases, with 40% linked to male-male sexual contact (Abduh, 2024). Most cases are male, and 40% of new cases involve MSM risk factors. Of those receiving treatment, 52% are local residents, while 48% are from outside the city. The city government has expanded medical services, educated people living with HIV (PLWHA) on avoiding risky behaviors, and increased testing and treatment access across all healthcare facilities. [Full article]

Influenza

• **Viet Nam:** The Ministry of Health's Department of Medical Examination and Treatment Management addressed four influenza-related deaths, with 842 cases recorded, including 26 suspected viral pneumonia cases (VNS, 2024). Three deaths were in Phú Mỹ District and one in Vĩnh Thạnh District, all in individuals over 50 with underlying health conditions. Experts recommend genetic sequencing to identify new strains, updating national guidelines, increasing vaccination for high-risk groups, and researching antiviral resistance. The Ministry is collaborating with local authorities to manage the situation. [Full article]

Leptospirosis

Indonesia: The Yogyakarta Municipal Health Office reported seven leptospirosis cases, including one death, from January to November 2024 (Hakim, L., 2024). While no increase in cases has been observed with the onset of the rainy season, the health office urges the public to maintain a clean and healthy lifestyle to prevent the spread of the disease. [Full article]



Rabies

• **Viet Nam:** Despite the availability of a vaccine, rabies remains a concern in Vietnam, with 79 deaths reported in 32 provinces and cities since the beginning of the year (An, 2024). In 2023, Vietnam recorded 82 rabies-related deaths, with nearly 675,000 people receiving preventive treatment. Comprehensive measures are needed to address the risk of transmission, particularly the issue of dog and cat meat consumption, including regulations on their trade, transport and slaughter. Hanoi's pilot initiative to end the dog and cat meat supply chain is a positive step forward. [Full article]

Zika

• **Philippines:** The Department of Health (DOH) has confirmed a new case of Zika virus in the Philippines, saying it is "highly likely" to be locally acquired (News, A.-C., 2024). The patient, a 45-year-old woman, presented symptoms including skin rashes and joint pain. Samples were sent to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) in Manila for analysis. The case is expected to be local since the patient has no history of travel abroad. A team will be deployed to Iloilo City to assess the situation and conduct tests on others who may have been infected with the virus. [Full article]

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