ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

With Support by:

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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

COVID-19

- **Canada:** The number of people hospitalized with COVID-19 in British Columbia has reached its highest level since January, with 214 test-positive patients in provincial hospitals as of Thursday (Holiday, 2024). The number of lab-confirmed cases rose each week in August, with 365 new positive tests recorded during the week of August 4 to 10. The percentage of tests coming back positive has also risen since the start of last month, reaching 18.7%. The number of new infections reported by the British Columbia CDC represents only a small fraction of the total spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the province. [Full article]
- The **United States (US):** Ohio has slightly decreased the number of new COVID-19 cases from 10,418 to 10,295 this week, following 13 consecutive weeks of increasing cases (Washington, 2024). The state has paused updating the number of residents who have received the one-dose COVID-19 vaccine until September 19 due to new updated vaccines recommended for the upcoming respiratory virus season. The total COVID-19 case count since early 2020 in Ohio has reached 3,817,787. The state health department reported an additional 13 deaths from COVID-19, raising the total to 44,159. [Full article]

Dengue

Bangladesh: Dengue deaths in Bangladesh have reached 91 this year, with three more
deaths reported in 24 hours. Within the period, 358 more dengue patients were
hospitalized, with a total of 1,409 receiving treatment (UNB, 2024). Authorities recorded
321,179 cases and 318,749 recoveries in 2024, making it the deadliest year on record. [Full
article]

Pertussis

 Canada: Quebec is experiencing a surge in of whooping cough, with over 13,000 cases and 90 hospitalizations reported this year (lyare, 2024). The majority of cases are reported in babies under three months old. Vaccination is recommended to prevent whooping cough. [Full article]



• The **United States (US):** A middle school student in Anchorage, Alaska tested positive for pertussis (Cassandra, R., 2024). Two other students at the same school with similar symptoms were tested, with results taking up to seven days. All three students received Z-pak antibiotics. [Full article]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- Indonesia: Probolinggo City, East Java Province, faces a severe dengue fever (DHF) threat, with 2,233 cases reported and 24 deaths from January to August 2024 (Redaksi, 2024). The incidence rate is above the national target of <49/100,000 population, and the case fatality rate is 1.09%. The Paiton Health Center was chosen as the vaccination site due to the high number of cases. [Full article]
- **Philippines:** Dengue cases in Region 12 have reached an "outbreak" level, with 15,224 reported cases and 56 deaths from January 1 to August 24 (Estabillo, 2024). The Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit reported clusters of cases in 23 barangays as hotspots and 253 others reported clusters of cases. [Full article]
- **Viet Nam:** The Hanoi Centre for Disease Control (CDC) reported a surge in dengue fever cases, with 265 new cases recorded between August 23 and 30, bringing the total to 2,500 since the start of the year (The Star Online, 2024) . The disease has spread across 29 districts, with 16 new outbreaks detected last week. [Full article]

Measles

• **Viet Nam:** Ho Chi Minh City experienced high measles activity, with 644 cases reported from January to September 1, 2024 with the highest disease activity in Binh Tan, Binh Chanh, and Hoc Mon districts (Crisis24, 2024). A vaccination program successfully vaccinated over 16,900 people. [Full article]

Melioidosis

• Viet Nam: Hoà Bình Provincial General Hospital is treating two patients diagnosed with Whitmore's disease (Viet Nam News, 2024). Both patients were in critical states with persistent high fever and septic shock, and were treated with mechanical ventilation, continuous blood filtration, vasopressors, and broad-spectrum antibiotics. After more than a week of antibiotic treatment, the patients' conditions improved significantly. Between 2019 and 2020, the hospital successfully treated five severe cases of Whitmore's disease involving multiple organ failure. [Full article]

Rabies

• **Indonesia:** High dog population in Gorontalo has led to an increase in rabies cases, with 581 dog bites reported across the province (KompasTV Gorontalo, 2024). Gorontalo District has the highest number of dog bites, with 183 and one recent death case. Boalemo District also saw a spike in cases. [Full article]



Swine Flu (H1N1)

Vietnam has reported its first case of H1N1 swine flu, a 70-year-old woman who died of the
disease (CIDRAP, 2024). The case occurred in Son La province, where the woman developed
fever, fatigue, and loss of appetite after returning from a month visit in Hung Yen province.
The WHO has reported no cases in contacts or animals, and no respiratory symptoms have
been reported in the patient's community. [Full article]

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