

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### ASEAN REGION

February 06 – 07, 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 from January 2024.

## Global Situation

### COVID-19

- **Bangladesh:** reported 25 COVID-19 positive cases and zero deaths, with a total of 29,482 people killed and 2,047,373 infected (BSS, 2024). The recovery count increased to 2,014,572 as 25 patients were discharged from hospitals. Since the pandemic began, 98.40% of COVID-19 patients have recovered, while 1.44% have died. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Canada:** New Brunswick has reported six more COVID-19 deaths and 48 hospitalizations due to the flu, with COVID-19 activity remaining moderate (Mackinnon, 2024). Four deaths occurred from COVID-19, raising the pandemic death toll to at least 1,007. Thirty-six people were hospitalized, with one admitted to intensive care. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India** experienced a single-day rise in COVID-19 cases, with 1,508 active cases recorded (PTI, 2024). The number of daily cases dropped to double-digits until December 5, 2023, but increased after the emergence of a new variant and cold weather conditions. A maximum of 841 new cases were reported on December 31, 2023, there were 0.2% of the peak cases in May 2021. Most active cases are recovering under home isolation. India has experienced three waves of COVID-19, with the peak incidence during the delta wave in April-June 2021. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **New Zealand** reported 5,555 new COVID-19 cases and three deaths in the week leading up to Sunday, with 3,555 being reinfections (Prasad, 2024). Hospitalizations reached 222 cases, with none in intensive care. However, concerns arise as the seven-day rolling average of new cases remains at 792 per day, indicating the virus's persistence within the community. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** In the last 24 hours, no one has died from dengue infection in Bangladesh, but 22 people have been admitted to hospitals (Pratidin B, 2024). A total of 1,154 people have been affected, with 393 in Dhaka and 761 outside Dhaka infected. In the last 24 hours, 30 patients have been discharged from hospitals, with 11 in Dhaka and 19 outside Dhaka receiving clearance. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Mauritius:** Mosquitoes are causing widespread concern across the country, with 230 active cases currently in the country (Nancoo P.H, 2024). The Goodlands region, where a first death was recorded, is urging residents to take necessary precautions and take care of their environment. Head of the village is urging residents to eliminate containers and tires that can stagnate water, and to clean drains and household waste. Ministry of Health emphasizes the need for continued awareness and collaboration among authorities, stating that this is not the first outbreak of the disease and that collaboration is essential to put an end to the epidemic. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Measles

- **Austria:** Six more measles cases were discovered in Tyrol due to a lack of vaccinations, resulting in 13 people infected (Vol.at, 2024). The cases are mainly reported in the Kufstein and Schwaz districts, but have also occurred in Kitzbühel and Innsbruck-Land. WHO raises alarm over the rise in measles cases and emphasizes the importance of vaccination. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **France:** Seven children from the Yvoir commune contracted measles, causing them to be confined for ten days (Belga A, 2024). The Agency for Quality Life (Aviaq) warns that even in cases of suspicion, measles must be declared to contain the cluster and take necessary measures. The agency can also vaccinate people who have been in contact with the children up to 72 hours before. Measles is a highly contagious viral disease with flu-like symptoms and potential complications. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **South Korea:** Busan has seen a rise in measles cases, with two confirmed cases imported from overseas (Cho Yung Mi, 2024). The presumed source of infection is a 40-year-old patient, who contracted the prevalent overseas measles genotype. Both patients are receiving hospital treatment, while the city is conducting an epidemiological investigation. Due to the early discovery of the presumptive source, it is not yet ready to recommend simultaneous measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine vaccination in areas where measles cases have emerged. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Mpox

- The **United States (US):** Milwaukee Health Department confirmed a positive case of mpox on February 2 (Roche M.L, 2024). The infected resident is isolated and following health guidelines. The city has recorded 40 cases since July 2022, with the latest being the first since June. Symptoms include a painful rash or sores, usually showing within three weeks. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Regional Situation

### COVID-19

- **Thailand** is facing a resurgence in weekly COVID-19 infections, with 715 new cases and eight fatalities between January 28 and February 3, 2024 (Prasad, 2024). The COVID-19 Information Center reports a surge in pneumonia cases and 176 patients reliant on ventilators. The cumulative impact of the pandemic since January 1, 2024, has reached 2,679 individuals requiring hospitalization and 34 deaths, highlighting the ongoing healthcare infrastructure's challenges. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Dengue

- **Indonesia:** In January 2024, there were two deaths due to dengue fever in Boyolali, with one person dying and 51 cases reported (Faizah N, 2024). The head of district health office, suspects that the death of a 68-year-old man, was due to dengue shock syndrome (DSS). In Kalinanas Village, there were four cases with one person dying. The Boyolali District has implemented a one house one *jumantik* (mosquito larvae monitoring program) to reduce cases. The district health office also asked the public to ask for mosquito larva killing powder at the nearest public health center, which is provided free of charge while supplies last. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** Dengue fever in Thailand has reached 8,197 cases in January, a 91.25% increase from last year (The Nation, 2024). The virus, transmitted by *Aedes* mosquitoes, causes symptoms like high fever, headache, muscle and joint pain, nausea, vomiting, skin rash, and swollen glands. Most cases are children aged five to 14, with most cases in southern and central provinces. Hospitals should provide anti-mosquito cream or spray to other patients. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Singapore** has reported over 2,000 dengue cases since the start of 2024, the highest number in at least five years for the corresponding period (Khalik, 2024). This is more than one-fifth of all dengue infections in 2023. The National Environment Agency (NEA) has cited the continued rise in cases as a "big concern" but it is too early to predict a major outbreak in 2024. The largest cluster is at Ang Mo Kio Avenues 1 and 3, and Street 31, which has reported 106 cases. The rise in cases is likely driven by intense dengue transmission in areas with high *Aedes* mosquito populations. The NEA has decided to expand the project in 2024 to five more locations, adding another 70,000 households to the areas covered by the project. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Malaria

- **Indonesia:** In 2023, there were 15,562 suspected cases examined and 333 of them were positive in 13 districts/cities in South Kalimantan (Irwanto D, 2024). The highest number of malaria attack cases occurred in Tabalong District with 5,009 suspected cases, followed by Balangan District with 2,566 cases, Banjar District with 2,349 cases, Tanah Bumbu District 1,183 cases, Tanah Laut District 1,025 cases and Banjarbaru City 1,667 suspected cases. Monitoring in Banjarmasin City, the City Health Office is intensively carrying out fogging (spraying) activities to eradicate mosquitoes. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Mpox

- **Cambodia** has reported one more mpox case, raising the total number of infections to five since December last year (Online T.S, 2024). The Ministry of Health reported that laboratory results from the National Institute of Public Health and the Pasteur Institute showed that another man was tested positive for the virus. The ministry called for people to be extra vigilant and stressed that mpox can be transmitted through sexual contact, direct contact with wounds, bodily fluids, and equipment contaminated with the virus. [\[Full article\]](#)



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