ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

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This report is based on media monitoring of infectious and emerging diseases globally and within ASEAN Member States. To enhance pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region, we publish this report three times a week.

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Global Situation

Poliomyelitis

• **Afghanistan:** The World Health Organization (WHO) has confirmed Afghanistan's second polio case of 2025 in Helmand Province, following an earlier case in Badghis province (KabulNow, 2025). The case was identified in March 2025. Additionally, 18 positive environmental samples reported in 2025 across several provinces, including Kandahar and Helmand. Health authorities continue vaccination efforts, warning of increased risks to children. [Full article]

Cholera

• India: The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) reported five cholera cases across various areas from May 1 to 3, 2025, including Lambha, Saraspur-Rakhial, Gomtipur, and Ramol-Hathijan (Times of India, 2025). In response, the AMC has evaluated thousands of water samples, revealing some with insufficient chlorine content and unsuitable for consumption. [Full article]

Dengue

• **Bangladesh:** New dengue cases have been reported in Bangladesh, bringing the total to 2,757 this year (The Business Standard, 2025). A total of 49 new cases are spread across various divisions. The number of deaths remains at 20, with no new fatalities reported. Currently, 181 patients are receiving treatment. [Full article]

Malaria

• India: Malaria has spread across Kachugaon, including the India-Bhutan border regions, killing two young men (India Today NE, 2025). House-to-house blood sample collections are being initiated by a Malaria Department team in affected villages and schools with initial findings have confirmed several cases of *Plasmodium vivax* infection. The India-Bhutan border areas have historically experienced recurring outbreaks. [Full article]

Measles

• **Canada:** Alberta's health minister has announced measures to improve vaccination access and launch an expanded advertising campaign due to increasing measles cases (Calgary Herald, 2025). As of May 5, 2025, Alberta has confirmed 265 cases, with 86% in the south and central zones. To contain the situation, authorities have improved access to measles immunization in central and south zone clinics. [Full article]



Pertussis

The United States (US): Louisiana reported 164 pertussis cases in the first four months of 2025, surpassing the total of 153 cases in 2024 (New Orleans CityBusiness, 2025). Since September, 40 people in Louisiana have been hospitalized with the illness, with 70% involving children under 1 year. Two infants have died, marking the first two pertussis-related since 2018. Health authorities emphasize vaccination as the primary preventive measure, advising for infants over two months and pregnant mothers. [Full article]

Regional Situation

Anthrax

• **Thailand:** The Mukdahan Provincial Public Health Office confirmed a new anthrax case confirmed on April 6, 2025, bringing the total number of cases to four, with one fatality (Bangkok Post, 2025). Out of 636 at-risk people, 538 have completed a seven-day observation period, while the remaining 98 will wrap up on Wednesday. Authorities have urged the public to avoid raw beef and only eat meat that is thoroughly cooked at a temperature of 120C or boiled for 30 minutes to kill any potential anthrax bacteria. The provincial livestock office has quarantined 124 animals and administered antibiotics and vaccines to over 1,200 animals. [Full article]

Dengue

• Viet Nam: Hanoi reported 12 dengue fever cases from April 25 to May 1, 2025, a slight increase from the previous week (Evrim Ağacı, 2025). The city has cumulatively recorded 235 cases so far in 2025, significantly lower than the 603 cases in the same period last year. The CDC urges districts to proactively prevent and control the disease. [Full article]

Leptospirosis

• The **Philippines:** Bacolod City Health Office has confirmed a leptospirosis death, marking the city's death toll to two (RPN, 2025). The case involved a 47-year-old man from Barangay Banago. The city has recorded six leptospirosis cases from January to April 26, 2025, a 25% decrease compared to the same period last year. [Full article]

Measles

• Viet Nam: Hanoi recorded 191 measles cases across 30 districts from April 25 to May 1, 2025, bringing the total to 2,265 cases in 2025 (Báo Tin Tức, 2025). A majority of these cases are occurring in unvaccinated individuals, with a growing number affecting those over 10 years old. Health authorities are intensifying vaccination efforts for children aged 6 months to 15 years and coordinating with the Education sector to prevent further outbreaks in schools. [Full article]

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

Malaysia: Pahang state has reported a significant surge in HFMD cases, reaching 6,563 as of April 26, 2025, an eightfold increase from the 726 cases recorded in the same period in 2024 (Malaysia Gazette). Most infections affected children aged 0-6 years. The public is urged to practice basic hygiene measures, particularly proper handwashing, to reduce the spread of HFMD. [Full article]





• Viet Nam has reported 313 new cases of HFMD across 29 districts in the past week, raising the total to 1,819 in 2025 (Báo Pháp Luật , 2025). The disease primarily affects children aged three and younger. Health authorities warn that the number of HFMD cases is expected to rise. [Full article]

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