

ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

September 30 – October 1, 2025



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.

Global Situation

Anthrax

- **Bangladesh:** On September 29, 2025, the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) confirmed eight anthrax cases among 12 tested individuals in Pirgachha Upazila, Rangpur, following two suspected anthrax deaths earlier in the month that lacked confirmation (The Daily Star, 2025). The Department of Livestock also detected anthrax in local frozen beef. Authorities urge residents to avoid consuming meat from sick cattle and to seek medical attention if they develop symptoms. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Taiwan (Province of China):** On September 30, 2025, Taoyuan District health authorities reported three new local dengue cases, following an initial case last week (UDN, 2025). The new infections were detected in Wenzhongli and Long'anli. In response, the Municipal Health Bureau activated the district-level response center, enhanced vector control measures, and bolstered disease surveillance. Residents were advised to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and to seek medical attention if symptoms appear. [\[Full article\]](#)

Malaria

- **Taiwan (Province of China):** Health authorities confirmed an imported malaria case in a man who presented with fever, sore throat, brown urine, and jaundice after returning from West Africa (FTV News, 2025). The patient was admitted to intensive care but has since recovered; the diagnosis was confirmed by a blood smear test. Authorities urge travelers to endemic regions to seek pre-travel advice, complete prophylaxis, use anti-mosquito measures, and disclose travel history if they develop a fever. [\[Full article\]](#)

On September 30, 2025, the **Taiwan Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** a malaria case in an Egyptian man in his 30s who recently traveled to Ethiopia (Yahoo News Taiwan, 2025). Upon arrival, he presented with fever, gastrointestinal issues, jaundice, and vomiting. Authorities stress the importance of pre-travel consultation (one month prior), prophylaxis adherence, and protective measures. Symptomatic travelers must seek prompt care and disclose travel history for accurate diagnosis. [\[Full article\]](#)



Pertussis

- The **United States (US)**: On September 29, 2025, the Mississippi State Department of Health reported the death of an infant under two months from pertussis (Mississippi State Department of Health, 2025). This marks the third pediatric pertussis death in Mississippi since 2008. Health authorities emphasized vaccination and early detection to prevent further morbidity and mortality. To date, there were 115 reported cases, significantly higher than the 49 cases in 2024. [[Full article](#)]

Poliomyelitis

- **Pakistan** has reported three additional cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) from September 22 to 30, 2025, bringing the year's WPV1 cases to 29 (Outbreak News Today, 2025). In response, a nationwide polio campaign will run from October 13–19. Over 400,000 frontline workers will target 45.4 million children with the oral polio vaccine and Vitamin A supplementation. [[Full article](#)]

West Nile Virus (WNV)

- **Spain**: The Extremadura Health Service reported two new West Nile Virus (WNV) cases, including one fatality in a 77-year-old man (Plasencia y Jerte, 2025). This brings the regional total to 20 cases, including three hospitalizations and three deaths. Authorities advise increased surveillance and public measures like eliminating stagnant water, cleaning drains, and using repellents to reduce mosquito breeding. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

COVID-19

- **Thailand**: As of September 24, 2025, the Department of Medical Sciences reported 33 cases of the new COVID-19 strain XFG (Stratus), including 23 in Bangkok (Bangkok Post, 2025). This variant has become the dominant strain globally, representing 5.4% of samples reviewed between April and September. Health authorities recommend preventive measures such as handwashing and avoiding crowded places. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Malaysia**: Johor reported 4,710 dengue cases as of week 39, a 57.7% drop from 11,145 cases in the same period last year. Weekly cases recently increased from 76 to 83. The region has recorded eight deaths this year, down from 17 in 2024. Most cases were in Johor Bahru, which holds seven of the 21 total hotspots (14 are in Batu Pahat). [[Full article](#)]
- **Viet Nam**: The Hanoi Center for Disease Control (CDC) reported 321 dengue cases from September 19–26, 2025, across 81 localities, with no deaths (VTV, 2025). An increase of 63 cases compared to the previous week, bringing the year-to-date total to 2,205 cases, a 37% decrease compared to the same period in 2024. Health authorities implemented control measures in high-risk areas. [[Full article](#)]



Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- The **Philippines:** As of 20 September 2025, the Iloilo Provincial Health Office (IPHO) reported 2,637 HFMD cases, a 523% increase from 423 cases in 2024 (Daily Guardian, 2025). Of 43 towns, Passi City posted the highest number of cases (248), followed by Tigbauan (153), Lambunao (152), Leon (140), and Tubungan (117). In response, the IPHO advised the public to practice regular handwashing with soap and to cover the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. [[Full article](#)]
- **Viet Nam:** The Hanoi CDC reported 191 cases of HFMD cases from September 19–26, 2025, across 74 localities, with no deaths (Bao Moi, 2025). The year-to-date total is 4,539 cases, more than double the 2,071 cases from 2024. With five active hotspots, authorities are enhancing surveillance, early detection, and response to curb transmission. [[Full article](#)]

Leptospirosis

- The **Philippines:** From January 1 to September 20, 2025, Iloilo Province reported 136 leptospirosis cases, resulting in eight deaths (Daily Guardian, 2025). Cases were noted in 36 towns (mainly Janiuay, Oton, and Badiangan), primarily linked to agricultural work and floodwater exposure. Authorities urged early medical care, free prophylaxis at health centers, and intensified public awareness to reduce risk. [[Full article](#)]

Malaria

- **Indonesia:** Donggala District, Central Sulawesi Province reported 60 malaria cases from January to September 2025, a sharp increase from five cases in 2024, mostly locally transmitted (Tribun Palu, 2025). Most infections were locally transmitted, primarily affecting the Kayuwou and Lembasada areas. Authorities urged residents to maintain hygiene, reduce nighttime activities, and use bed nets and repellents to prevent mosquito bites. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Indonesia:** Pamekasan District, East Java, reported two new suspected measles deaths, bringing the total to nine fatalities; primarily affecting unvaccinated and malnourished children. (Kompas, 2025). A total of 765 children has recovered while 59 remain under treatment. Authorities, with UNICEF support, are immunizing 60,754 children aged 9 months–6 years across 17 health centers. [[Full article](#)]

Sumenep District, East Java Province, confirmed 205 measles cases among 2,944 suspects, with 22 deaths reported as of September 27, 2025 (Tribun Madura, 2025). The district reports 2,893 recoveries and 29 active cases. Authorities credit extended mass immunization campaigns (supported by the Ministry of Health, WHO, and UNICEF) with successfully suppressing fatal cases. [[Full article](#)]



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