

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### ASEAN REGION

May 11- 13, 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

#### Anthrax

- **Kyrgyzstan:** Anthrax has been detected in Kyrgyzstan, with an infected woman being treated in a city hospital (Herriman, 2024). The infection was registered on May 9, and the woman was sent from the Jalal-Abad region. The disease is caused by *Bacillus anthracis*, a rod-shaped bacteria found naturally in soil and affecting domestic and wild animals. It is rare but can be contracted through contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products. 95% of cases are cutaneous. [\[Full article\]](#)

#### COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported 13 more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, with 308 samples tested, a 4.22% positivity rate (The Daily Observer, 2024). The country's total fatalities remained at 29,494 and coronavirus cases reached 2,050,156. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India:** Maharashtra has reported 91 instances of the new COVID-19 Omicron subvariant KP.2, surpassing the dominant JN.1 variant (Longkumer & Desk, 2024). The strain, which is the dominant variant in the US, has been identified in several countries, including Pune, Thane, Amravati, Aurangabad, Solapur, Ahmednagar, Nashik, Latur, and Sangli. Despite a slight increase in cases in March, there hasn't been a corresponding increase in hospitalizations or severe cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

#### Measles

- **Pakistan:** A measles outbreak has spread rapidly in Larkana district, causing over 10 children to be shifted to hospital (Chandio, 2024). The affected children from various towns and villages are receiving medical assistance from the hospital. Hospital said that 8 to 10 children are admitted to the hospital on a daily basis. [\[Full article\]](#)

#### Rabies

- **India:** A surge in dog bite cases in Itanagar has raised concerns about rabies, with 117 reported in just a week (Digital Desk, 2024). The Itanagar Capital Region Deputy Commissioner has issued a notice to pet owners, urging them to vaccinate their dogs and confine aggressive animals within 15 days. The district administration has requested collaboration with Arunachal Dog and Cat Rescue Organization, Lekhi, and further preventive actions. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Regional Situation

### Dengue

- Indonesia:** The Indonesia Ministry of Health has reported an increase in cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) compared to last year. From January to early May 2023, there were 227 cases of DHF, but in 2024, the number increased significantly to 641 cases, a 2.8-fold increase (CNN Indonesia, 2024). The five districts with the highest cases were Bandung, Klaten, Jepara, Subang, and Bekasi City. The highest cases were reported in Bandung City, Tangerang, Bogor, West Bandung, and Kendari City. The Ministry of Health has appealed to the local government to continue educating the public about prevention strategy. Both children and adults have the same risk of contracting DHF, but adults are less likely to develop severe symptoms. [[Full article](#)]

### Rabies

- Indonesia:** From January to April 2024, 1,561 residents in West Kalimantan were bitten by animals that transmit rabies, with four cases of death (Elgiants, 2024). The West Kalimantan Provincial Health Office has handled 1,414 cases of anti-rabies vaccines. Head of the West Kalimantan Provincial Health Office, urged people to report cases of rabies bites to the government or health services to receive immediate treatment. Early treatment for animal that transmit rabies bites involves washing the bite marks in running water for 15 minutes, reporting the incident to a Community Health Center, and coordinating further treatment according to management procedures. [[Full article](#)]

### Tuberculosis

- Malaysia:** The Minister of Health of Malaysia, has highlighted the serious concern of Tuberculosis (TB) cases in the country (Doksil, 2024). As of May 4, there were 8,856 TB cases, including 1,944 in Sabah. The disease is highly infectious and spreads through the air. Malaysia's Health Minister advised people with symptoms to seek treatment immediately. [[Full article](#)]

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