

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

13 – 14 June, 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

#### Avian Influenza (H9N2)

- **India's** National Focal Point reported a second human infection with avian influenza A(H9N2) virus to the WHO (WHO, 2024). The child was recovered and discharged from the hospital. The virus, which is prevalent in poultry, typically results in mild clinical illness. The WHO assesses the public health risk as low, but will review it if more information becomes available. [\[Full article\]](#)

#### COVID-19

- The **United States (US)**: The Hawai'i Department of Health reports a surge in COVID-19 activity, with 1,330 active cases statewide and 172 daily average cases in Hawai'i County, and 124 active cases on Hawai'i Island (PMG, 2024). The Hawai'i Department of Health Urging public precautions. [\[Full article\]](#)

#### Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: The Directorate General of Health Services reported 31 dengue patients hospitalized in the last 24 hours, with 12 in Dhaka and 19 in other hospitals (Bss, 2024). This year, the total number of cases reached 3,181, with 39 deaths reported. In the past 24 hours, 26 patients were discharged, and 2,996 were released. A recent survey identified 18 wards in Dhaka as high-risk for dengue. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Taiwan**: A cluster epidemic of dengue fever has occurred in Beili, Fengshan District Town, Kaohsiung City (Youru, 2024). Two men and a woman were tested and confirmed to have the virus. The Health Bureau conducted prevention and control work, finding 282 stagnant water sites breeding mosquito vectors within four days. The community was identified as an infection nest, with high vector mosquito density. The health bureau started emergency prevention and control work, including blanket breeding source removal and chemical control. Environmental clean-ups were carried out, removing 81 dirty spots and 50 tons of waste. If suspected, individuals should contact the 549 integrated medical contract hospitals and use dengue fever NS1 rapid screening reagents for diagnosis and early notification. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Malaria

- **South Korea:** Goyang, a city near the inter-Korean border, has issued a malaria advisory following two cases within four days (Min-ho, 2024). The two cases, both exhibited symptoms of the mosquito-borne disease, including high fever and muscle aches. After receiving medical tests and treatment, both fully recovered. Health officials plan to conduct an investigation into the environment to assess the risk of malaria in the area. Goyang is one of the high-risk areas for malaria, with 100 confirmed cases between January and May this year. The disease is typically transmitted through *Anopheles sinensis* bites, blood transfusions, hypodermic needle-sharing, or congenital transmission. Symptoms include high fever, chills, sweating, fatigue, chest pain, breathing problems, and coughing. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Measles

- **Canada:** In week 22, 2024, no new cases of measles or rubella were reported in Canada (Canada, 2024). Currently, there are 17 active cases of measles in Canada, 77 cases of measles, and 1 case of congenital rubella syndrome/infection reported in 2024. The last measles death was reported in September 2023. To date, 67 cases of measles have been genotyped, with 53 being B3 and 14 being D8. The measles genotype was identified for one case in week 20 and was epidemiologically linked to a travel-related case. The current global distribution of measles genotypes can be found on the WHO Measles Surveillance website. Canadians traveling outside of Canada are encouraged to consult travel health notices for information on measles and rubella outbreaks occurring in other countries. The last case of rubella was reported in September 2023. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Mpox

- **South Africa** health authorities have confirmed two deaths this week after contracting mpox, indicating local transmission of the disease. A 38-year-old man died in the eastern KwaZulu-Natal province, while another man died in a hospital near Johannesburg. The deaths were among six confirmed cases of mpox in South Africa, all in men in their 30s (ABC News, 2024). Genetic tests showed the men had the less severe version of mpox, which spread globally in an outbreak that began in 2022. All cases had no travel history to countries currently experiencing an outbreak, suggesting local transmission. Mpox is known to be more deadly in people with comorbidities, particularly those that weaken their immune systems. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Pertussis

- **Canada:** Quebec is experiencing an increase in whooping cough cases, with most occurring in the Eastern Townships and Beauce (Johnson, 2024). Montreal has reported 1,476 cases since the start of the year, with a spike in cases in the last month. The highly contagious respiratory infection, which can cause complications, is highly contagious and can lead to hospitalizations. Montreal Public Health reports a peak in whooping cough cases every three to five years, with the last outbreak occurring in 2019. [\[Full article\]](#)



- The **United States (US)**: Clark County Public Health reported a four-fold increase in whooping cough cases in 2024, with 60 identified (Staff, 2024). This respiratory illness, also known as pertussis, is particularly severe for babies under one year old. About 1 in 3 babies need hospital care. Vaccination is crucial to protect babies and young children from whooping cough, as many are infected by older siblings, parents, or caregivers. Over half of cases are in children four and younger, with 78% having never received a vaccine. [\[Full article\]](#)

The Washtenaw County Health Department has reported a significant increase in pertussis cases this year, with 21 cases reported compared to the previous three years (WXYZ, 2024). The FDA has expressed concern about the spike, with cases nearly three times higher this year than in 2023. The health department advises those diagnosed with whooping cough to stay away from others until they have completed a five-day antibiotic treatment. Current cases are mainly among teens and young adults, with no hospitalizations reported. Most have been vaccinated against pertussis, but protection decreases after two years. Pertussis is spread through airborne droplets and can cause complications in teens and adults, including difficulty sleeping, pneumonia, and rib fractures, and infants, including pneumonia, convulsions, and brain damage. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Regional Situation

### Dengue

- **Indonesia**: The Lebak District Health Service reported 1,876 local residents were attacked by Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) from January to June 2024, with 6 deaths (Lubis, R.U., 2024). The increase in cases is attributed to high rainfall, making it easier for *Aedes aegypti* mosquito breeding. Low awareness of clean and healthy lifestyles and mosquito nest eradication is also contributing to the spread of the virus. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Myanmar**: The Public Health Department in Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) reported 377 dengue cases and one death between January and May 2024 (Global New Light of Myanmar, 2024) [\[Full article\]](#)



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