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

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- Zambia has confirmed 75 mpox cases since the outbreak began in October 2024, with 26 new cases reported since April 17, 2025 (Xinhua, 2025). Of the 457 suspected cases across six provinces, 16% tested positive. Thirty-two patients have recovered, 41 are under home-based monitoring, and two deaths have been recorded. The Ministry of Health emphasized the wide age range affected and highlighted the need for targeted public health messaging. [Full article]
- **Ghana** confirmed two mpox cases in the Accra Metropolitan Area as of May 15, 2025 (Citi Newsroom, 2025). Authorities are conducting contact tracing, community surveillance, and intensifying awareness campaigns to prevent further spread. The Ghana Health Service (GHS) has emphasized the public regarding the importance of hygiene practices and prompt reporting of symptoms. [Full article]

Dengue

• Sri Lanka has recorded a total of 19,724 dengue cases as of May 2025, including over 2,000 cases reported this May alone (Newswire, 2025). In response, the Health Ministry's National Dengue Control Unit declared May 19-24 National Dengue Control Week. Targeted control activities will be conducted across 95 high-risk Medical Officer of Health divisions in 15 districts. These activities will involve health workers, the military, the police, and community members in an effort to curb further transmission through intensified surveillance and community engagement. [Full article]

Lassa Fever

• **Nigeria:** Between January and May 2025, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) confirmed 717 Lassa fever cases, including 138 deaths (Punch Nigeria, 2025). This brings the case fatality rate to 19.3%. These cases originated from 4,881 suspected cases across 93 local government areas in 18 states. The majority of cases were reported in Ondo, Bauchi, and Taraba states. In response, the NCDC activated a multi-partner Incident Management System to coordinate nationwide control and prevention efforts. [Full article]



Leptospirosis

• **France:** Réunion has recorded a total of 80 leptospirosis cases since January 1, with 33 and 21 cases reported in March and April respectively, according to the Regional Health Agency (ARS) (Le Quotidien de La Réunion, 2025). The southern region, particularly Tampon and Saint-Louis, being the most affected. In response, the ARS has launched a rat poison kit distribution campaign in Saint-Denis and emphasized preventive measures, including wearing protective gear and eliminating rodent habitats. The agency warns that heavy rains and flooding may further increase case numbers and urges early medical treatment to prevent severe outcomes. [Full article]

Measles

• **Israel's** Ministry of Health reported 38 measles cases in a month, primarily in Modi'in Illit, Jerusalem, and Bnei Brak (Bokra.net, 2025). Of those cases, 74% of the patients were unvaccinated, and 80% were under the age of 18 years-old. In response, over 100 vaccination sites have been opened, targeting 500,000 participants. Authorities are also considering advancing the second dose of the measles vaccine in endemic regions. [Full article]

Melioidosis

• **Australia:** Queensland Health confirmed 221 melioidosis cases and 31 deaths in 2025, with four new cases, including one death, over the past week (ABC News, 2025). Three of the new cases were identified in Cairns, and the other case, which resulted in death, was identified in Townsville. Authorities are urging protective measures for at-risk groups, particularly the elderly and those with chronic conditions. Investigations suggest possible links to environmental disturbances, such as construction along the Bruce Highway. [Full article]

Poliomyelitis

• **Papua New Guinea:** In May 2025, Papua New Guinea confirmed the re-emergence of poliovirus since the 2018 outbreak, with two children affected (Anadolu Agency, 2025). The virus was also identified in wastewater samples from Port Moresby and Lae. In response, the government activated a national emergency and intensified vaccination efforts, supported by UNICEF, to protect children under five, who are primarily affected. [Full article]

Zika Virus

• **Italy:** Health authorities in Cattolica reported a suspected case of Zika virus on May 15, 2025, affecting a man who returned from abroad (II Resto del Carlino, 2025). The patient is currently under home isolation pending laboratory confirmation. The health authorities have initiated standard health protocols, including sample collection and monitoring, initiated disinfestation campaigns covering a 100-meter radius around the patient's residence, and conducted public awareness efforts. [Full article]



Regional Situation

COVID-19

- Indonesia confirmed 138 COVID-19 cases in 2025, with zero fatalities (Tribunnews, 2025). The Ministry of Health urges the public to follow health protocols, including practicing good hand hygiene, and wearing masks. Travelers returning from overseas should monitor their symptoms for 14 days and seek medical attention if they experience a fever, cough, or cold symptoms. Despite the decline in case numbers, authorities emphasize the importance of continued vigilance. [Full article]
- Viet Nam reported 148 COVID-19 cases since early 2025, with the highest numbers in Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Hai Phong, Nghe An, and Bac Ninh, with a recent weekly average of 20 new cases (The Star, 2025). In response, the Ministry of Health has strengthened surveillance and healthcare preparedness. The ministry is urging the public to wear masks, maintain good hygiene, avoid large gatherings, and seek medical care if they are symptomatic. The ministry is also coordinating with the World Health Organization to ensure timely and effective public health interventions. [Full article]

Dengue

• **Indonesia:** Klaten District in Central Java Province recorded 262 dengue cases and two deaths as of Epidemiological Week 15 in 2025, a decrease from 329 cases and 17 deaths in the same period last year (Media Indonesia, 2025). However, health authorities are urging the public to remain vigilant and continue prevention efforts. Authorities are intensifying public education and promoting the eradication of mosquito breeding sites, as well as routine monitoring of water containers. [Full article]

Buleleng District, Bali Province has decreased dengue cases from 314 in February 2025 to 160 in April 2025 (RRI, 2025). Despite this decline, officials emphasize the need for community efforts to eradicate mosquito nests and promote clean living behaviors to prevent future outbreaks. They have implemented standard operating procedures for case management and fogging, emphasizing public participation to maintain the downward trend and prevent dengue transmission. [Full article]

Riau Province reported 1,471 dengue cases and 17 deaths across 12 districts and cities as of April 2025, with Indragiri Hilir being the most affected (Media Center Riau, 2025). The Provincial Health Office is focusing on environmental factors and reactivating mosquito larvae monitoring teams to conduct household inspections and provide public education. Preventive efforts include community participation in eliminating mosquito habitats and ensuring that healthcare facilities are prepared for early detection and treatment. [Full article]

 The **Philippines** reported 5,168 dengue cases and 17 confirmed deaths in Cavite Province between January 1 and May 10, 2025, a 376% increase from 2024 (Manila Standard, 2025). Of those, 63% had warning signs, and 1% were severe. Bacoor City was the most affected, followed by Dasmariñas and General Trias. [Full article]



Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

Malaysia: Selangor recorded 27,118 HFMD cases as of Epidemiological Week 17,2025, a more than 100% increase compared to the same period in 2024 (The Star, 2025). Most cases were caused by Coxsackie A16 and no deaths have been reported to date. In response, the Selangor Health Department has initiated comprehensive measures including early alerts, inter-agency coordination, institutional closures, public education, and sanitation enforcement. Despite the highest number of cases in Malaysia, its incidence rate ranks sixth nationally. [Full article]

Perak reported 11,087 cases of HFMD as of May 3, 2025, with 2,911 cases from Kinta District, the highest in the state; no deaths reported so far (Ipoh Echo, 2025). The majority of cases occurred in kindergartens, preschools, schools, and homes, with 1,089 cases locally transmitted. In response, authorities inspected 4,766 premises, ordered 267 closures and conducted over 150 public engagement sessions to enhance awareness and prevention efforts. [Full article]

• Viet Nam: Hai Duong Province reported 28 cases of HFMD from May 5 to 11, 2025, primarily affecting children under five (Báo Hải Dương , 2025). This was an increase of 14 cases compared to the previous week. The surge occurred mainly due to hot and rainy weather conditions and the lack of a vaccine. Local health authorities are urging medical centers to strengthen monitoring and implement preventive measures. [Full article]

Measles

• Viet Nam: From May 5 to 11, 2025, Hai Duong Province reported a decrease in measles cases, with 31 cases reported that week, down from 51 the previous week (Bao Hai Duong, 2025). This decrease is attributed to improved vaccination coverage and the end of the transitional season. Local health authorities are urging medical centers to strengthen monitoring and implement preventive measures. [Full article]

Rabies

• Indonesia: The East Nusa Tenggara Provincial Livestock Office reported 2,149 animal bite cases linked to rabies, resulting in 10 human deaths as of May 2025, with Sikka District reporting the highest of cases (Tempo.co, 2025). In response, the government implemented the "One Health, One Welfare" initiative, which includes mass vaccinations, medical training, risk mapping, and public education campaigns. Officials also urge the public to avoid consuming dog meat. [Full article]

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