

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

April 17 - 18, 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

### Mpox

- The **Democratic Republic of the Congo** reported a significant decline in mpox cases, with 1,453 cases in 2025, the first time weekly cases fell below 2,000 (Health Policy Watch, 2025). This is due to increased testing efforts, expanded contact tracing, and a significant reduction in infections among health workers. [[Full article](#)]
- **Zambia** has confirmed its second mpox-related death on April 17, 2025, involving a 10-year-old child from Mpika District, bringing the total death to two (Xinhua, 2025). The country has recorded 49 cases of mpox, 13 new cases between April 2 and 15. A total of 32 cases have been treated and discharged, while 15 are currently under home isolation. The Ministry of Health is working with partners to investigate, detect and contain the mpox cases to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]

### Avian Influenza (H9N2)

- **China** reported three new cases of H9N2 avian influenza in April 2025, involving a 7-year-old girl from Henan, a 5-year-old boy from Guangxi, and a 35-year-old woman from Guizhou (CIDRAP, 2025). The new cases, which occurred between February 11 and March 10, bring the total number of H9N2 cases for 2025 to five. The exact sources of infection have not been identified. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)** reported 70 confirmed and probable human cases of H5N1 avian influenza as of April 2025, since the outbreak in 2024 (Contagion Live, 2025). One death was reported in Louisiana during the outbreak. Most cases have been associated with exposure in commercial agricultural settings, particularly dairy herds and poultry facilities. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Fast Track designation to ARCT-2304, an investigational mRNA vaccine, to accelerate its development and regulatory review, allowing for rapid deployment in the event of a pandemic. [[Full article](#)]



## Dengue

- **Fiji** has reported over 5,100 dengue cases in 2025 since the Ministry of Health and Medical Services declared an outbreak in the Western Division on February 3 (Vax Before Travel, 2025). The circulating serotypes include DENV-2 and DENV-3. The government has maintained a red alert status and launched a nationwide cleanup campaign aimed at reducing mosquito breeding sites and controlling disease transmission. [[Full article](#)]
- **New Zealand:** A 12-year-old boy in Auckland died from complications related to dengue fever on April 12, 2025 after falling into a coma (Samoa Observer, 2025). The Ministry of Health has issued public advisories to eliminate mosquito breeding sites, however, no comprehensive national dengue prevention campaign has been implemented to date. [[Full article](#)]

## Lassa Fever

- **Nigeria** reported 127 deaths and 674 confirmed Lassa fever cases as of April 15, 2025, with the majority of cases in the southern states of Ondo and Edo and Bauchi (Xinhua News Agency, 2025). Young adults aged 21-30 were the most affected demographic, with a CFR of 18.8%. The Nigeria Center for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) activated a multi-sectoral incident management system to enhance outbreak coordination and address issues like low public awareness and limited healthcare access. [[Full article](#)]

## Measles

- **Canada:** As of April 16, 2025, Ontario had reported a total of 925 measles cases since the outbreak began in October 2024, with 109 new infections reported in the past week (St. Albert Gazette, 2025). Of the cases, 69 have been hospitalized, including four requiring intensive care. Alberta has reported a rise in cases to 83. Quebec, with a cumulative total of 40 cases, is nearing the end of its outbreak, if no new cases are reported as of March 19. [[Full article](#)]
- **Spain:** The Andalusian Regional Government reported two new measles hotspots in mid-April 2025 in El Ejido and Lucena del Puerto, bringing the total to nine outbreaks, with seven remaining active and two declared inactive (Diario Siglo XXI, 2025). The cases were mainly children under 15 and adults, with 41% hospitalized. The Ministry of Health has emphasized the need for increased surveillance due to the risk of further importation of the international virus despite vaccination coverage exceeding 95%. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US):** The Erie County Department of Health has declared a measles outbreak after confirming five locally acquired cases since March 2025 (YourErie, 2025). Over 200 people at Creative Learning Childcare and Fitness U, where the recent cases originated on March 30, were contacted for vaccination verification and symptom monitoring. Unvaccinated individuals who visited University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Hamot's emergency department on April 5 are urged to monitor for symptoms until April 26. The health department will be hosting an MMR vaccine clinic on April 22. [[Full article](#)]



**Michigan** has confirmed a measles outbreak in Montcalm County, marking the first since 2019, following three confirmed cases linked to travel to Ontario, Canada (WZZM13, 2025). Three related cases are linked to travel and a broader outbreak in Ontario, Canada. Statewide, seven cases have been reported in 2025, with no public exposure sites identified. Health authorities emphasize the importance of MMR vaccination. [[Full article](#)]

## Melioidosis

- **Australia:** Queensland recorded 184 cases of melioidosis in early 2025, a threefold increase from the same period last year, due to severe flooding (RACGP, 2025). The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has called for the inclusion of general practitioners in disaster response frameworks and to enhance local medical practices' resilience during emergencies. [[Full article](#)]

## Pertussis

- The **United States (US):** Michigan reported a 1,792% increase in pertussis cases as of 2025, with 497 confirmed statewide (MLive, 2025). The University of Michigan Health reported 106 cases this year, a significant increase from the fewer than 10 cases seen annually. Health authorities are urging the public to follow the CDC's recommended DTaP vaccination schedule, starting at two months of age. [[Full article](#)]

## Regional Situation

### Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Karawang City, West Java Province, reported 50 dengue cases in Karangpawitan Village as of mid-April 2025 (Karawang Post, 2025). The highest number of cases occurred in January (19 cases), followed by 12 in February, 14 in March, and 5 new cases in April. The Karawang City Health Center has conducted case finding and epidemiologic investigations, intensified mosquito larvae inspections, distributed larvicide, and strengthened community involvement in the mosquito nest eradication movement to reduce transmission. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines** reported 1,984 dengue cases and nine related deaths in Negros Occidental Province, including Bacolod City as of April 5, 2025 (Visayan Daily Star, 2025). Dengue cases in the province surged by 381.38% compared to the same period in 2024, with Bacolod City alone experiencing a 155.1% increase. Bago City recorded the highest number of cases in the region, with a total of 320. Authorities urged the public to seek medical attention if dengue symptoms develop. [[Full article](#)]

**Cebu City** reported 701 dengue cases between January and April 2025, a 130% increase compared to the same period in 2024 (SunStar Cebu, 2025). The highest case concentrations were observed in the barangays of Guadalupe, Basak San Nicolas, Lahug, Mambaling, Tisa, and Basak Pardo. No dengue-related death reported. [[Full article](#)]



## Leptospirosis

- **Indonesia:** The Berau Health Office, East Kalimantan Province, confirmed a resident died from leptospirosis (Tribun Kaltim, 2025). The person was a worker in an oil palm plantation. All workers in the area have been tested for the disease. Authorities are urging the public to be vigilant, especially during the rainy season, and to follow health protocols to prevent the spread of leptospirosis. [[Full article](#)]

**Tarakan City**, North Kalimantan Province confirmed a 13-year-old girl from Karang Balik (BeritaSatu, 2025). This marks the second case of leptospirosis in the area. [[Full article](#)]

## Malaria

- **Indonesia:** The Rokan Hilir Health Office, Riau Province, reported 392 malaria cases since January 2025, affecting several sub-districts in Pasir Limau Kapas, Sinaboi, Bangko, Kubu, and Kubu Babusalam (Riau Televisi, 2025). Health authorities have implemented preventive measures in affected areas to curb the transmission. [[Full article](#)]

## Measles

- **Viet Nam** reported 4,519 suspected measles cases in week 15 of 2025, a 6.3% decrease from the previous week, bringing the total to 67,904 suspected cases and 7,235 confirmed in 2025 (Báo Chính phủ, 2025). The outbreak resulted in 8 deaths, mainly among unvaccinated individuals, with the highest incidence in those under 1 year old and over 10 years old. The Ministry of Health launched an extensive measles vaccination campaign, achieving 96% coverage by April 7, 2025. [[Full article](#)]

## Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Malaysia** recorded a significant rise in HFMD cases as of April 5, 2025, with Selangor reporting the highest number at 16,794 cases (Berita Harian (Singapore), 2025). Johor and Perak followed with 6,384 and 5,510 cases, respectively. The national incidence rose by 300% to 800% compared to 2024. The majority of cases affected children under the age of six, especially those attending nurseries and kindergartens. The Ministry of Health has intensified prevention measures, including outbreak investigations, closures, public awareness campaigns, daily disinfection practices, and enterovirus surveillance. [[Full article](#)]
- **Viet Nam:** A 14-month-old girl with severe grade 4 HFMD was admitted to Duc Giang General Hospital in Hanoi on April 15, 2025 (VnExpress, 2025). The patient developed high fever, convulsions, and respiratory and circulatory failure within 24 hours. The patient recovered. Doctors emphasize the importance of seeking medical attention promptly. [[Full article](#)]

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