

# ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

July 17 - 18, 2025



With Support by:



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 Congo (DRC)** reported 529 new suspected mpox cases, including 135 confirmed cases, within a single week. Since the start of 2025, the country has recorded a total of 90,994 cases, 26,613 of which have been confirmed (AL24 News, 2025). The cases are affecting older children, with high co-circulation across 10 provinces and 52 health zones. Authorities have intensified response measures, particularly in Sud-Ubangi, in coordination with UNICEF, and vaccinated over 603,000 individuals to date. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Hong Kong (SAR):** On July 16, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) reported a confirmed case of mpox involving a 58-year-old man who developed skin sores on July 9 (on.cc Hong Kong, 2025). The patient, who had recent high-risk exposure during travel to neighboring countries, is currently in stable condition and isolation at Princess Margaret Hospital. Investigations are ongoing with no epidemiological links have been identified with prior cases in Hong Kong. The CHP advises public to remain vigilant and strongly recommends vaccination for high-risk groups. [\[Full article\]](#)

### *Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF)*

- **Pakistan:** A 33-year-old male from Bhains Colony was tested positive for CCHF, following a hospital admission with high fever and bleeding symptoms (Medical News Pakistan, 2025). This confirmed case has renewed concern after two related deaths were previously reported in the city. In response, the Sindh Health Department issued an urgent advisory urging high-risk workers to wear protective gear and report symptoms promptly and urging hospitals to enforce strict infection control measures as part of the citywide alert. [\[Full article\]](#)

### *Leptospirosis*

- **India:** Karnataka has reported over 400 confirmed cases of leptospirosis since January 2025, attributed to a surge in rat and bandicoot populations across residential and commercial areas (Times of India, 2025). The rise is linked to poor sanitation, food waste disposal, and unregulated dog feeding practices. In response, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) health department is coordinating with the zoonotic diseases cell to trace clusters and establish guidelines for community dog feeding and rodent control. [\[Full article\]](#)



## **Malaria**

- **India:** In the past six days, a malaria outbreak in Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh were identified with 468 cases, including 350 asymptomatic cases among children (News18 Hindi, 2025). Health officials are concerned about silent transmission, as over 80% of infected children show no symptoms. Health screenings and treatment are ongoing while mosquito nets are unavailable in many areas. Local authorities are waiting for 171,000 nets from the central government. [\[Full article\]](#)

## **West Nile Virus**

- **Greece** has reported four confirmed cases of West Nile virus infection as of July 16, 2025, all in the Attica Region, involving central nervous system (CNS) manifestations (Ygeiamou, 2025). All patients aged 68 to 73 were hospitalized and discharged in stable conditions. The first case occurred on June 22, and all four cases appeared within 48 hours. The National Public Health Organization data suggests CNS cases may represent only a fraction of total infections. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Italy:** Lazio's Latina province confirmed two autochthonous cases of West Nile on July 16, two other suspected cases are under investigation (Cremona Oggi, 2025). The infections, involving patients aged 63 and 72 from Cisterna and Priverno, are the first local transmissions in Lazio. In response, the Lazio Region has activated entomological checks and enhanced surveillance measures. Italy has confirmed five human WNV cases this year, including four neuro-invasive cases. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** South Dakota has confirmed its first human West Nile virus case in 2025, involving a resident from Brookings County, according to a recent press release (KELOLAND, 2025). Health authorities advise the public to reduce their exposure by using repellent, wearing protective clothing, and eliminating standing water. Special caution is urged for high-risk individuals, including those over 50 and those with chronic health conditions. [\[Full article\]](#)

## **Regional Situation**

### **Dengue**

- **Indonesia:** So far in 2025, Bangka Tengah District, Bangka Belitung Province reported 308 dengue cases with 304 recoveries; four patients are receiving intensive care (Antara News, 2025). In response, the local government is strengthening healthcare systems, engaging communities in vector control, intensifying epidemiological investigations, and focusing on public awareness and early medical intervention. [\[Full article\]](#)

### **Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)**

- The **Philippines:** The Negros Occidental Provincial Health Office (PHO) reported 1,111 cases of HFMD as of July 12, 2025, a 346% increase from the same period in 2024 (Philippine News Agency, 2025). The majority were among children aged 1-10 years, with Bago City, Cadiz City, and Victorias City reporting the highest numbers. The PHO officials emphasized the situation is manageable and urged schools and families to promote frequent handwashing and hygiene practices. They also advised isolation at home for 7-10 days until symptoms resolve. [\[Full article\]](#)



## HIV/AIDS

- **Malaysia:** With 106 new cases reported in 2025, Sarawak continues to see an increase in HIV infections, compared with 217 cases throughout 2024 (The Borneo Post, 2025). In response, authorities are intensifying community-based testing and encouraging voluntary screening in non-discriminatory settings. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Leptospirosis

- **Indonesia:** As of mid-June 2025, Nogosari Sub-district recorded the highest number of leptospirosis cases in Boyolali District, Central Java Province, with 10 confirmed infections and one death (Radar Solo, 2025). This marks a significant increase from 2024, which reported only one case and one fatality. In response, local health authorities conducted public awareness campaigns, rat trapping, and laboratory testing. Most patients are farmers exposed to contaminated water, highlighting the urgent need for improved environmental hygiene and early detection. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **Philippines:** Quezon City has recorded 103 cases of leptospirosis this year as of July 16, a 37% increase compared to the same period in 2024 (Outbreak News Today, 2025). Twenty deaths have been attributed to the disease, with District 2 reporting the highest number of both cases (32) and deaths (9). The risk is heightened during the rainy and flood season, prompting authorities to advise the public to avoid floodwaters, wear protective gear, practice hygiene, and maintain clean surroundings to reduce rat infestation and prevent infection. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Rabies

- **Indonesia:** Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) District, East Nusa Tenggara Province has recorded four deaths of suspected rabies this year, from 1,710 cases of animal bites from rabies-transmitting animals (Tribun Flores, 2025). Between July 2 and July 15, 2025, 118 new cases of animal bites were recorded. In response, health facilities have administered the first and second doses of anti-rabies vaccine (ARV) to exposed individuals. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **Philippines** Department of Health (DOH) reported 159 human rabies cases so far in 2025, a 28% decrease from the 220 recorded in the same period in 2024 (Tribune, 2025). The majority involved dog bites, with many animals unvaccinated. In response, the DOH is enhancing the National Rabies Program, promoting multi-sectoral collaboration, and focusing on preventive measures like annual pet vaccination, immediate wound washing, and timely post-exposure treatment through the PhilHealth-supported Animal Bite Treatment package. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** On July 16, 2025, Viet Nam's National Hospital for Tropical Diseases reported a severe case of rabies in a 62-year-old man (VnExpress, 2025). The man had been bitten multiple times by a neighbor's dog. The most recent bite occurred nearly three months prior, after which the dog became aggressive. However, the man never received post-exposure prophylaxis. The patient exhibited symptoms of hydrophobia, aerophobia, agitation, and hypersalivation and was then diagnosed in the terminal stage of the disease. Medical authorities emphasize the critical importance of timely rabies vaccination after any dog bite to prevent fatal outcomes. [\[Full article\]](#)



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