

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

October 17 – 18, 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

#### *Avian Influenza (H5)*

- The **United States (US)**: Avian influenza A (H5) was reported in California with six confirmed cases and five possible human cases (Rudy, M., 2024). All affected individuals had direct contact with infected cattle at nine dairy farms. The CDC is testing for the five possible cases. There is no concern about human-to-human transmission, and there is no evidence of increased virus infectivity or reduced susceptibility to antiviral medications. As of October 15, there were 20 confirmed human cases in the US. [[Full article](#)]

#### *COVID-19*

- The **United States (US)**: Ohio reported a slight decrease in new COVID-19 cases from 2,921 to 2,874, marking the fifth consecutive week of drop (Washington, 2024). The total COVID-19 case count since early 2020 in Ohio has reached 3,852,610. The state has also reported 33 deaths and 138 hospitalizations since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. The state has vaccinated at least 614,619 people, representing 5.2% of the population. [[Full article](#)]

#### *Dengue*

- **Bangladesh**: Eight dengue patients died and 1,100 were admitted to hospitals in Bangladesh in the last 24 hours (BSS, 2024). The total number of dengue cases this year has reached 47,050, with 234 deaths. Last year, the country recorded 1,705 deaths and 3,21,179 cases. [[Full article](#)]
- **Sri Lanka**: Dengue cases surge to 40,958, with the Western Province reporting the highest number at 17,383 cases, with Colombo district reporting 10,284 cases. The Ministry of Health reported 20 dengue-related deaths this year. [[Full article](#)]



## Regional Situation

### *Mpox*

- **The Philippines:** The Philippines reported six new mpox cases (Villanueva, R., 2024). Since 2022, the number of mpox cases in the Philippines has reached 24 cases as of 10 October 2024. The World Health Organization (WHO) urged the country's health authorities to continue to intensify strategies to prevent the spread of the viral disease. [[Full article](#)]

### *Anthrax*

- **The Philippines:** A farmer and his son in Sto. Nino, Cagayan are suspected of contracting anthrax after butchering and eating the meat of their dead carabao (RF, 2024). The Cagayan Provincial Health Office reported that the two men became ill after eating the carabao, with fever, tremors and darkening lesions. They are currently in hospital and their samples will be sent to the Research Institute of Tropical Medicine to determine their infection. [[Full article](#)]

### *Dengue*

- **The Philippines:** Dengue cases in Bacolod City have increased by 297.8% from last year, with 1,802 cases and four deaths (Pedrosa, 2024). According to the City Health Office, Barangay Taculing reported the highest number of cases (218) followed by Bata (159), Estefania (140), Mansilingan (139), Villamonte (117), Tangub (83), Granada and Sum-ag (75 each), Cabug (72), Banago (68), and Singcang-Airport (67) cases. [[Full article](#)]
- **Vietnam:** A patient in Dak Lak province died from dengue fever, according to the CDC (Trung, 2024). The patient had symptoms of high fever and fatigue, and was taken to various medical facilities. He was later transferred to the Central Highlands General Hospital for further treatment, but his condition deteriorated and he died on 16 October. The CDC immediately implemented mosquito control measures in the area. [[Full article](#)]

### *HFMD*

- **The Philippines:** The Davao City Health Office has reported 30 cases of hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) in a private school (Velasco, S.H., 2024). The disease, caused by an enterovirus, affects children and can be transmitted through person-to-person contact, respiratory droplets, and contaminated objects. The school has suspended face-to-face classes to implement sanitary protocols and prevent the spread of the virus. [[Full article](#)]

### *Measles*

- **Viet Nam:** Measles cases are increasing rapidly in 19 southern provinces and cities, mainly among children aged 1-10, with an outbreak also emerging among adults in a factory (Phuong, 2024). Ho Chi Minh City has recorded over 1,000 cases and four deaths this year, with more than 50% of cases treated in the city despite local detection. Vaccination coverage has reached nearly 100%, with some districts exceeding 120%, meaning more children were vaccinated than initially anticipated. While the WHO suggests that vaccinating over 95% of the population should lead to a rapid decline in cases, gradual decrease in hospitalization has seen in Ho Chi Minh City during the past two weeks. [[Full article](#)]



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