

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

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.

Global Situation

Dengue

- **Fiji** has reported 3,671 cases of dengue fever with two fatalities from January 1 to March 9, 2025, with the Western Division leading with 2,077 confirmed cases and the Northern Division reporting 748 cases (FBC News, 2025). Health authorities are urging community collaboration to combat the rising cases, especially in Kadavu province, where increased rainfall has contributed to the surge including ongoing awareness programs and cleanup campaigns to reduce mosquito breeding sites. [[Full article](#)]

Lassa Fever

- **Nigeria** has reported 645 cases and 118 deaths of lassa fever from January to March 2025, with a fatality rate of 18.3% (TRT World, 2025). Over 20 health workers have been infected across five affected states. Challenges include staffing shortages at treatment centers and delays in patients seeking medical care due to self-medication. Health officials warn that poor environmental hygiene is preventing effective household rat control. [[Full article](#)]

Leptospirosis

- **Fiji** has confirmed 610 cases of leptospirosis, including 117 hospital admissions and seven deaths from January 1 to March 23, 2025, with heavy rain and flooding expected to further exacerbate the situation (FBC News, 2025). Most confirmed cases were recorded in Central Division (217), followed by Western (200), Northern (173), and Eastern (20) Divisions. Deaths were reported in Northern (3), Western (3), and Central Divisions. The Ministry of Health urges public vigilance and preventive measures. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Australia:** The number of measles cases in Western Australia has risen to 10, and 12 new exposure sites have been identified, including the Westfield Carousel Shopping Center and the Bilgoman Aquatic Center (The West Australian, 2025). Five new cases were confirmed over the weekend, including three prisoners and two people exposed at Bunbury Regional Hospital. Authorities are investigating the source of the outbreak and are urging visitors to monitor symptoms. [[Full article](#)]



- **Ukraine** has reported a measles outbreak in the Odessa region, resulting in 40 confirmed cases and one fatality, since the beginning of the year. Of the total cases, 25 are children and 15 are adults (NikVesti, 2025). The outbreak is spread across five districts, with the highest number in Izmail (22 cases). The outbreak in Izmail has been localized and eliminated, while anti-epidemic measures continue in other affected districts. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)**: As of April 1, 2025, western Texas has 422 confirmed measles cases, with 22 new cases reported in the past five days, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) (Yahoo News, 2025). The majority of cases involve unvaccinated individuals or those with unknown vaccination status, with 42 cases requiring hospitalization. Health officials emphasize the importance of vaccination, as only four cases occurred in fully vaccinated individuals and one case in someone who received one dose of the MMR vaccine. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Malaysia**: Between March 17 and 23, Klang City, Selangor, confirmed 1,299 dengue cases, marking an increase of 101 cases from the previous week (The Star, 2025). Health authorities attribute this rise to factors such as warmer temperatures and unattended premises during the Eid al-Fitr period. The Klang Royal City Council has intensified fogging activities and inspections to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and urges residents to remove stagnant water. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines**: Bacolod city has reported 280 cases of dengue from January to March 2025, a 177.2% increase compared to the same period in 2024 (SunStar Bacolod, 2025). One fatality has been reported so far this year. The most affected barangays are Estefania, Mansilingan, Taculing, and Tangub. Health officials emphasize the importance of early medical consultation and adherence to the Department of Health's preventive measures. [[Full article](#)]

Palawan province has reported 1,354 dengue cases and 11 confirmed deaths from January to March 2025, with Roxas reporting the highest number of cases and Linapacan the highest fatality rate (Palawan News, 2025). Health authorities have intensified surveillance, fogging operations, and dengue prevention programs. Proactive mosquito control measures are emphasized due to climate change. [[Full article](#)]

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Viet Nam** is experiencing a significant rise in HFMD cases in Ho Chi Minh City, with 348 infections reported in the 12th week of 2025, an 84.4% increase from the previous four weeks (Tuoi Tre News, 2025). Since the beginning of the year, the city has reported 1,917 cases, with pediatric patients being the most affected. Health authorities are urging strict hygiene practices to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]



Measles

- **Viet Nam:** Hanoi has reported 1,247 measles cases so far this year, including one death (Báo Hải Dương, 2025). A total of 189 new cases were reported from March 21 to 28, with the highest numbers in Nam Tu Liem and Hoang Mai districts. Hanoi CDC has increased vaccination efforts, targeting children aged 6-9 months and those who haven't received two doses. Authorities are monitoring the epidemic, coordinating with schools, and conducting investigations to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]

Typhoid

- The **Philippines** has seen a 145.5% rise in typhoid cases in Bacolod City, with 27 cases recorded between January 1 and March 22, 2025, compared to 11 in 2024 (Philippine News Agency, 2025). The City Health Office (CHO) urged residents to practice proper hygiene, drink safe water, and cook food thoroughly to prevent infections. [[Full article](#)]

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