

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

April 20 - 22, 2024



With Support by:   

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

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported 22 new COVID-19 cases, increasing its total caseload to 2,049,850 (Online, 2024). The official death toll remained at 29,494 with recovery and death rates at 98.41% and 1.44%, respectively. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States(US)**: The number of reported coronavirus cases in New Hampshire has dropped for the 14th consecutive week, with a 15% decrease in the 10 communities (Rhodes, George W, 2024). The number of reported cases fell from 629 to 575, a drop of 8.58%. The number of coronavirus tests administered in the 10 communities was 11.03%, with 17 positives. However, the number of COVID-19 cases in the area and state is not accurate due to the prevalence of home-testing kits and the weakened virus. Since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020, the area has recorded 50,775 cases. [[Full article](#)]

Leptospirosis

- **India**: Kerala's Ernakulam district has reported six leptospirosis deaths in the last 3.5 months, including confirmed and suspected cases, due to heavy rainfall (Promed Post, 2024). Health officials warn that more leptospirosis and dengue cases are expected due to intermittent summer rains. Vulnerable people should take doxycycline to prevent infection and take medical aid promptly. Local bodies have been asked to carry out pre-monsoon activities to prevent communicable diseases. Health authorities advise personal protection measures, including rubber gloves and gumboots for cleaning workers, and avoiding waterlogged areas for children. The disease causes symptoms like fever, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, redness, and reduced urine excretion. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- The **United States (US)**: The CDC reports 121 measles cases in 18 US states since January 1, 2024, a 30% increase from 2020 (Awan, O., 2024). This is concerning as Measles was considered eradicated in the US since 2000. The rise is largely due to international travel and decreasing vaccination rates, which threaten herd immunity, which is achieved when 95% of the population becomes immune. [[Full article](#)]



Regional Situation

Avian Influenza

- **Vietnam:** A human infection with influenza A (H9N2) virus was reported in Vietnam on 9 April 2024 (WHO, 2024). The patient, suffering from severe conditions, was admitted to intensive care and tested positive for influenza. The virus subtyping confirmed it on 8 April. The case lived near a poultry market, and no new cases have been reported. The WHO assesses the risk to the general population as low. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** From January to mid-April 2024, 11 people died from dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) in Bandung City, with 2,882 cases as of April (Ridwan, Fauzi, 2024). Most deaths were children, and although the number of cases is decreasing, it is not confirmed if the trend has slowed. [\[Full article\]](#)

In Jombang District, DHF has claimed 12 lives in the past three months, primarily among children (Wibisono, Y., 2024). The majority of the victims were children undergoing treatment at the Jombang District Hospital. The hospital is currently treating 14 patients, and the number of victims is expected to decrease. [\[Full article\]](#)

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

- **Vietnam:** Hanoi has recorded 186 cases of hand, foot, and mouth disease, an increase of 25 cases from the previous week (Baodautu, 2024). Since 2024, the number of cases has increased by 85%. April and May are peak months for the disease, and localities need to strengthen coordination between health and schools to prevent epidemics. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- **Vietnam:** A 10-year-old girl in Chuong My district has been the first measles case in Hanoi this year, having been vaccinated with three doses of the vaccine (Dantri, 2024). The illness began on March 27, measles and rubella ELISA IgM test results were positive. In the first three months of 2024, the country recorded 42 cases and suspected measles. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- The **Philippines:** A 3-month-old boy from Gamay town in Northern Samar died from pertussis, also known as whooping cough, on April 11 (Philippine Daily, 2024). The boy, who had received pertussis shots, was transferred to the Northern Samar Provincial Hospital where he died. Pertussis is a highly infectious bacterial disease affecting infants. [\[Full article\]](#)



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