

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

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** Dengue fever has caused 22 deaths this year, with 11 people admitted to hospitals (Pratidin, 2024). From January 1 to March 24, 1,631 people contracted dengue, with 769 Dhaka residents and 862 outside Dhaka. In 2023, the country had the highest number of dengue cases and deaths, with 1,705 deaths. In 2022, 281 people died and 62,000 people were admitted to hospitals due to dengue. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- **Australia:** A baby in Adelaide has been found to be in stable condition after contracting measles (ABC News, 2024). The baby, from metropolitan South Australia (SA), had recently returned from overseas but was not infectious during the flight to Australia. SA Health has issued an alert for public locations around Adelaide, advising people who are not fully immunised to be alert for symptoms over the next few weeks. The baby was in public locations across Adelaide's Central Business District (CBD) and suburbs between March 15 and March 23. It has also been at a winery in McLaren Vale on March 16. Symptoms of measles include fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes, and a blotchy rash. Most measles cases in Australia occur in overseas visitors and returning residents who did not have two doses of the measles vaccine. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Japan:** Japan has confirmed at least 20 highly contagious measles cases this year, mainly among travelers abroad, due to a global outbreak (Shimbun, 2024). This number exceeds two-thirds of last year's total, raising concerns about the disease's spread. The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed Japan's measles elimination in 2015, but since then, infections have been caused by overseas transmission. As of March 22, there have been 20 cases in eight prefectures. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **The United States (US):** A measles case has been reported in Lake County, Illinois, related to the ongoing outbreak in Chicago (ABC7 Chicago, 2024). The health department warns that anyone at any location on specific dates might have been exposed to measles. The total number of confirmed cases in Chicago is 17, with most cases among migrants living in shelters in Pilsen. The East Chicago Health Department in Indiana is investigating a possible mass exposure at a local church, encouraging eligible individuals to get vaccinated. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Ukraine:** The Ministry of Health Ukraine reported 1,407 measles cases in a week, with 756 children affected (TV and radio company Gomel, 2024). Since the start of the year, 15,261 people have been affected, with six children and two adults died from complications. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- **Kazakhstan:** Ministry of Health reports an unfavorable epidemiological situation with 392 cases registered among children under 14, 90% of whom are under 5 (Serdalina, 2024). The increase in the disease is linked to a decrease in collective immunity and emphasizes the need for vaccination. Whooping cough can lead to complications like pneumonia and brain damage, and no specific medications are available. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

Avian Influenza

- **Vietnam:** A 21-year-old man infected with avian influenza A (H5) died in Vietnam after 8 days of treatment (Baomoi, 2024). The cause of the death is unknown. The patient had symptoms starting on March 11 and was diagnosed with acute pharyngitis-laryngitis. He refused hospitalization and sought outpatient treatment. The patient was later transferred to Khanh Hoa Provincial General Hospital, where he was isolated in a coma with near-zero blood pressure and mechanical ventilation. The source of the infection is unknown. The hospital is sprayed with disinfectant chemicals to ensure public health. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Mimika District Hospital in Central Papua Province treated 209 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) from January to March 2024 (FP, 2024). The doctor reported one child death from the 209 cases. As of today, there are four children and one adult patient at Mimika Regional Hospital. He expects an increase in cases in early 2024, but hopes for a decrease. One child patient died in January 2024 due to dengue fever. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- **Indonesia:** Leptospirosis cases in Sleman District reached eight people by mid-March 2024, with three others suspected (Syarifudin, 2024). One person died from the disease at the beginning of the year. The Sleman District Health Office reported eight cases, three suspected, and one death. The disease was spread through various locations, including Kapanewon Moyudan, Gamping, Tempel, and Pakem. To prevent further cases, the Head of the Disease Prevention and Control Division of the Sleman District Health Office urged the public to keep the environment clean and use personal protective equipment when working. [\[Full article\]](#)



Mpox

- **Cambodia:** The Ministry of Health has identified 14 cases of mpox disease in young men under 40, with two new cases discovered in Phnom Penh (Punreay, H., 2024). The virus is transmitted through sexual contact, wounds, body fluids, saliva, airborne droplets, and contaminated utensils. Preventive measures are being implemented to curb the spread of the disease. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Indonesia:** East Nusa Tenggara Province in Indonesia is facing a rabies emergency, with 46 deaths reported from May 2023 to March 2024 (Rambu, 2024). Head of the Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health Division of the East Nusa Tenggara Provincial Animal Husbandry Office, warns that the situation could escalate to a time bomb if not handled well. In 2023, there were 39 cases, while in 2024, there are 7 cases. Head of the Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health Division of the East Nusa Tenggara Provincial Animal Husbandry Office, also noted that Flores Island has been dealing with rabies cases for 26 years. Since the first case occurred in May 2023, all districts on Timor Island have been infected with the virus, except Kupang District. He emphasized the need for rapid vaccination of dogs to prevent further human cases and spread to Timor Leste. [[Full article](#)]
- **The Philippines:** The Department of Health's Center for Health Development in Bicol has reported 12 rabies deaths in the first quarter of 2024, a 100% increase from the previous year (Barcia, R. 2024). Among the six provinces of Bicol, Albay has the highest number of cases with six while Camarines Norte, Sorsogon, and Camarines Sur have two recorded cases each. The Department of Health is urging the public to have their pets vaccinated for rabies at Animal Bite Treatment Centers or private animal clinics. Rabies is a viral infection that targets human nerves. [[Full article](#)]

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