

# ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

December 25 - 26, 2025



With Support by:

Canada  Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency 

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

### *Measles*

- **Australia:** Tasmania reported its third confirmed measles case in 2025, prompting a public health alert following successive cases after a three-year absence (Sözcü, 2025). The latest case was linked to a previous infection and is being managed under home isolation, with exposure sites identified in the Huonville area. Health authorities urged the public, particularly individuals born after 1965, to check their measles vaccination status. Symptomatic individuals were advised to isolate promptly and seek medical care. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States:** Massachusetts health authorities warned of possible measles exposures after an out-of-state traveler diagnosed with measles visited Boston Logan International Airport and a Hotel in Westborough on December 11–12, 2025 (IT-Boltwise, 2025). Authorities advised anyone who was at these locations during those times and is not immune to contact a healthcare provider before seeking care. Officials noted that no confirmed measles cases have yet been reported in Massachusetts this year. [\[Full article\]](#)

A **Central Virginia** resident has been diagnosed with measles linked to known travel-associated exposure (WRIC News, 2025). In response, local authorities are recommending that residents check their vaccination status and monitor for symptoms. [\[Full article\]](#)

### *Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)*

- **France** has confirmed two imported cases of MERS-CoV in December 2025, the first reported in the country since 2013, in travelers recently returned from the Arabian Peninsula (Daily Mirror, 2025). Both patients were isolated in hospital and placed under monitoring, and no secondary transmission has been detected. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia** (KSA) reported seven cases of MERS-CoV between June 4 and December 21, 2025, marking the global cases of the disease to 19 cases, with most (17) from KSA (WHO, 2025). Contact tracing for these cases is complete, with no confirmed secondary transmission beyond the identified cases. WHO continues to assess the overall public health risk as moderate and recommends targeted infection prevention and control measures to prevent healthcare-associated spread and further human transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)



## *Mpox*

- **Kenya** reported two new mpox cases in Mombasa and Nakuru counties, bringing the national total to 31 confirmed cases (BalkanWeb, 2025). To date, mpox cases have been reported across 12 counties, with no deaths recorded. Health authorities have screened over 2.6 million travelers, tested 351 samples, and deployed rapid response teams. Preparations are also underway to receive mpox vaccines through a WHO-led regional initiative to strengthen outbreak response and prevention efforts. [[Full article](#)]
- **Pakistan:** Health authorities confirmed two women tested positive for mpox in Faisalabad, with both patients are undergoing treatment at Allied Hospital after cases were traced from Lahore (24 News HD, 2025). Officials are monitoring the situation and conducting necessary clinical care as part of the response.

## *Rabies*

- **India:** In December 2025, Mumbai reported one rabies-related death involving a six-year-old girl who had been bitten by a community dog in Diva on November 17, 2025 (News Karnataka, 2025). Despite completing post-exposure prophylaxis and anti-rabies vaccination, she developed rabies symptoms and died on December 21. Local health authorities confirmed that standard protocols had been followed and have initiated a review of the case. [[Full article](#)]
- **Nepal:** Rabies remains a major public health concern in Kathmandu Valley, with ongoing transmission among stray dogs and repeated human deaths reported in 2025 (The Kathmandu Post, 2025). Recent events included the death of a 12-year-old boy and other unvaccinated bite victims reported in Kathmandu and Lalitpur. Health experts have warned of widespread virus circulation and called for strengthened canine vaccination, enhanced surveillance, and improved public awareness to prevent further human cases. [[Full article](#)]
- **Pakistan:** As of December 24, 2025, Sindh Province reported 25 rabies-related deaths in 2025, following the death of a 12-year-old boy in Karachi (Dawn, 2025). The child sustained multiple dog bites in Balochistan and reportedly received incomplete post-exposure prophylaxis without rabies immunoglobulin. Most fatalities involved children who were referred late to tertiary care facilities. Health authorities highlighted persistent gaps in treatment quality, limited access to rabies immunoglobulin, and challenges in dog population management as key contributing factors. [[Full article](#)]

## **Regional Situation**

### *Dengue*

- **Indonesia:** Pasuruan Municipality, East Java Province, reported 492 dengue throughout 2025, more than double the 210 cases recorded in 2024, with no deaths reported (Radar Bromo, 2025). The health office urged heightened community vigilance and early care-seeking for individuals with dengue-like symptoms. Public health measures included implementation of a one-house-one-larvae monitor program, strengthened vector control measures, and selective larvicide to reduce vector density. [[Full article](#)]



**Rejang Lebong District**, Bengkulu Province reported 133 dengue cases so far in 2025, with no deaths recorded (Curup Ekspres, 2025). Cases were reported across multiple subdistricts with a declining trend noted by mid-December 2025. The District Health Office attributed the situation to intensified mosquito control measures and strengthened community education. Authorities urged continued vigilance during the rainy season and recommended early healthcare seeking for individuals experiencing dengue-like symptoms. [Full article]

- **Malaysia** reported ongoing dengue transmission in Kulai District, Johor, with 558 cumulative cases and two deaths recorded as of December 13, 2025 (ep- week 50) (Pejabat Kasihatan Daerah Kulai, 2025). Active outbreak areas were identified primarily in residential zones, including Indahpura and Senai, with Mukim Kulai reporting the highest case burden. Health authorities emphasized sustained vector control and community participation, including elimination of mosquito breeding sites, larvicide, use of personal protective measures, and prompt healthcare seeking for individuals with febrile illness. [Full article]

## References

- 24 News HD (2025) *Two women test positive for monkeypox in Faisalabad*, 24 News HD. Available at: <https://24newshd.tv/24-Dec-2025/two-women-test-positive-monkeypox-faisalabad> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- BalkanWeb (2025) *Kenya reports two new cases of measles, bringing the total confirmed to 31*, BalkanWeb. Available at: <https://www.balkanweb.com/en/Kenya-reports-two-new-cases-of-measles-bringing-the-total-confirmed-to-31/> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- Curup Ekspres (2025) *Kasus DBD di Rejang Lebong sepanjang 2025 capai 133 orang, Dinkes klaim situasi terkendali*, Curup Ekspres. Available at: <https://curupekspres.bacakoran.co/curup-metropolis/read/23191/kasus-dbd-di-rejang-lebong-sepanjang-2025-capai-133-orang-dinkes-klaim-situasi-terkendali> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- Daily Mirror (2025) *Deadly MERS virus confirmed in Europe*, Daily Mirror. Available at: <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/deadly-mers-virus-confirmed-europe-36451588> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- Dawn (2025) *Rabies death toll in Sindh climbs to 25 as another patient dies*, Dawn. Available at: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1963063/rabies-death-toll-in-sindh-climbs-to-25-as-another-patient-dies> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- IT-Boltwise (2025) *Health authorities warn of measles risk in Boston*, IT-Boltwise. Available at: <https://www.it-boltwise.de/gesundheitsbehoerden-warnen-vor-masernrisiko-in-boston.html> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- News Karnataka (2025) *Six-year-old dog bite victim dies of rabies in Mumbai despite treatment*, News Karnataka. Available at: <https://newskarnataka.com/india/six-year-old-dog-bite-victim-dies-of-rabies-in-mumbai-despite-treatment/24122025> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- Pejabat Kasihatan Daerah Kulai (2025) *Info DBD: Aedes tidak mengenal mangsa, bertindak sekarang*, Facebook. Available at: <https://web.facebook.com/100064855717841/posts/1296913965813782> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- Radar Bromo (2025) *Gawat! Temuan DBD di Kota Pasuruan capai 492 kasus, lebih tinggi dibanding tahun lalu*, Radar Bromo. Available at: <https://radarbromo.jawapos.com/pasuruan/1006992739/gawat-temuan-dbd-di-kota-pasuruan-capai-492-kasus-lebih-tinggi-dibanding-tahun-lalu> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- Sözcü (2025) *A third measles case has triggered a public health alert*, Sözcü. Available at: <https://www.sozcu.com.tr/ucuncu-kizamik-vakasi-halk-sagligi-alarmina-neden-oldu-p278251> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- The Kathmandu Post (2025) *A ticking rabies bomb*, The Kathmandu Post. Available at: <https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2025/12/25/a-ticking-rabies-bomb> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- World Health Organization (WHO) (2025) *Disease Outbreak News: 2025-DON591*, World Health Organization. Available at: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/2025-DON591> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).
- WRIC News (2025) *Central Virginia resident infected with measles after exposure to ill out-of-state visitor*, WRIC News. Available at: <https://www.wric.com/news/virginia-news/central-virginia-resident-infected-with-measles-after-exposure-to-ill-out-of-state-visitor/> (Accessed: 26 December 2025).