

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

December 26 – 27, 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

Avian Influenza (H5N1)

- The **United States (US)**: The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has confirmed its first human case of H5 bird flu in an adult exposed to infected livestock at a worksite (PH LA County, 2024). The person has mild symptoms and is recovering at home. Officials assure the public that the risk remains low, with no evidence of person-to-person transmission. Health authorities are working on the ongoing investigation. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: Four dengue patients died and 153 were hospitalized in the last 24 hours, raising the total number of deaths to 569 and cases to 1,00,711 (Correspondent, 2024). Currently, 804 patients remain under treatment, while 99,338 have been discharged. Experts recommend comprehensive strategies, including early anti-mosquito drives to eliminate *Aedes* mosquito populations and stress the the increasing number of cases in some districts like Barishal, Chandpur, Manikganj, and Gazipur. [[Full article](#)]

Malaria

- **Taiwan (Province of China)**: A Taiwanese woman is recovering from malaria contracted during her trip to Rwanda (Strong, 2024). The Center for Disease Control (CDC) reported nine cases of malaria so far this year, higher the previous five years due to increased international travel after the COVID-19 pandemic. Travelers are urged to consult a doctor and take preventive medicine before, during, and after travel to high-risk areas. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Taiwan (Province of China)**: A central Taiwan hospital reported seven measles cases in a cluster, the largest outbreak in the past five years (Taiwan, 2024). The outbreak began with a 40-year-old man who developed symptoms on December 1. In response, the hospital vaccinated 1,149 employees under a newly launched MMR vaccination plan. The CDC is closely monitoring 1,014 people who might have come in contact with the patients until January 8, 2025. The lack of mandatory MMR vaccinations has heightened vulnerability to outbreaks. [[Full article](#)]



Pertussis

- The **United States (US)**: The Taylor County Health Department has reported its first pertussis case, a respiratory illness causing severe coughing, runny nose, and fever (The Star News, 2024). While it can affect all ages, pertussis poses the greatest risk to infants under one year, pregnant women, and individuals with weakened immune systems. Preventative measures include frequent handwashing, cough covering, and staying home during illness. [[Full article](#)]

Poliomyelitis

- **Pakistan's** poliovirus cases has increased to 67 this year, with two more children diagnosed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh (Aslam, 2024). As one of the two polio-endemic countries globally, it leads in cases for 2024. Despite efforts to immunize 44 million children with 400,000 workers visiting households to administer drops, challenges such as insecurity, misinformation, and parental refusals hinder vaccination campaigns. Health authorities have established a high-level committee to improve coordination between the Polio Eradication Initiative and the Expanded Programme on Immunization. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia**: Dengue fever has increased in Jombang District, East Java Province, with one child died (Rosalina, 2024). The head of the Jombang Health Service confirmed the death an 11-year-old child from Ngoro District, who died due to dengue shock syndrome (DSS). The epidemiological investigation found mosquito larvae in two of 20 surveyed homes. From October to December 2024, 116 dengue patients were treated at Jombang Regional Hospital, including 105 children. Currently, 13 children and one adult remain hospitalized. Currently, 13 children and one adult are receiving treatment at the Hospital. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines** is grappling with a rising dengue outbreak, with 314,785 cases and 3,000 deaths reported from January to October 2024 (Lifestyle, M.S., 2024). The climate and frequent typhoons exacerbate the situation, with the absence of an FDA-approved dengue vaccine. Paediatrician emphasizes the need for proactive strategies and a focus on integrating measures into the healthcare system. [[Full article](#)]
- **Viet Nam**: Khanh Hoa Province has recorded 206 dengue outbreaks and 4,041 cases as of mid-December 2024, with Ninh Hoa town reporting the highest numbers (Báo tin tức, 2024). As of mid-December 2024, the province has recorded 4,041 cases with Ninh Hoa town having the highest number of cases. The Provincial CDC has organized inspections and monitoring to support dengue fever prevention and control but challenges persist in grassroots prevention. [[Full article](#)]



Measles

- **Viet Nam** has reported a significant surge in measles cases, with 38,364 suspected cases, 6,725 confirmed cases, and 13 deaths. (Tiến, D., 2024). The surge is attributed to inadequate community immunity and low vaccination rates post-Covid-19. The Ministry of Health called for increased awareness of personal disease prevention and requested provinces and cities to implement the plan for preventing and controlling infectious diseases in 2025. [Full article]

Rabies

- **Viet Nam:** Viet Nam reported 84 rabies-related deaths this year, primarily attributed to inadequate pet vaccinations, poor pet management, and low vaccination rates (Baodautu.vn, 2024). The Ministry of Health has urged the public to vaccinate pets and take preventive measures after animal bites. Local authorities are also being advised to improve control over stray animals and enforce stricter regulations on the sale of dog and cat meat to reduce the risk of rabies transmission. [Full article]

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