ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION May 27 - 28, 2025



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

Mpox

- Australia reported its first confirmed case of mpox clade lb on May 13, 2025 in a person who
 had recently returned from abroad (Australian Centre for Disease Control, 2025). Health
 authorities assess the risk of further transmission as low and maintain robust surveillance, with
 the National Incident Centre remaining activated. Vaccination is recommended for at-risk
 groups, especially those traveling to regions with ongoing clade I transmission. [Full article]
- Ghana has confirmed 10 new mpox cases, bringing the total to 19, with five hospitalized and
 no deaths reported (Citi Newsroom, 2025). Health authorities have intensified surveillance and
 public education, urging preventive measures like regular handwashing and avoiding contact
 with symptomatic individuals. The public is advised to report suspected cases to health facilities
 for early detection and containment. [Full article]
- **Italy** reported a case of mpox, with the patient currently receiving treatment at the University Hospital's Infectious Diseases Operating Unit in Messina (Tempostretto, 2025). The situation is reported to be under control, as health authorities are managing the case in accordance with the guidelines set by the Epidemiology Office of the health authority. [Full article]
- Malawi's Ministry of Health confirmed three new mpox cases in Lilongwe as of May 2025, raising the national total to 11 since the country's first case in April (The Guardian, 2025). The patients, aged 17 to 41, are under investigation by the Public Health Institute of Malawi, which is conducting contact tracing efforts. Health officials are urging increased clinical vigilance and public awareness as mpox continues to surge across Africa, with over 52,000 cases and 1,770 deaths reported in 2025. [Full article]

COVID-19

• **Indian** states have seen a surge in COVID-19 cases, with Maharashtra confirming 66 new cases, including one death in Thane city, while Karnataka recorded 36 infections with a 9.44% positivity rate (Times of India, 2025). Rajasthan reported nine new cases, including a 16-day-old infant, while Uttar Pradesh documented its first case in 17 months. Health authorities have advised mask use among health workers, increased surveillance, and urged the public to follow safety protocols and seek testing if symptomatic. [Full article]







Cholera

• **Israel's** Health Ministry confirmed three cholera cases on May 26, 2025, the first in years (The Times of Israel, 2025). Two patients contracted the disease in Ethiopia, and a third patient was infected by drinking water brought back from an Ethiopian well. The Health Ministry advises travelers to avoid tap water and street food and to practice strict hand hygiene. [Full article]

Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF)

• Russia: The Stavropol region has confirmed two new cases of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever over the past week, bringing the total number of cases across the Krasnogvardeisky, Ipatovsky, Levokumsky, and Blagodarnensky districts to four (Bloknot Stavropol, 2025). A total of 339 individuals sought medical attention for tick bites during this period. Authorities are continuing tick control efforts, treating land and livestock, and urging the public to wear protective clothing, use repellents, and seek medical attention if bitten by a tick. [Full article]

Avian Influenza

• **China** has confirmed a human case of H5N1 avian influenza involving a 53-year-old woman from the Guangxi autonomous region in southern China (CIDRAP, 2025). The patient has since recovered, and officials indicate the infection was likely imported from abroad. This marks the first reported human H5N1 case in mainland China since July 2024. [Full article]

Malaria

Ukraine: A fatal case of malaria was reported on May 25 in the Sumy region, involving a man
who recently returned from a trip to Tanzania (Ukrainian National News, 2025). This marks the
first recorded malaria death in the region since 2019. Health authorities emphasize the
importance of preventive measures, such as consultation with doctors, antimalarial
medication, and mosquito protection, and emphasize the need for early diagnosis and medical
attention. [Full article]

Measles

United States: The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 729 measles cases statewide on May 27, 2025, an increase of one since May 23, 2025, indicating a potential slowdown in transmission (Yahoo News, 2025). Gaines County, the epicenter, had 408 cases. Officials are cautiously optimistic but warn that new transmission could occur in unvaccinated communities. [Full article]

Regional Situation

Mpox

• The **Philippines** reported 19 mpox cases in South Cotabato as of May 22, 2025, including 10 confirmed cases, six negative cases, and three suspected cases under monitoring (Philippine Information Agency, 2025). There have been no reported deaths. The Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO) is intensifying surveillance, close contact tracing, and community education to prevent further transmission. Authorities are focusing on early consultation, health protocols, and public awareness campaigns. [Full article]



COVID-19

- **Thailand** reported over 65,000 new COVID-19 cases and eight deaths from May 18 to 24, 2025, according to the Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) (The Nation Thailand, 2025). The total number of cases since 1 January rose to 204,965, with 51 cumulative deaths. Bangkok reported the highest case count, followed by Chon Buri, Nonthaburi, Samut Prakan, and Rayong, with the most affected age groups being 20–29, 30–39, and individuals aged 60 and older. As of the latest update, 3,544 patients remain hospitalized and over 61,000 are recovering at home. [Full article]
- **Viet Nam** has reported 641 cases of COVID-19 in 2025, with the NB.1.8.1 variant dominating 83% of recent samples in Ho Chi Minh City (Tuổi Trẻ News , 2025). The Ministry of Health and WHO warn that this variant does not cause more severe symptoms.. Health authorities have strengthened surveillance, hospital readiness, and healthcare worker training to manage potential outbreaks, and also urge the public to maintain preventive measures, especially in high-risk settings like hospitals, schools, and tourist areas. [Full article]

Dengue

- Indonesia: In response to rising dengue cases, Indonesia has launched a cross-sector initiative, with the Health Caucus Presidium and the "Kobar Lawan Dengue" coalition meeting in Jakarta (Ministry of Health Indonesia, 2025). The initiative aims to eliminate dengue-related deaths by 2030 by providing primary healthcare, enabling early detection, controlling vectors, innovating with Wolbachia, vaccinating, and educating the public. As of May 2025, Indonesia has reported over 56,000 dengue cases and 250 deaths, following a peak in 2024 with more than 1,400 fatalities. [Full article]
 - **Klaten District,** Central Java Province reported 297 dengue cases and three related deaths in the 19th week 2025, a decrease from 512 cases and 25 deaths in the same period last year (Tribun Jogja, 2025). The spread is attributed to *Aedes aegypti* larvae carrying the virus. The Health Office emphasizes intensified mosquito breeding site eradication and community involvement in larval monitoring as key preventive measures. [Full article]
- The **Philippines** reported a 51.26% increase in dengue cases from January 1 to May 17, 2025, with 661 cases and two deaths, compared to 437 cases in the same period of 2024 (Panay News, 2025). Most cases were reported in Roxas City, followed by Tapaz and Jamindan. In response, the Capiz Provincial Health Office has intensified its "Lamok Buster" campaign, promoting the 4S strategy to control mosquito populations and prevent further transmission. [Full article]

Avian Influenza

• **Cambodia** has confirmed the death of an 11-year-old boy from Samrong Tong District, Kampong Speu Province due to H5N1 avian influenza, following laboratory confirmation by the Pasteur Institute of Cambodia (Khmer Times, 2025). The boy died after receiving medical treatment. In response, health authorities have launched coordinated epidemiological investigations, distributed medicine to close contacts, and implemented health education campaigns to prevent further transmission. The Ministry urges the public to avoid contact with sick or dead poultry and seek immediate medical care if symptomatic. [Full article]



Malaria

• **Myanmar:** A 19-year-old student in Kyauktaw Township died of malaria due to limited access to healthcare, which led to a delayed diagnosis (Burma News International, 2025). From January, 424 malaria cases were reported in Arakan Army-controlled areas, with multiple deaths including a schoolteacher in Theakone Village, Paletwa Township. The Arakan People's Health Department has issued public health warnings to encourage mosquito avoidance and the elimination of puddles to prevent further transmission. [Full article]

Melioidosis

• **Thailand's** Region 9 Disease Control Office has confirmed 147 cases of melioidosis with five deaths as of May 19, 2025, with the highest number recorded in Buriram province (The Nation Thailand, 2025). The disease primarily affects elderly individuals and agricultural workers, particularly rice farmers. Health authorities urge preventive measures such as wearing protective gear, covering wounds, avoiding floodwaters, practicing good hygiene, and drinking safe water. [Full article]

Rabies

- Indonesia: The Sumbawa District Health Office in West Nusa Tenggara Province confirmed two rabies-related deaths in the Utan and Tarano subdistricts during the second quarter of 2025. (Kompas.com, 2025). The victims had failed to receive post-exposure rabies vaccinations. As of May 2025, a total of 322 animal bite cases were reported, with Lunyuk recording the highest number at 55. Health authorities emphasized the importance of immediate treatment and reporting, confirmed vaccine stock availability, and have requested additional supply to anticipate further cases. [Full article]
- Philippines: Negros Occidental confirmed its fourth suspected rabies death in 2024, with a 25-year-old woman from Bacolod City dying after being bitten by a dog in Kabankalan City (Digicast Negros, 2025). The victim was unvaccinated and developing typical rabies symptoms. Health authorities urged the public to seek medical attention and post-exposure vaccination to prevent further fatalities. [Full article]
- Viet Nam: A 53-year-old man from Phu My City, Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province died of rabies in May 2025, four months after being bitten by a dog and failing to seek medical treatment (Tuổi Trẻ News, 2025). This marks the province's second rabies-related death in 2025. The victim developed severe neurological symptoms and tested positive for the virus. Local health authorities administered pre-exposure prophylaxis to the victim's son after potential exposure during a seizure episode. [Full article]

Typhoid

 The **Philippines** reported a 90.0% increase of typhoid cases in Bacolod City from January to May 2025, with 42 cases recorded and no fatalities (SunStar Bacolod, 2025). The most affected barangays, Taculing and Mansilingan, each reporting five cases. Authorities urge the public to maintain hand hygiene, consume safe food and water, and consider vaccination to prevent further transmission. [Full article]



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