

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

26–27 November, 2024



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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 from January 2024.

## Global Situation

### *Mpox*

- **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):** The DRC's Health Minister reported that the country has an average of over 800 suspected mpox cases per week (Plenglish, 2024). The fatality rate has increased from 0.21% to 1%, with South Kivu and Equateur being the most affected provinces. Since the outbreak, 49,566 suspected cases have been reported, with 10,846 confirmed and 1,193 registered deaths. [\[Full article\]](#)

### *COVID-19*

- **New Zealand** has reported 1,675 new cases of COVID-19 and six deaths in one week, as of Sunday 24 September (Rnz, 2024). There were 83 hospitalizations and six deaths attributed to the virus during the period. Information on how many of these were in intensive care is not available. [\[Full article\]](#)

### *Dengue*

- **Bangladesh:** Ten dengue patients died and 990 were admitted to hospitals in Bangladesh in the past 24 hours (Bss, 2024). So far this year, the total reported cases have risen to 88,715, with 471 fatalities. Last year, the country recorded 1,705 deaths and 321,179 cases linked to dengue. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India:** Dengue cases in Haryana have reached 5,300, with over 100 cases reported daily (Isha, 2024). Panchkula district is the hardest hit, recording four deaths—three in Urban Panchkula and one in the villages of Kot and Pinjore. More than 13,000 tests have been conducted, with local health teams actively raising awareness and monitoring the situation. Panchkula, particularly Old and Urban Panchkula, has seen significant case numbers, and nearby villages are also experiencing a rise in dengue cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

### *Leptospirosis*

- **Sri Lanka:** The Epidemiology Division reports a surge in leptospirosis cases, especially during rainy seasons, with Gampaha District reported over 500 cases with 35 deaths this year (Gold FM News, 2024). The disease, which is preventable through awareness and intervention, is spreading at epidemic levels. Officials are urging the public to take precautions to reduce risk and prevent further outbreaks. [\[Full article\]](#)



## ***Pertussis***

- **Australia** is experiencing a severe whooping cough epidemic, with nearly 42,000 cases reported in 2024 as of November 8 (Aap, 2024). A two-month-old baby died in Queensland, where at least 12,500 infections were recorded in 2024, up from 549 cases in the same period last year. Children under 15 are most at risk, making up 60% of all cases in 2024. The most concerning factor is dropping vaccination rates, with only 70.7% of pregnant women vaccinated in 2023, down from 77.2% in 2020. [\[Full article\]](#)

## **Regional Situation**

### ***Dengue***

- **Indonesia:** Four children aged 7 to 13 years have died due to dengue fever in Pati District, Central Java, highlighting the significant health risks during the rainy season (Harold, 2024). Authorities highlight environmental hygiene, including draining water containers and recycling waste, as the most effective mosquito control strategy. Public education and community collaboration aim to curb cases and prevent further deaths, with fogging viewed as a supplementary but less effective measure. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** The Ministry of Health's medical work report for November 2024 shows that this month, the country recorded 20,334 cases of dengue fever, including 3 deaths (Tien, 2024). Since the beginning of the year, the country had 114,906 cases of dengue fever, including 18 deaths. [\[Full article\]](#)

### ***Diphtheria***

- **Viet Nam:** A 5-year-old child in Bao Lam District, Cao Bang Province, tested positive for *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*, the bacteria responsible for diphtheria (SGGP, 2024). Despite symptoms, the child continued to attend school. The Cao Bang Province Department of Health has dispatched a working group to collaborate with Cao Bang Provincial Hospital and support the health center in controlling the outbreak. [\[Full article\]](#)

### ***Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease***

- **Viet Nam:** The Ministry of Health reported 11,256 hand, foot, and mouth disease cases in November (Tien, 2024). No deaths were recorded during the period. [\[Full article\]](#)

### ***Leptospirosis***

- **Philippines:** The Iloilo Provincial Health Office (IPHO) reported 181 leptospirosis cases from January to November 2024, with four fatalities in Sara, Barotac Nuevo, Cabatuan, and Leon (Daily Guardian, 2024). This is a 50% decrease from the 361 cases reported last year. IPHO officials emphasized the importance of avoiding contact with floodwaters and taking antibiotic prophylaxis. The IPHO continues to raise awareness and encourages community vigilance during the rainy season. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Measles

- **Viet Nam:** The Ministry of Health recorded 7,159 new cases of measles and 1 death (Tien, 2024). The cumulative total for 2024 is 14,287 cases and 4 deaths, a 42-fold increase in cases over the same period in 2023, with nearly 961,800 children vaccinated. The Ministry recommends localities to continue coordinating with neighboring areas to share information and increase vaccination rates. [[Full article](#)]

## Rabies

- **Viet Nam:** The Ministry of Health has reported four deaths of rabies in November 2024, bringing the total number of deaths since the beginning of the year to 74 cases (Tien, 2024). [[Full article](#)]

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