

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

April 06 - 08, 2024



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

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh:** Bangladesh reported 15 more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, with 336 samples tested, a 5.46 percent positivity rate (EM, 2024). The country's total fatalities remained at 2,9493, with 2,049,626 cases and 2,017,031 recoveries. The first case was on March 8, 2020. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **New Zealand:** New Covid-19 cases have been reported, with 3,385 reported in the past week and 13 deaths (News, 2024). 2,109 were reinfections. As of midnight Sunday, 145 cases were in the hospital, with Canterbury being the worst affected region. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** Dengue has not caused any deaths in the last 24 hours in Bangladesh, but nine more people have been admitted to hospitals (Pratidin, 2024). This year, 22 people have died from dengue. The number of dengue patients admitted to hospitals has reached 1,756, with 38 in Dhaka and 19 outside the city. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Italy:** Dengue cases in Italy are increasing, with the latest recorded in Magione, Perugia, by a couple who contracted the disease abroad (Artiaco, 2024). The couple's health is good, and tests have identified the presence of the virus. An extraordinary disinfection will be carried out in the Borgogiglione area to eliminate mosquitoes, the only potential vector of the infection. The disinfection will take place on 04/05/2024 in via Col Di Selva in the hamlet of Borgogiglione from 7pm to 9pm. A specific treatment will be carried out to control larvae in the following days. The mayor of Magione recalled that this tropical infectious disease is transmitted by tiger mosquitoes of the Aedes genus. [\[Full article\]](#)



Measles

- **Austria:** The number of measles cases in Vorarlberg has increased to 21, following a trend across Austria (ORF, 2024). Six of the 21 cases have required hospitalization, with six patients being hospitalized. The disease has caused complications of various degrees, including middle ear inflammation. Both children and adults are affected, with older people not yet affected. The infection process develops slowly due to an incubation period of up to 21 days, and the disease breaks out ten to 14 days after infection. The infection routes are sometimes very different, and there are up to six different PCR types in Vorarlberg. Measles can have long-term effects and is highly contagious, with complication rates high in acute cases. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Pakistan:** Measles epidemic in Khanpur Mehar has led to three child deaths in a week, with dozens still under treatment, but Sindh's health department remains silent (Alam, 2024). [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

Avian Influenza

- **Vietnam:** The Vietnam Ministry of Health has issued an urgent dispatch to strengthen the prevention and control of avian influenza transmitted to humans after the first case of influenza A(H9) was recorded in the country (Trithuccuocsong, 2024). The patient, a 37-year-old man, developed symptoms of fever and self-medicated but did not buy medicine regularly. He was diagnosed with severe pneumonia suspected to be caused by a virus. Initial test results showed positive for influenza A and had gene segments similar to influenza A virus subtype H9. The patient's place of residence is in a poultry market, and no respiratory infection symptoms have been detected. From 2015 to now, 98 cases of influenza A(H9N2) have been recorded in the Western Pacific region, including 2 deaths, both of which were patients with underlying diseases. There is currently no evidence that influenza A(H9N2) is transmitted from person to person. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** The Tulungagung District Health Service in East Java is implementing high alert due to a surge in dengue hemorrhagic fever cases over the last three months (Sujarwoko, 2024). The peak outbreak is predicted to occur in April, and the public is advised to be alert. The trend of cases has soared, with 89 cases reported in February and 196 in March. In the first week of April, 20 cases were reported. Nine people have died due to dengue fever, exceeding the 2023 figure of 206 cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

A seven-year-old child in Bangli District, Bali, died from dengue hemorrhagic fever (DBD) while undergoing treatment at Surya Husada Hospital in Denpasar (Swasrina, 2024). The victim had been treated at BMC Bangli Hospital for three days. The parents reported the child started having fever and nausea, leading to a referral to Surya Husada Hospital. The victim died due to dengue shock syndrome (DSS). [\[Full article\]](#)

In Kakultur area of North Kalimantan, Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) has increased, with 92 cases recorded and 2 deaths from January to April 2024 (Darmawan, 2024). The Nunukan District Health Office reported an increase in suspected cases in the Kakultur



area in March 2024. Health facilities, including the Tanjung Harapan Community Health Center in Sembakung Atulai District, reported a peak of 16 cases in the 11th week. The trend of suspected dengue disease in the Sembakung Atulai sub-district has started to increase. In Lumbis District, there were 5 suspected cases in the 9th week. Two cases of death have occurred due to dengue fever in the Nunukan District area. [\[Full article\]](#)

Mpox

- **Cambodia:** The Cambodian Ministry of Health reported three more cases of mpox, raising the total to 17, since the first recorded case in 2022 (Thao, 2024). The majority of cases were in Phnom Penh, aged 20-43. Symptoms include rash, blisters, fever, swollen lymph nodes, back pain, and muscle pain. The WHO reported mpox had been recorded in 117 countries with over 93,000 cases, including 176 deaths. The Cambodian Ministry of Health recommends people take care of their health and family, prevent outbreaks, and follow disease prevention measures. Mpox was initially endemic in Africa but increased in Europe in 2022, leading to a global health emergency. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- The **Philippines:** Baguio City has reported five cases of pertussis from February 19 to March 27, according to public health authorities (Dumlao, A., 2024). The city's mayor assured residents to be vigilant against the disease, which has been causing outbreaks across the country. No deaths were reported, and the last four cases of admission were confirmed last week. [\[Full article\]](#)

Rabies

- **Philippines:** The Department of Health reported 89 human rabies cases as of March 16, a 2% decrease from the same period last year (Baron, 2024). All cases resulted in 100% fatalities, and animal bite experts warn that immediate medical intervention is crucial. The highest number of cases was reported in Soccsksargen, followed by Calabarzon and Bicol Region. No reported cases of cattle/livestock-to-human rabies transmission were found in the Philippines. [\[Full article\]](#)

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