

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

09 – 10 July, 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 from January 2024.

Global Situation

COVID-19

- **New Zealand** has reported 2,772 new COVID-19 cases and 31 deaths, a decrease from 3,657 cases and 40 deaths reported by Te Whatu Ora/Health NZ last week (RNZ News, 2024). Of the new cases, 1,686 were reinfections, and 173 were hospitalized. Te Whatu Ora announced it would end Covid sick leave for health workers from July 14. The Public Service Association, representing 25,000 health workers, argued this could increase Covid transmission in hospitals among ill and vulnerable people. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** The Directorate General of Health Services reported that 88 dengue patients were hospitalized in the last 24 hours, with 27 in Dhaka city and 61 in other hospitals (Bss, 2024). This year, 4,129 cases have been reported, with 47 deaths. In the last 24 hours, 67 patients were discharged, bringing the total recoveries to 3,795. A recent survey identified 18 wards in Dhaka as high-risk areas for dengue. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Iran's** Deputy Minister of Health has reported 63 new cases of dengue fever, highlighting it as the country's most critical health issue (Iran International, 2024). Most patients are travelers from Persian Gulf countries, with seven provinces affected. The country is facing a shortage of doctors and nurses due to the economic crisis. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- **Russia:** Two measles outbreaks were identified in Petrozavodsk, with mild cases in a 34-year-old man and three relatives (Karchevtseva, 2024). This year, 15,000 Russian citizens have contracted measles. City polyclinics have implemented anti-epidemic measures, including apartment inspections, early detection of infected individuals, and vaccinations. [\[Full article\]](#)

Mpox

- **South Africa** has reported 20 confirmed mpox cases between May and July 2024, including three deaths, in three provinces (WHO, 2024). These are the first cases since 2022, primarily affecting men aged 17-43, including 11 who identify as men who have sex with men. At least 15 cases involve individuals living with advanced HIV disease and diabetes. Sexual contact is the primary exposure contact. While the overall public health risk is low, vulnerable groups such as gay men, bisexual men, trans and gender-diverse people, and sex workers face a moderate risk. The global outbreak of clade IIb mpox virus (MPXV) continues. [\[Full article\]](#)



Pertussis

- **Canada:** Quebec has seen a surge in whooping cough cases, a highly contagious respiratory infection, surpassing the 6,000 mark this year (Morin-Martel, 2024). The virus, which causes severe coughing, fever, runny nose, and red, watery eyes, can lead to complications such as pneumonia, ear infections, hernias, rib fractures, and seizures. Infants under one year old are especially at risk, with the most severe cases occurring in those under three months. Quebec has recorded 41 hospitalizations due to pertussis in 2024, with no reported deaths. The Estrie and Chaudière-Appalaches regions have seen the most cases, with 810 and 948 cases respectively. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

Avian Influenza (H5N1)

- **Cambodia:** A five-year-old girl in Po village, Kirirong district, Takeo province has been confirmed to have contracted H5N1 bird flu, marking the seventh case nationwide from January to July (Vibol, T., 2024). The girl, the cousin of a three-year-old boy who contracted the virus, is receiving mild treatment. The Ministry of Health is investigating suspected cases and providing Tamiflu medication to affected individuals. While the virus primarily spreads between birds, but human transmission can occur through close contact with infected or deceased birds. [\[Full article\]](#)

Cholera

- **Myanmar:** Six people have tested positive for cholera in Yangon, leading to the temporary closure of restaurants in the area (Irrawaddy.com, 2024). Since June 25, diarrhea outbreaks in Yangon have led to 44 hospitalizations, with two severe cases. On July 6, 63 new cases were reported. Health officials are increasing control measures. The Health Ministry warned about hygiene. Cholera, caused by contaminated food or water, causes severe diarrhea and can be fatal. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Two residents in Kota Raja Village, South Amuntai Sub-district, Hulu Sungai Utara District have tested positive for Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) (Akbar, 2024). The village head requested fogging to prevent further spread. The District Health Office responded quickly, fogging the affected neighbourhoods. The residents are being treated at Pambalah Batung Amuntai Regional Hospital. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Malaysia:** Dengue fever cases increased to 2,788 in the 26th Epidemiological Week (ME26) from June 23 to June 29, with five deaths due to complications (Bernama, 2024). The cumulative number of cases was 75,263, down from 59,057 in 2023. Seventy eight hotspots were reported, with 61 in Selangor, five in Perak, four in Kedah, three in Negeri Sembilan, two in Kuala Lumpur, and one in Sarawak and Penang. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Singapore** recorded 327 dengue cases from June 30 to July 6, bringing the total to 9,583 (Xinhua, 2024). The weekly reported cases resumed after falling under 300 for two consecutive weeks. The National Environment Agency (NEA) warns low immunity to all four dengue virus serotypes. [\[Full article\]](#)



- The **Philippines:** The Provincial Health Office (PHO) in Lingayen, Pangasinan Province, has increased its monitoring and Information Education Campaign against dengue to ensure public safety (PIMRO, 2024). From January 1 to July 8, 2024, the PHO recorded 716 dengue cases, a 4% decrease from 2023. PHO has also recorded five dengue deaths this year. Lingayen had the most cases, followed by Bugallon and Mangatarem. Other municipalities and cities on the watchlist include Binmaley, Urbiztondo, Labrador, San Carlos City, Calasiao, Bayambang, and Malasiqui. The PHO has urged the public to follow dengue preventive measures. [[Full article](#)]

Leptospirosis

- The **Philippines:** Bacolod City's leptospirosis cases decreased by 85.4~~percent~~% from January 1 to June 29, with seven cases and zero deaths in seven barangays (Beltran, 2024). The barangays reporting cases of leptospirosis are Pahanocoy, Felisa, Alijis, Punta-Taytay, Vista Alegre, Mansilingan, and Mandalagan, each with one case. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Vietnam:** Whooping cough has re-emerged in the central province of Thừa Thiên-Huế after over ten years, with five suspected cases, including two confirmed (VNS, 2024). The health department is working with localities to conduct investigations and send test samples to the Nha Trang Pasteur Institute for confirmatory testing, with the provincial health sector focusing on community and medical facility detection. The infection rate is high in closed spaces like households and schools. [[Full article](#)]

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