

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

July 27 – 29, 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

- The **United States (US)**: Philadelphia is experiencing a rise in COVID-19 cases due to the virus's mutation, posing public health challenges (Hill, 2024). Despite this, the city's COVID-19 Containment Division clinician, says that the overall numbers are still low. The city no longer tracks the number of people who test positive for COVID-19, but monitors the monthly concentration in Philadelphia's three wastewater treatment plants. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh** has reported 55 deaths from dengue this year, with two more deaths reported. 272 patients were hospitalized with viral fever, and 556 patients are receiving treatment (The Financial Express, 2024). A total of 5,768 dengue cases have been reported since January 1, 2024. [[Full article](#)]
- **Sri Lanka**: The National Dengue Control Unit (NDCU) reported 13 deaths and 32,183 cases in 2024, with Western Province being the hardest hit (Ada Derana, 2024). Colombo, Gampaha, Northern, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces have the most cases. NDCU urges the public to take preventive measures. [[Full article](#)]

Malaria

- **India**: The Chief Medical Officer Health (CMOH) of Purulia district has visited primary health centres after 166 people have been detected with malaria (SNS, 2024). The increase in malaria cases this year compared to last year has raised concerns for district officials. The highest number of cases has been reported from the Balarampur block, which has been a concern for the district health department. [[Full article](#)]
- **South Korea's** government issued two malaria alerts in July, in Yangcheon and Gangseo districts, following locally acquired cases (Herriman, 2024). The Seoul Metropolitan Government plans an epidemiological investigation in Gangseo. The Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency issued a national malaria alert on June 18 after mosquito vector numbers increased in over three cities and counties. [[Full article](#)]



Measles

- The **United States (US)** has reported 188 measles cases this year, more than triple the total from last year, with 93 hospitalized, mostly children under 5 (Bendix, A., 2024). The country has seen 13 measles outbreaks this year, with the largest in Chicago. This year's tally is the highest since 2019, when the country nearly lost its measles elimination status. [[Full article](#)]

Mpox

- **Australian** authorities have issued a warning to limit sexual partners and get vaccinated amid a surge in mpox cases (Mascarenhas, 2024). The virus is spread through prolonged contact with someone with mpox. Victoria is experiencing the largest outbreak, with 83 cases, while New South Wales and Queensland have 43 and 17 cases respectively. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)**: The Hawaii Department of Health has confirmed another case of mpox, bringing the total number of cases diagnosed in the state to five (Tsai, 2024). The latest case, a nonresident diagnosed in Honolulu, was confirmed to be mpox clade II, the strain responsible for a global outbreak that began in 2022. The Department of Health is advising anyone at elevated risk of mpox infection to consider being vaccinated with two doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine. [[Full article](#)]

Nipah

- **India**: Kerala Health Minister confirmed that 16 people who came into contact with a boy who died from the Nipah virus in Malappuram have returned negative results (KG, S., 2024). The boy was undergoing treatment for the infection. The health minister noted that there are 472 people on the contact list, with 21 admitted to hospitals in Manjeri and Kozhikode medical colleges. A fever survey was conducted across 8,376 houses in Pandikkad and Anakkayam panchayats in Malappuram, with 26,431 houses surveyed so far. [[Full article](#)]

Oropouche Virus

- **Brazil**: Two women in Brazil died from the unknown oropouche virus, which spreads from mosquito bites. Both were under 30 years old (Medical Xpress, 2024). The symptoms were similar to dengue, another mosquito-borne disease that may be confused with the oropouche virus. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Canada**: Nunavut's Department of Health has detected 32 whooping cough cases since the start of the outbreak (Nunatsiaq News, 2024). The most recent case was detected on July 20. The outbreak began on March 7 and has been detected in Rankin Inlet, Arviat, and Agnico Eagle's Amaruq gold mine. Children under one are at higher risk. [[Full article](#)]



Zika

- **India:** Pune district has reported a sharp rise in Zika cases, with nine new cases reported, raising the total to 48 (Pathare, 2024). Seven cases were reported in the Pune Municipal Corporation area, while the remaining cases are in Wagholi, Pune rural, and Pune Cantonment Board areas. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Malaysia:** During the 29th Epidemiological Week in Paramaribo, 317 new dengue fever cases were reported, including four deaths, bringing the total to 2,690 cases in epi-week 29 from 2,373 cases in epi-week 28 (Bernama, 2024). The number of hotspot localities in epi-week 28 were 100, with 71 in Selangor, six each in Perak, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya, and four in Negeri Sembilan and Kedah, two in Sabah and one in Kelantan. The Health Director-General called for regular gotong-royong activities and a monthly 'One Hour Malaysia Clean Up' for a dengue-free environment. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines:** Health officials identified mosquito breeding sites in 38 out of 51 barangays and collected samples for laboratory testing (Caduaya, 2024). As of July 27, the Ozamiz City Health Office reported 341 dengue cases, with 326 recoveries. Six deaths have occurred, and currently, there are nine active cases. [[Full article](#)]

Leptospirosis

- **Indonesia:** The Gunungkidul Health Office reported 16 leptospirosis cases without death in the last six months of 2024 (Pramono, A.Y., 2024). The trend of leptospirosis cases has fluctuated over the past few years, with zero deaths recorded in the first semester of 2024. However, since three years ago, there has been an increase in cases, with 16 cases spread across Patuk, Ponjong, Karangmojo, Nglipar, Gedangsari, and Tepus Districts. Farmers are at risk due to their presence in fields and rice fields. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Indonesia:** Five children in Padang Panjang city, West Sumatra province have been bitten by dogs with unknown whereabouts (Top Sumbar, 2024). The information went viral on social media, with the public being asked to be vigilant. Head of Animal Husbandry and Animal Health at the Padang Panjang City Food and Agriculture Office confirmed the circulating information and conducted field raids in all sub-districts. He suggested the public to take persons bitten by rabid dogs to the nearest hospital or health center. He advised people to recognize the dog's characteristics, color, size, and whether it is wearing a collar to help find the suspected dogs. [[Full article](#)]



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