ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

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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.

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Bulungan District, North Kalimantan Province, reported nine dengue patients requiring hospitalization in October 2026, all from Tanjung Palas, with no deaths (Koran Kaltara, 2026). Authorities conducted field inspections and planned targeted fogging. Residents were urged to conduct community clean-ups, implement vector control measures, and seek prompt medical care for suspected dengue symptoms. [Full article]

- The **Philippines:** Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital in Bacolod City recorded 50 dengue-related admissions during October 1–14, 2026, including 38 patients (76%) from Bacolod across 16 barangays (Philippine Daily Inquirer, 2026). Authorities advised mosquito repellents, stagnant-water elimination, sanitation, and early medical consultation for fever. [Full article]

  Manila, National Capital Region (NCR) reported 31 new dengue cases on October 19, 2026, bringing the cumulative total to 4,048 (RMN Networks, 2026). Most patients remained in six city-operated hospitals. Authorities continued patient monitoring and urged individuals with suspected dengue symptoms to seek prompt medical attention to prevent complications. [Full article]

- **Viet Nam:** Dong Nai Province reported 615 dengue cases during October 1–7, 2026, a 43% decrease from the previous week (Báo Đồng Nai, 2026). Cumulative cases reached approximately 16,900, with seven deaths. All 95 communes and wards reported cases, with serotypes D1–D4 circulating. Authorities continued surveillance, outbreak management, mosquito control, and public education. [Full article]

  Ho Chi Minh City reported 1,505 dengue cases during epi-week 40 (September 28 – October 4, 2026), a 2.3% decrease from the preceding four-week average (HCDC, 2026). Cumulative cases reached 37,369 in 2026. Con Dao, Ngai Giao, and Minh Thanh recorded high incidence rates. Authorities urged residents to follow recommended dengue prevention measures. [Full article]

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Viet Nam:** Ho Chi Minh City reported 1,673 HFMD cases during epi-week 40 of 2026, a 47.8% increase compared with the average of the preceding four weeks (HDCD, 2026). Cumulative cases reached 38,463 from January through week 40. Con Dao, Binh Khanh, and Hiep Phuoc recorded high incidence rates per 100,000 population. Authorities urged continued preventive measures against HFMD and dengue fever. [Full article].

  Dong Nai Province reported 618 HFMD cases during October 1–7, 2026, a 15.1% decrease from the previous week but a 144% increase year-on-year (Báo Đồng Nai, 2026). Cumulative cases reached nearly 12,500, with one death and 456 transmission clusters, including 182 in schools. In September, Dong Nai Children's Hospital recorded 329 hospitalizations. Authorities strengthened surveillance, school-based prevention, hygiene education, and disinfection. [Full article]

Measles

- **Indonesia:** Intan Jaya District, Central Papua Province, reported four child deaths from measles in October 2026 (Papua 60 Detik, 2026). On October 12, laboratory results confirmed 10 positive samples among 11 tested. Authorities deployed a seven-member investigation team, including two doctors, and coordinated with national and provincial authorities and WHO, requesting additional medical personnel, vaccines, medicines, and logistical support. [Full article]

Meningococcal Disease

- **Viet Nam:** Ho Chi Minh City reported a meningococcal disease cluster among students at Hai Ba Trung Secondary School, Hiep Phuoc Commune, during October 14–17, 2026 (SGGP, 2026). Initially, three cases and one death were reported, followed by a report of four infected students. Authorities conducted investigations, contact tracing, 10-day monitoring, indicated antibiotic prophylaxis, and enhanced school disinfection, ventilation, hygiene, and symptom surveillance. [Full article]

Global Situation

Ebola

- **Kenya** reported eight confirmed Bundibugyo virus disease (BVD) cases, following a new infection in a 49-year-old man who developed fever, headache, and muscle pain (Capital FM Africa, 2026). The patient was isolated, and confirmed patients received supportive care. Of 130 identified contacts, 128 had been traced and quarantined. Contact tracing and monitoring continued, with authorities reporting low public risk and no evidence of community transmission. [Full article]

Avian Influenza

- The **United States (US):** Yakima County, Washington State, reported one confirmed human H5N1 avian influenza case in a person exposed to infected dairy cattle (Yakima Herald, 2026). The patient isolated at home, had no severe illness, and was not hospitalized. Following detections at two dairy farms, authorities monitored close contacts and coordinated testing, guidance, and protective equipment for dairy workers. The risk to the public was assessed as low. [Full article]

Chikungunya

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** reported two imported chikungunya cases during the past week, bringing the annual total to seven, including six imported and one local case (RTHK, 2026). Both cases, two men aged 17 and 64 who travelled to mainland China, were hospitalized; one recovered, while the other remained stable. Investigations continue. [Full article]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) reported six dengue-related deaths and 2,088 new hospital admissions on October 18, 2026 (Bangladesh Pratidin, 2026). Cumulative totals in 2026 reached 348 deaths and 112,400 admissions, with 106,026 patients discharged. Recent deaths occurred in Dhaka Division (1), Dhaka North City Corporation (2), Dhaka South City Corporation (2), and Sylhet Division (1). [Full article]

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** reported one imported dengue case from October 9–15, 2026, bringing the annual total to 34, including 32 imported and two locally acquired cases (Metro HK, 2026). Authorities advised travellers to use insect repellents and prevent mosquito bites, while urging residents to eliminate stagnant water and maintain drainage to reduce mosquito breeding. [Full article]

- **India:** Lucknow City, Uttar Pradesh, reported 17 new dengue cases on October 17, 2026, bringing the cumulative city total to over 500 (Sanjeevni Today, 2026). Health authorities strengthened surveillance, patient testing, hospital preparedness, and public awareness. Preventive measures included eliminating stagnant water, maintaining cleanliness, and using mosquito protection to reduce transmission. [Full article]

  Jammu and Kashmir reported 27 new dengue cases on October 16, 2026, bringing the total to 1,393 cases and one death (Daily Excelsior, 2026). Jammu recorded 771 cases, followed by Doda (228) and Samba (188). Adults accounted for 1,198 cases and children 195. Authorities urged continued surveillance and mosquito control, particularly in hilly districts. [Full article]

Nagpur District, Maharashtra, reported 62 new dengue cases in the preceding 15 days, bringing the district total to 162 since January 2026, with no deaths reported (Lokmat Times, 2026). Authorities urged residents to eliminate mosquito-breeding sites in water coolers, household containers, and construction sites, use repellents, wear long-sleeved clothing, and seek prompt medical care for warning signs. [Full article]

- **Taiwan (Province of China):** Kaohsiung reported three imported dengue cases on October 17, 2026, bringing the annual total to 32 (Owlting, 2026). One was detected at the airport; two visited community locations while infectious. Authorities conducted investigations, breeding-site inspections, and vector control, advising returning travellers on symptom monitoring, prompt testing, and reporting. [Full article]

Legionellosis

- **Italy:** Versilia, Tuscany, reported one case of Legionnaires' disease in a female employee of a residential care facility, who was hospitalised at Versilia Hospital in stable condition (La Nazione, 2026). Facility management stated that the infection was not work-related, with no other cases reported. Periodic water monitoring and risk assessments continued in coordination with the local health authorities. [Full article]

  Brescia Province reported one Legionnaires' disease case in an elderly man previously discharged from Palazzolo sull'Oglio Community Hospital after staying there in September 2026 (Il Giorno, 2026). On October 16, the hospital was evacuated, and 17 patients were assessed and discharged or transferred; none had symptoms. Authorities have initiated environmental investigations, disinfection, preventive measures, and health monitoring to identify the infection source. [Full article]

Measles

- **Bangladesh:** On October 17, 2026, the Directorate General of Health Services reported three deaths associated with measles-like symptoms and 1,032 new cases involving measles-like symptoms or confirmed measles in the preceding 24 hours (The Financial Express, 2026). Since March 15, Bangladesh has recorded 211,990 cases with measles-like symptoms, 23,057 confirmed measles cases, and 1,085 associated deaths, including 104 from confirmed measles. [Full article]

- The **United States (US):** The Minnesota Department of Health reported 18 new measles cases in Todd County in the past week, bringing the state's 2026 total to 42 (ArcaMax, 2026). Two outbreaks remained ongoing in the state's least-vaccinated counties. No measles-related hospitalizations were reported this year. Authorities urged unvaccinated residents to receive vaccination. [Full article]

Melioidosis

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** reported one new melioidosis case during October 9–15, 2026, involving a 74-year-old woman with underlying illnesses residing in Sham Shui Po District (Government World, 2026). She developed symptoms on October 4, was hospitalized with pneumonia and died on 8 October. *Burkholderia pseudomallei* was detected. The cause of death remains under investigation. Nine cases were reported so far in 2026. Authorities investigated the infection source and promoted preventive measures. [Full article]

MERS-CoV

- **Saudi Arabia** reported eight laboratory-confirmed Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) cases, including one death, from January 1 to October 5, 2026 (World Health Organization, 2026). Cases occurred in six locations: Al Jouf, Arar, Hafr Al-Batin, Riyadh, Tabuk, and Taif. Five patients were aged 70 years or older, and seven had underlying comorbidities. Contact tracing identified no secondary cases; enhanced surveillance, infection prevention, and public awareness measures continued. [Full article]

Mpox

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** reported one confirmed imported mpox case involving a 36-year-old man on October 16, 2026, who developed fever and sore throat, followed by rashes (Oriental Daily News, 2026). He was isolated at Princess Margaret Hospital on 13 October and remained stable. He reported high-risk sexual contact abroad. Since 2022, Hong Kong has recorded 116 cases, including 91 local and 25 imported cases. [Full article]

- **Russia Federation:** Saint Petersburg reported four new confirmed mpox cases, with all patients hospitalized in moderate condition (Kommersant, 2026). Separately, Moscow Region hospitalized five people with suspected mpox following reported shared accommodation and contact with a possible virus carrier on 10 October 2026. The regional Rospotrebnadzor office initiated an epidemiological investigation. [Full article]

- **Taiwan (Province of China):** Taichung City reported six locally acquired mpox cases during September–October 2026, bringing city total to 10, including nine local and one imported case (Yahoo News Taiwan, 2026, 2026). As of October 15, Taiwan reported 51 cases, comprising 40 local and 11 imported. Authorities planned seven outreach vaccination sessions, urging two-dose vaccination, safer sex, and prompt medical care for suspected symptoms. [Full article]

- **South Africa:** Free State Province reported its first mpox case in Sasolburg CIty. The patient was clinically stable, isolated at home, and receiving care (SABC News, 2026). Authorities initiated follow-up of close contacts, with assessments and testing ongoing. Public risk was assessed as low, with no evidence of widespread transmission. Asymptomatic close contacts were advised to monitor symptoms for 21 days and follow infection prevention measures. [Full article]

Rabies

- **China** reported a 26-year-old man died from rabies-related respiratory failure after a fox bite four months earlier without post-exposure prophylaxis (El Economista, 2026). He developed progressive lower-limb paralysis and was initially misdiagnosed with traumatic spinal cord injury after a three-metre fall. Rabies was subsequently confirmed at West China Hospital, Sichuan University, highlighting the importance of prompt assessment and prophylaxis after potential exposure. [Full article]

- **Pakistan:** Sindh Province reported a suspected rabies death involving a 70-year-old man at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, Karachi, on October 14, 2026 (The Express Tribune, 2026). He developed muscle stiffness and hydrophobia nearly 20 days after dog bites and had not received vaccination. Sindh's rabies death toll reached 39 so far in 2026. Experts stressed prompt wound washing and post-exposure prophylaxis. [Full article]

  Hyderabad District, Sindh Province, reported a fatal rabies case involving an 11-year-old boy bitten by a stray dog two months earlier (Pro Pakistani, 2026). He developed symptoms four days before admission, was diagnosed at Jinnah Hospital, and died during treatment at Liaquat University Hospital on October 13, 2026. Sindh recorded approximately 40 rabies deaths so far in 2026, including four child deaths in Hyderabad. [Full article]

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