

COVID-19, Mpox, and Other Infectious Diseases Situational Report in the ASEAN Region

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Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency



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COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- Worldwide, there have been over 683 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- India's Union Health Ministry reported 2,151 new COVID-19 cases within 24 hours, the highest in five months.¹¹ According to the data updated on March 29 (Wednesday), the active cases have increased to 11,903.¹¹ The daily positivity was recorded at 1.51%, while the weekly positivity was at 1.53%.¹¹ Earlier this week, the government reviewed its States' and Union Territories' preparedness/pandemic management and the progress of vaccination after active cases in the country crossed the 10,000 mark.¹¹ Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan emphasized ramping up testing with a higher proportion of RT-PCR, and whole genome sequencing of positive samples. He urged people to always follow COVID-19-appropriate behavior and stressed on the need to increase the administration of the precautionary dose, especially in the vulnerable population group.¹¹ The Health Secretary also cautioned against any complacency and advised states and territories to follow up on the priorities listed in a joint advisory issued by the Department of Health Research and the Department of Health and Family Welfare.¹¹

Regional Update

• The **Philippines** experienced a modest spike in COVID-19 in the previous week, but the Department of Health stated on March 28 that this was insufficient to impose tight restrictions.¹⁶ The country's daily average increased to 207 illnesses in the last week, up from 156 cases between March 14 and March 20.¹⁶ Despite the increase in cases, Vergeire observed that the frequency of hospital admissions and severe and critical cases remain "manageable.¹⁶" COVID-19-related deaths are likewise kept to a minimal.¹⁶ [Full article]

Vaccine Update

- **Malaysia:** The government and pharmaceutical company Pfizer-BioNTech are now discussing Malaysia's acquisition of the bivalent COVID-19 vaccine, according to the Health Ministry on March 29.¹⁶ Dr. Zaliha Mustafa, its minister, stated that the government will announce the distribution date once discussions are completed.¹⁶ [Full article]
- The World Health Organization said on March 28 (Tuesday) that it is no longer • recommending additional COVID-19 vaccine booster doses for regular, medium-risk adults as the benefit was marginal.¹² The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) said that some countries may continue to offer boosters to people at medium and low risk, but those decisions should be made based on national conditions and health spending priorities.¹² The revised roadmap outlines three priorityuse groups for COVID-19 vaccination: high, medium, and low.¹² These priority groups are principally based on the risk of severe disease and death and consider vaccine community performance, cost-effectiveness, programmatic factors, and acceptance.¹² The high-priority group includes older adults; younger adults with significant comorbidities; individuals with immunocompromising conditions, including children aged 6 months and older; pregnant persons; and frontline health workers.¹² For the high-priority group, SAGE recommends an additional booster of either 6 or 12 months after the last dose, with the timeframe depending on factors such as age and immunocompromising conditions.¹² Meanwhile, SAGE recommends a primary series



and only a first booster dose for the medium-priority group including healthy adults under 60, and children and adolescents with comorbidities.¹² [Full article]

Research Update (Published and peer-reviewed studies)

• The study A prospective cohort study assessing the relationship between long-COVID symptom incidence in COVID-19 patients and COVID-19 vaccination found a 41.6% rate of persistent symptoms among 669 adult COVID-19 survivors for up to 3 months.¹³ Researchers from An-Najah National University in Palestine analyzed clinical and sociodemographic data from medical records and semi-structured phone interviews 10, 30, 60, and 90 days after diagnosis.¹³ Of the 669 patients, 41.6% had long-COVID symptoms, with higher odds among women, people older than 50 years, those who required hospitalization, and patients with shortness of breath at day 10 or fatigue at day 60.¹³ Unvaccinated participants were nearly seven times more likely than their vaccinated peers to report lingering symptoms. The most common symptoms on day 10 were shortness of breath (38.7%), cough (31.8%), insomnia (31.5%), and fatigue (29.3%).¹³ Shortness of breath and fatigue were still the most common symptoms on day 90, affecting a respective 20.0% and 14.9% of patients.¹³ [Full text]

Cases and Deaths as of 29 March 2023

- As of 29 March 2023 (1PM, GMT+7), worldwide, there were 683,485,033 confirmed cases, including 6,828,177 deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was 1.2%.
- 35,658,150 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the ASEAN Region.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the ASEAN Region is range between 0.1 to 3.1%

COVID-19 cases in ASEAN region

REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN	Brunei Darussalam	10 Mar 20	07-Mar-23	280,790	-	225	-	64,053	450,404	445,929	338,987	99.3
REGION	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	28-Mar-23	138,725	-	3,056	-	841	15,244,858	14,609,937	10,433,215	87.1
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	29-Mar-23	6,745,016	143	161,006	1	2,490	203,657,535	172,693,321	67,952,274	62.7
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	29-Mar-23	218,034	1	758	-	3,041	5,888,649	5,222,417		69.4
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	28-Mar-23	5,049,268	-	36,979	7	15,788	28,125,245	27,536,657	17,056,957	81.1
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	27-Mar-23	634,075	-	19,490	-	1,173	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	50.8
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	28-Mar-23	4,080,562	-	66,351	9	3,771	78,369,243	73,937,435	21,341,197	64.0
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	17-Mar-23	2,255,812	-	1,722	-	39,049	5,161,990	5,120,768	4,440,289	90.8
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	27-Mar-23	4,728,632	-	33,935	6	6,791	57,005,497	53,486,086	32,143,431	74.6
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	28-Mar-23	11,527,236	-	43,186	-	11,950	90,450,881	85,848,363	57,452,750	87.4
	ASEAN COUNTRIES			35,658,150	144	366,708	23	148,946	519,131,616	466,446,242	213,386,451	

*There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the ASEAN Region.

REGION	REGION TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES		TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS
ASIA	193,496,428	13,244	1,200,272	9
AFRICA	12,809,582	-	258,653	
AMERICAS	193,834,622	-	2,973,164	
EUROPE	247,686,251	-	2,029,380	-
TOTAL	647,826,883	13,244	6,461,469	9

COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to March 29, 2023



ASEAN COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 09 March 2023



*Last update in COVID-19 vaccination status in ASEAN was on March 9, 2023.

Reported Infectious Diseases in ASEAN Region and Neighboring Countries

From March 20-26, 2023





Reported Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19, Mpox, Measles, and Dengue

March 20-26, 2023

Infectious Disease Global Updates

Marburg Disease

- Equatorial Guinea: Additional laboratory-confirmed cases of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) have been reported in the provinces of Litoral and Centre Sur. The distance between affected provinces suggests that undetected community transmission of MVD may be occurring within the country. There are 4 additional cases in the densely populated port city of Bata, Litoral Province. As of 23 March 2023, there were 9 laboratory confirmed human cases (including 7 deaths) and 24 probable cases (including 20 deaths) and 2 suspected human cases.
- **Tanzania:** On 21-Mar-2023, health authorities identified Marburg disease as the cause for the unknown illness which had been associated with five deaths in Kagera Region last week. Initially reported by BlueDot as notable event alert on 16-Mar-2023, entitled Unknown Illness in Tanzania, reporting on affected individuals in the villages of Bulinda and Butayaieba, as well as the Bukoba Rural District in the northwestern Kagera Region of the country. As of 16 March 2023, there have been 8 human cases including 5 deaths. Three patients are currently receiving treatment in the hospital and 161 contacts have been identified and are being monitored. A concurrent outbreak of Marburg disease has been reported in Equatorial Guinea, approximately 2,900 km away from Tanzania. The distance between these two outbreaks makes it unlikely that they are linked. However, the driving factors behind these outbreaks may be similar with respect to seasonality and wildlife exposure.

• Risk Assessment

The BlueDot Intelligence Team considers this event to be of high concern at the local and regional levels and medium at the global level. Current situation demonstrates the risk of export of MVD to other densely populated areas both domestically and internationally. Community transmission may be occurring. The low health care capacity in Equatorial Guinea poses challenges for containment. The risk of regional and international spread through ground travel is plausible considering the porous borders, plus the spread through boat travel due to proximity to the coast.

Using BlueDot Database, ABVC reports no air travel related importation to the ASEAN Member States of Marburg Disease from Marburg Disease affected countries in Africa as of 28 March 2023.

• The **Indonesian** government released a circular on Marburg virus sickness precautions.¹⁴ Local governments, health care facilities, the Port Health Office, health human resources, and other stakeholders are being urged to be on the lookout for the fatal virus.¹⁴ Mohammad Syahril, a spokeswoman for the Health Ministry, cautioned the government and the public not to be dazzled by the virus.¹⁴ "We must remain vigilant and anticipate the Marburg virus disease," Syahril stated in a statement on Tuesday, March 28.¹⁴ [Full article]

Vaccine-derived Poliomyelitis

• **Peru:** A human case of circulating-vaccine-derived polio type 1 has been confirmed in the Amazon area of the region of Loreto northeast Peru. On 21-March-2023, the Peru IHR National Focal Point (NFP) notified Pan American Health Organization/ World Health



Organization (PAHO/WHO) of a laboratory-confirmed case of cVDPV-1. The affected is a 16-month-old male child residing in an Indigenous community in the Manseriche district in the Datem del Marañón province of the Loreto department, with no history of vaccination and no travel history before the onset of symptoms. On 27-December-2022, the child developed fever and 48 hours later developed paralysis in the lower limbs and was admitted to a local hospital. Fecal samples were sent to the regional reference laboratory, the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) in Brazil. Overall in Peru, polio vaccination coverage at the national level has been below the WHO-recommended threshold over the last four years. Official data shows immunization coverage below 80% in 2019, 71.6% in 2020, and 78.8% in 2021. Of the 1,874 districts across the country, 840 (45%) have reported coverage with the third dose of polio below 80%.

Infectious Disease in ASEAN region and Neighboring Countries Updates

Diphtheria

• Indonesia: Three children in Tulungagung District, East Java, contracted diphtheria. "These cases start from January to March 2023," explained the Head of Disease Prevention and Management of the Tulungagung Health Office, Didik Eka via telephone line, Friday (24 March 2023).⁵ The patients originated from a number of areas in Tulungagung.⁵ The first patient was 16 years old from Bandung District, the second patient was six years old, and the third patient was 10 years old from Ngunut District.⁵ Of the three patients, two have recovered.⁵ While one other patient is still being treated and his condition is getting better.⁵ "Their vaccinations are complete.⁵ If they have not been vaccinated, then their condition will get worse," said Didik Eka.⁵ The Tulungagung Health Office sent a number of samples to Surabaya for research.⁵ In addition, the health office actively consults with experts from the Dr. Soetomo Surabaya Regional General Hospital.⁵ Based on the consultation, the health service was asked to prepare antidiphtheria serum (ADS).⁵ "The ADS is prepared if the patient's condition worsens.⁵ However, ADS was not used for these patients," explained Didik Eka.⁵ [Full article]

Varicella

• Vietnam: Information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Hanoi on March 21 said that in the past week (from March 10 to 17), the city recorded 70 cases of chickenpox.⁶ On average, the last few weeks have recorded about 70-110 new cases.⁶ Accumulated from the beginning of 2023 until now, the whole city has had 548 cases of chickenpox (while in the same period in 2022, there were 4 cases).⁶ The number of cases was high in the preschool age group (36.5%) and primary school (38%).⁶ The Hanoi CDC said that chickenpox is an infectious disease caused by the Varicella Zoster virus, which usually occurs all year round, but the time when the number of infected people increases is from March to May every year.⁶ This is the late spring and early summer period, the humidity in the air is high, creating favorable conditions for the virus to spread and spread.⁶ Therefore, the number of chickenpox cases may continue to increase in the near future.⁶ Chickenpox patients were recorded in 18/30 districts, in which some districts have a high number of cases, led by Chuong My with 230 cases, followed by Me Linh with 69 cases, Ba Vi (60 cases).⁷ Nam Tu Liem (56 cases), My Duc (42 cases).⁷

Polio

• Indonesia: The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) is convening this week in Geneva, Switzerland, to deliberate on a broad range of immunization issues, including on polio eradication. In February, the SAGE's Working Group on Polio Eradication had discussed additional immunization strategies in areas of persistent



poliovirus transmission, and the role of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) and novel oral polio vaccine type 2 (nOPV2). Summary of new polioviruses this week (March 22, 2023) included Indonesia which reported one cVDPV2-positive case. Others were Pakistan with one wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) case and Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) with two circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) and three cVDPV2-positive cases. The rest reported positive environmental samples. i.e. Afganistan, Algeria, Benin, Madagascar, Niger and Nigeria. [Full report]

Avian Influenza A(H3N8)

People's Republic of China: According to the Guangdong Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention one case of H3N8 was reported in Zhongshan City.⁸ The case was a 56-year-old female with multiple myeloma who had a history of exposure to live poultry before the onset of the disease, and a history of wild bird activities around her home.⁸ The Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention checked and tested the case specimens, and the result was positive for H3N8 avian influenza virus nucleic acid.⁸ Zhongshan City has been guided to carry out epidemiological investigations, close contact tracking management, investigation of epidemic-related places, on-site elimination and other epidemic disposal work in accordance with relevant plans.⁸ No abnormalities have been found in close contacts so far.⁸ Experts believe that this case is a sporadic case, and the risk of virus transmission is low at this stage.⁸ Avian A(H3N8) influenza viruses are commonly detected globally in animals and represent one of the most frequently found subtypes in wild birds, causing minimal to no sign of disease in domestic poultry or wild birds.⁸ Cross-species transmission events of avian A(H3N8) influenza viruses have been reported for various mammal species, for example, equine and canine lineage of A(H3N8) viruses cause outbreaks in horses and dogs respectively.8 [Full article]

Melioidosis

• Hong Kong's fourth melioidosis infection this year was recorded this past week, involving a 76-year-old Sham Shui Po resident who has diabetes, the Centre for Health Protection said on March 24.⁹ The patient developed a fever, cough, and generalized weakness on February 25 and consulted at the Accident and Emergency Department of Caritas Medical Centre on March 1.⁹ He was admitted the same day.⁹ He later developed acute retention of urine and was put on a urinary catheter.⁹ He was discharged on March 19 after being treated with antibiotics.⁹ His urinary catheter was blocked the next day and he was readmitted to the hospital.⁹ His urine sample then tested positive for *Burkholderia pseudomallei* upon testing, making him the city's fourth melioidosis infection this year.⁹ He is now in stable condition, and an epidemiological investigation is ongoing.⁹ A total of 46 melioidosis infections were recorded last year, and 30 of the patients lived in Sham Shui Po.⁹ The CHP urged the public, especially those with diabetes and other immunocompromised conditions, to seek medical advice if they develop symptoms to receive appropriate medical diagnosis and treatment.⁹ [Full article]

Dengue outside ASEAN region

• South Korea: The Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Ji Young-mi is advising precautions to be taken to avoid contracting mosquito-borne infectious diseases when visiting Southeast Asia, as the first case of Zika virus infection was recently confirmed this year following the continuous occurrence of dengue fever and chikungunya fever among visitors to Southeast Asia.¹⁰ Although dengue fever, chikungunya fever, and Zika virus infections are caused by different viruses, they are all infectious diseases transmitted by the bite of infected Aedes aegypti mosquitoes.¹⁰ Three types of imported mosquito-borne infectious diseases occur each year in about



100 countries in subtropical and tropical regions around the world, and all 10 countries in Southeast Asia are countries where mosquito vectors and mosquito-borne infectious diseases have been reported–Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Singapore, Cambodia, Brunei, Myanmar.¹⁰ Of the 35 confirmed cases of dengue fever reported from January of this year to the present, the most cases were infected after visiting Vietnam (12 cases), followed by Indonesia (9 cases), the Philippines (5 cases), Thailand and Malaysia (each 2), followed by Laos, Singapore, India, and Bolivia (1 each).¹⁰ Chikungunya fever occurred in 5 patients this year, and infection was confirmed after visiting Thailand (4 patients) and the Philippines (1 patient).¹⁰ [Full article]



Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1 to March 28, 2023



Dengue cases in ASEAN region

Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases since the previous report	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	750	350	2	0.27%
Indonesia	2,930	0	24	0.82%
Lao PDR	670	122	0	0.00%
Malaysia	26,222	6,772	15	0.06%
Myanmar	-	-	-	-
Philippines	21,941	4,805	55	0.25%
Singapore	1,974	0	0	0.00%
Thailand	3,855	0	1	0.03%
Vietnam	13,000	0	0	0.00%
Total	71,342	12,049	97	0.14%

*Data from Bluedot Insights, cases may differ from how data is reported in countries and other authorities. Data may be subject to retrospective correction by national authorities.

• ASEAN region reported **12,049** new dengue cases since previous report in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, and the Philippines. The region reported **71,342** total cases and **97** total deaths in 2023 with **0.14%** CFR.



Dengue in ASEAN Region

- Lao PDR: Lao Ministry of Health urged people nationwide to remain vigilant and help control the spread of dengue fever, as the number of infected cases continues to grow across the country.³ A report issued by the Center of Information and Education for Health under the Lao Ministry of Health on March 23 said the country reported 10 new cases of dengue fever, bringing the total number of infections to 670.³ The highest number of dengue patients, or 116 cases, was reported in the Lao capital Vientiane, with 97 cases in Oudomxay province, and 64 cases in Khammuan province.³ Lao Ministry of Health suggested several simple measures as the most effective method of dengue control, which are being practiced by households across the region.³ These measures include closing and sealing all unused containers, flushing out all water vessels, placing the mosquito larvae-eating guppy fish in water jars, and cleaning areas around homes.³ Lao health authorities advise that if people fall ill, they should suspect that dengue may be the cause of their illness and get a blood test at a hospital.³ The ministry also advised local authorities to closely monitor and educate communities so that they understand the dangers of the disease and take active preventive steps.³ [Full article]
- **Vietnam**: Dengue fever outbreaks are on the rise before the rainy season in Vietnam. Vietnam has recorded around 13,000 cases of dengue fever so far this year, about 2.3 times higher than the same period in 2022, according to the Ministry of Health.⁴ The rising numbers of cases have been recorded in mainly in central and southern localities, the General Department of Preventive Medicine reported.⁴ However, Hanoi has also not been spared.⁴ The capital's Center for Disease Control (CDC) has recorded 172 dengue fever cases in 23 of 30 districts, a 20-fold increase from the same period last year.⁴ The health ministry said abnormal weather conditions have contributed to the rise in the number of cases.⁴ Normally dengue does not hit in such numbers until the rainy season.⁴ A surge in cases is expected soon as the country enters the rainy season, it added.⁴ On March 27, the ministry asked localities to ramp up environmental cleanup efforts to curb the spread of outbreaks.⁴ Medical facilities must ensure enough medicine and equipment to treat patients, it added.⁴ Vietnam recorded over 361,000 cases of dengue fever last year, with 133 deaths. Hanoi alone recorded over 19,000 dengue fever cases.⁴ There is no effective cure for dengue fever, and treatments mainly deal with symptoms. Symptoms include high fever, muscle pain and hemorrhaging.⁴ [Full article]



Measles Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1 to March 28, 2023



Measles cases in ASEAN region

Country	Measles Cases	New Cases since the previous report	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	784	0	15	1.91%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-
Malaysia	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	-	-	-	-
Philippines	141	0	-	0.00%
Singapore	3	0	-	0.00%
Thailand	-	-	-	-
Vietnam	-	-	-	-
Total	928	0	15	1.62%

*Data from Bluedot Insights, cases may differ from how data is reported in countries and other authorities. Data may be subject to retrospective correction by national authorities.

• ASEAN region reported **0** new measles cases in since past week in the Philippines. The region reported **928** total cases and **15** total deaths in 2023 with **1.62%** CFR.

Mpox (Monkeypox) Cases Reported Globally

as of March 28, 2023





Mpox Daily Trend Globally

as of March 28, 2023





Mpox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 28 March 2023 (1PM, GMT+7), worldwide, there were **86,724** confirmed cases, including **112** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.13%**.
- 46 confirmed cases in the ASEAN region, with CFR of 0%.
- **86,678 confirmed cases** of Mpox have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN region):

Mpox cases in ASEAN region

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Singapore	21	-	-	0.00%
Thailand	18	1	-	0.00%
Vietnam	2	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN Total	46	1	-	0.00%

Mpox cases in Asia-Pacific region

Country/Territory	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Australia	144	-	-	0.00%
India	22	-	1	5.00%
Japan	63	4	-	0.00%
New Caledonia	1	-	-	0.00%
New Zealand	41	-	-	0.00%
People's Republic of China*	19	-	-	0.00%
Republic of Korea*	5	-	-	0.00%
Sri Lanka	2	-	-	0.00%
Asia-Pacific Total	297	8	1	0.39%

*People's Republic of China – including Hong Kong (SAR), Macao (SAR), and Taiwan (Province of China)

Top 5 countries with most mpox cases globally

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
United States of America	30,063	15	38	0.13%
Brazil	10,890	12	15	0.14%
Spain	7,546	-	3	0.04%
France	4,128	-	-	0.00%
Colombia	4,089	1	-	0.00%



REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA	1,487	6	19	1.28%
AMERICAS	58,992	63	86	0.15%
ASEAN	46	1	-	0.00%
ASIA PACIFIC	289	8	1	0.34%
EUROPE	25,581	-	6	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	321	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL	86,724	78	112	0.13%

Mpox cases per region

Global Update

- **Republic of China:** The CDC of the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced today that the first local monkeypox case has occurred in Miaoli County.¹ The Health Bureau of the Miaoli County Government stated that the case was a 36-year-old man who had fever, lymphadenopathy, and fatigue in early March.¹ Self-medication did not improve. On March 10, he went to a hospital in Taipei for treatment and was admitted to the isolation ward.¹ The Health Bureau of the Miaoli County Government confirmed that this case is the first local monkeypox case in Miaoli County.¹ However, Zhang Ruixian, director of the Health Bureau of the Miaoli County Government, said that the transmission of monkeypox is limited to the target, and this wave of epidemics is mainly transmitted from close contact to human beings.¹ The public is reminded that if they go to epidemic areas or domestic high-risk venues, they should implement self-protection and avoid high-risk venues such as social activities where they may have close contact with unspecified people.¹ Zhang Ruixian also reminded that once with suspected symptoms, they should seek medical treatment as soon as possible, and take the initiative to inform the doctor of your travel history and contact history.¹ The Miao County Government Health Bureau also emphasized that after self-assessment, those with high risk behavior can go to the "Monkeypox Vaccination Registration Platform (https://mpox.cdc.gov.tw/)" of the CDC to register for the pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) vaccine.¹ [Full article]
- Japan: The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare and others announced on the 20th that a man in his 30s living in Tokushima Prefecture was infected with monkeypox.² He is recovering at home and is said to be in stable condition with a rash and cough.² This is the first time that a resident in the prefecture has been confirmed to be infected.² According to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare and Osaka Prefecture, the man visited a medical institution in the prefecture on the 17th and was found to be positive after undergoing an administrative test.² There is no history of overseas travel or contact with people who have traveled, and there is a possibility of community-acquired infection in Japan.² Public health centers in the prefecture are investigating the route of infection and the existence of close contacts.² Since May 2022, patients have been appearing one after another, mainly in Europe and the United States.² In Japan, in July, a Tokyo man who had a history of staying in Europe was confirmed to be infected for the first time, and as of the 20th, 59 cases have been confirmed. All were male, and none resulted in death or serious injury.² [Full article]



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