

COVID-19 and Monkeypox

Situational Report in the ASEAN+3 Region

-ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- Worldwide, there have been over 602 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **USA:** Rapid antigen testing to identify COVID-19 are once again in the news as the US begins its autumn semester of classes. However, recent recommendations from public health organizations have some Americans perplexed about the optimum times and ways to conduct at-home COVID tests. The usage of at-home COVID testing surged significantly at the beginning of this year, between the decline of delta and the growth of the omicron variation, encouraged by the availability of free tests from the government and health insurance paying the cost of kits. Between October 2021 and May 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention produced more than 2.5 trillion home tests for people living in the US. A common diagnostic method for preventing viral transmission at private and public gatherings, as well as in schools, is the rapid COVID test. The US Food and Drug Administration has updated its testing guidelines for those who have been exposed to COVID-19. However, new study indicates that at-home COVID tests may not yield positive findings for individuals who have recently been infected. The CDC has also loosened its regulations on COVID-19 quarantines, viral exposure, and screening tests. Find out how the most recent omicron variations function with COVID tests and why the FDA and CDC have modified their recommendations for at-home testing. For additional information on COVID, see the following for information on this fall's recommended boosters. [Full Article]

The U.S. FDA said on August 19 that it has ordered Pfizer Inc. to examine the results of administering a second round of the antiviral Paxlovid to patients who show a resurgence in COVID-19 following therapy.⁵ The FDA informed Pfizer in a letter dated August 5 that the company was required to present the preliminary findings of a randomized controlled study of a second course of the antiviral by September 30 of the following year.⁵ The order comes in response to reports of recurring viral infections, symptoms, or both after the first treatment, including in President Joe Biden and Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.⁵ The FDA began discussions with the firm regarding the experiment in May as a result of the events, which Pfizer claims are uncommon.⁵ [Full Article]

• Canada: The use of the COVID-19 vaccine by Pfizer Inc. (PFE.N) and BioNTech (22UAy.DE) as a booster for children aged five to eleven, at least six months after getting their initial two doses, was approved, the Canadian Ministry of Health announced on August 19.4 After a rigorous, independent examination of the vaccine, which "provides good protection against serious sickness, hospitalization, and death," the health ministry said on Twitter that a booster dose was authorized.⁴ Although the number of COVID-19 cases in Canada is declining, Dr. Theresa Tam, the country's senior public health officer, warned that additional COVID-19 varieties may appear in the months to come.⁴ [Full Article]

Research update

Two doses of the BNT162b2 vaccine, though with waning immunity, may be sufficient for
protection against critical SARS-CoV-2 infection in adolescents, according to a study on
the effectiveness of the BNT162b2 vaccine against SARSCoV-2 infection and critical
infection among adolescents in South Korea.⁶ As a result, teens may need booster shots
to maintain their protection.⁶ [Full Text]

• Ambulatory COVID-19 was linked to a significantly higher risk of incident VTE, according to a population-based cohort analysis of COVID-19 patients from the UK Biobank, although this risk was significantly decreased in those who were completely vaccinated and had a breakthrough infection. Clinical risk variables for post-COVID-19 VTE included advanced age, male sex, and obesity. Factor V Leiden thrombophilia was also linked to a doubled risk, equivalent to that of 10-year aging. These results underline the importance of immunization, provide information on VTE risk stratification, and encourage the use of tailored VTE prophylactic techniques for outpatients with COVID-19 who are not immunized. [Full Text]

Regional update

- Brunei: There are currently no COVID-19 patients in Category 5 who require care in an intensive care unit, but there are two instances in Category 4 who are getting breathing support and are being closely watched.⁸ Brunei kept up its trend of not having any COVID-19 deaths over the previous 24 hours. The Ministry of Health (MoH) included these specifics in its daily report.⁸ [Full Report]
- **Singapore:** Singapore will scrap rules for wearing masks in most indoor settings. According to Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in his annual National Day Rally speech on August 21 (Sunday), masks will only be required on public transport and healthcare facilities like hospitals and nursing homes after the easing, however, further details will be released later. The masking requirement is one of the last few COVID-19 curbs in the city-state after authorities lifted most rules including limits on gatherings and testing for incoming vaccinated travelers. Outdoor masks were made optional earlier this year as part of a pivot toward a strategy of living with COVID-19.
- Hong Kong (SAR): Hong Kong reported 6,513 new cases of COVID-19 on August 21 (Sunday), the highest number of daily cases since March 31, as authorities reopen facilities used during the height of the last outbreak to ease pressure on hospitals and other facilities. 6,276 were local cases while the remaining 237 were detected from travelers. The new facilities will be needed as Penny Bay, which is the isolation mainstay for the city, is nearly 80% full with 6,500 occupants.
- Japan: By classifying infectious illnesses into five groups according to how contagious they are and how likely they are to cause serious sickness, Japanese law specifies the activities that the national government and local authorities must take. ¹⁰ Hospitals and clinics are required to notify the names of infected patients and the specifics of their illness before recommending hospitalization due to COVID-19's current classification as "equal to category 2.¹⁰" Regional medical associations and the National Governors' Association have regularly called for a revision of the system due to the significant rise in the administrative load caused by Japan's seventh coronavirus wave. ¹⁰ Experts have suggested treating COVID-19 like seasonal influenza, which would limit reporting to people at risk of experiencing severe symptoms or requiring information to only be gathered on patients identified at certain medical institutions. ¹⁰ [Full Article]

Vaccine update

• Cambodia: The number of people who have gotten COVID-19 booster injections at this stage is significantly smaller than the number of persons who had their first two doses, and the Ministry of Health and its provincial departments have noted some difficulties in providing the shots. At a recent news briefing on the planning of third, fourth, and fifth doses, Or Vandine, ministry spokesperson and chairman of the national COVID-19 immunization committee, reaffirmed her plea for people to obtain the shots? She said that immunizations are crucial because they lower the risk of developing a serious illness or passing away. [Full Article]

Cases and Deaths as of 22 August 2022

- As of 22 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **602,610,116** confirmed cases, including **6,486,980** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%.**
- 80,120,593 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the ASEAN +3 countries including 33,939,135 cases in the ASEAN region and 46,181,458 cases in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.2%**.
- There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the ASEAN Region.

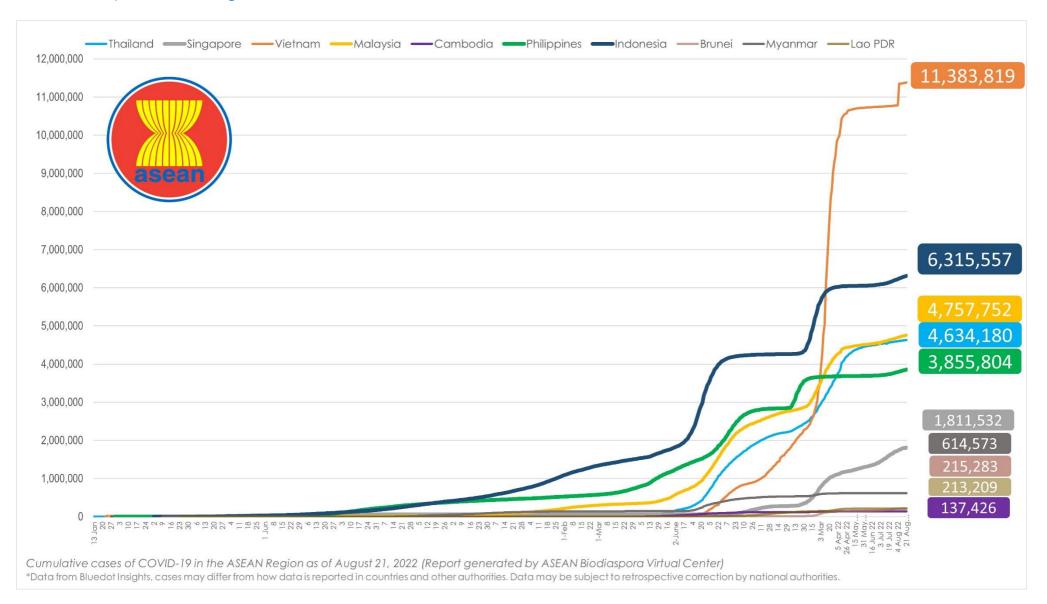
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN	Brunei	10 Mar 20	21-Aug-22	215,283	-	225	-	49,686	445,849	436,027	307,711	97.9
REGION	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	21-Aug-22	137,426	32	3,056	-	834	15,139,463	14,462,799	10,046,698	87.2
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	21-Aug-22	6,315,557	3,949	157,377	12	2,334	203,037,880	170,558,244	58,929,057	62.3
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	21-Aug-22	213,209	52	757	-	2,974	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	21-Aug-22	4,757,752	2,464	36,145	9	14,891	28,087,019	27,484,909	16,648,983	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	21-Aug-22	614,573	-	19,437	-	1,137	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	21-Aug-22	3,855,804	3,634	61,357	49	3,566	76,521,354	71,840,130	16,487,534	63.1
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	21-Aug-22	1,811,532	2,660	1,578	2	31,761	5,023,328	5,001,650	4,271,701	91.7
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	21-Aug-22	4,634,180	1,968	32,030	27	6,656	56,910,560	53,319,961	31,453,356	74.5
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	21-Aug-22	11,383,819	1,561	43,105	1	11,801	88,433,596	82,004,318	65,523,372	84.1
		A	SEAN COUNTRIES	33,939,135	16,320	355,067	100	125,641	514,265,012	457,875,784	205,895,763	
ASEAN	South Korea	20-Jan-20	21-Aug-22	22,240,331	110,944	26,044	64	43,010	45,098,310	44,661,247	40,285,995	86.2
PLUS	Japan	16-Jan-20	21-Aug-22	17,199,396	226,171	36,699	226	13,622	104,022,122	102,594,703	101,131,995	82.3
THREE	China	31-Dec-19	21-Aug-22	6,741,731	29,494	24,471	29	41,593	1,330,204,542	1,295,440,555	826,302,216	86.7
		PLUS T	HREE COUNTRIES	46,181,458	366,609	87,214	319	98,226	1,479,324,974	1,442,696,505	967,720,206	
	ASEAN +3			80,120,593	382,929	442,281	419	223,866	1,993,589,986	1,900,572,289	1,173,615,969	_

• 522,489,523 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported in 5 continents (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,840,443	183	258,251	3	247,083	384,070,817	302,459,375	45,910,159
AMERICAS	177,374,237	14,682	2,844,808	43	1,153,051	817,843,948	718,873,902	460,156,797
ASIA PACIFIC	84,494,291	15,666	745,779	72	451,657	1,437,089,578	1,321,183,172	290,112,783
EUROPE	225,527,223	88,911	1,959,275	171	1,947,892	562,517,228	534,493,738	342,029,142
MIDDLE EAST	22,253,329	17,365	236,586	74	208,401	142,998,398	128,336,003	56,454,239
TOTAL	522,489,523	136,807	6,044,699	363	4,008,085	3,344,519,969	3,005,346,190	1,194,663,120

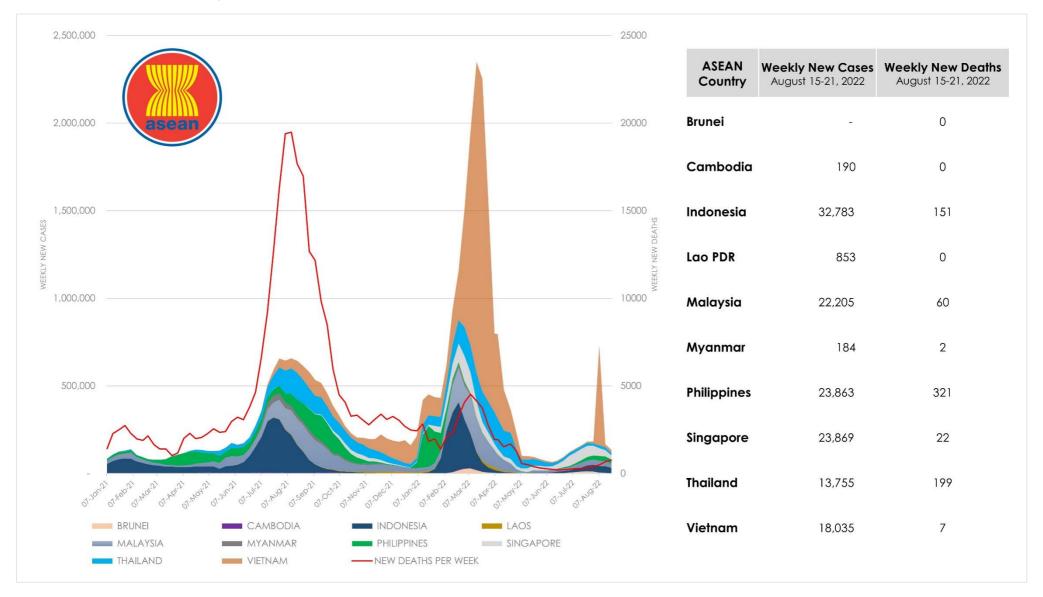
COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to August 21, 2022



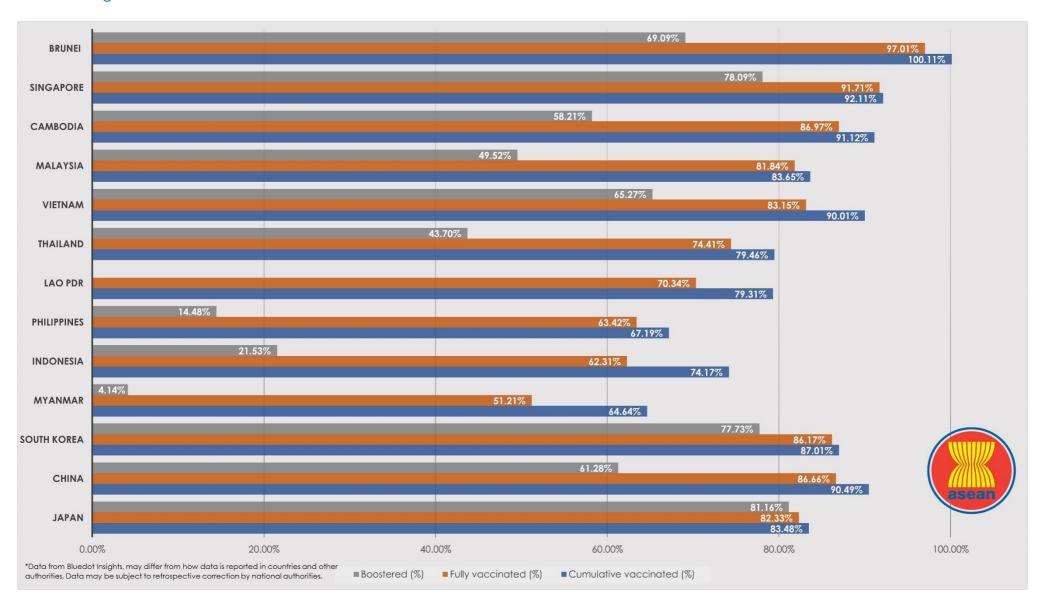
Weekly COVID-19 New Cases and New Deaths

From January 1, 2021 to August 21, 2022



COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 21 August 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

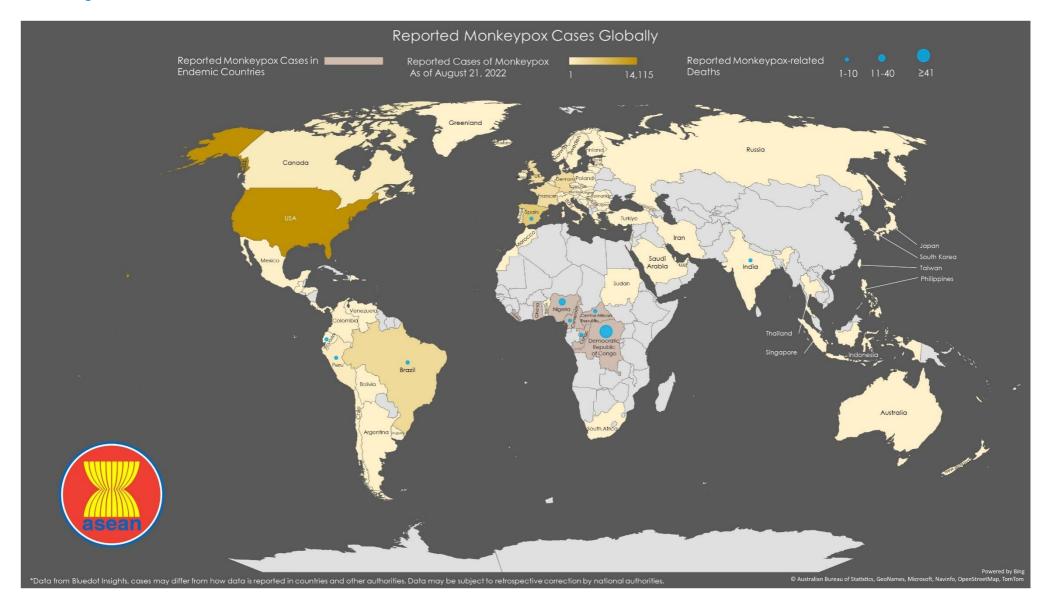
as of 19 August 2022

	REQUIREMENT								
ASEAN	At least 80% of the high-risk population has been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.	At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		Case levels are generally low (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past- 14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).		Government Policy on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)			
MEMBER STATE	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	% of Total population fully vaccinated / boostered	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	Daily cases/ 100,000	Test positivity last 14 days	Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)	Change over the past 30 days		
Brunei	0%/day	≥90.0/69.1	Unknown	0.0	Unknown	31.0/100	0.0		
Cambodia	0%/day	≥90.0/60.6	Unknown	0.16	Unknown	31.5/100	0.0		
Indonesia	0%/day	65.3/21.5	Unknown	1.73	Unknown	54.2/100	0.0		
Lao PDR	0%/day	77.3/ND	Unknown	1.70	Unknown	61.6/100	0.0		
Malaysia	0%/day	84.4/49.6	0.01%/day	9.93	Unknown	51.8/100	0.0		
Myanmar	0%/day	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.05	Unknown	69.1/100	0.0		
Philippines	0%/day	69.9/14.5	Unknown	3.15	Unknown	55.4/100	0.0		
Singapore	0%/day	88.7/78.3	0%/day	59.78	Unknown	58.9/100	0.0		
Thailand	0%/day	77.4/43.9	0.01%/day	2.82	Unknown	31.5/100	0.0		
Vietnam	Unknown	88.5/67.2	Unknown	2.67	Unknown	43.5/100	0.0		
Japan	0%/day	81.1/78.9	0%/day	154.55	Unknown	42.9/100	0.0		
South Korea	0%/day	86.5/77.1	0%/day	241.35	Unknown	38.1/100	0.0		
China	Unknown	≥90.0/56.3	Unknown	0.05	Unknown	84.5/100	0.0		

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 35.1%.

Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of August 21, 2022



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 22 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **43,548** confirmed cases, including **83** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.19%**.
- 32 confirmed cases of Monkeypox have been reported in the ASEAN+3 region composed of 24 cases in the ASEAN region and 8 cases in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of 0%.

Singapore
 Thailand
 Japan
 Taiwan

o **Philippines** 3 cases (+2 new cases)

South Korea1 case

o **Indonesia** 1 case (+1 new case)

• **43,516 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	14,115	598	-	0.00%
Europe	Spain	5,792	0	2	0.03%
Americas	Brazil	3,450	381	1	0.03%
Europe	Germany	3,242	29	-	0.00%
Europe	United Kingdom	3,195	0	-	0.00%

Monkeypox cases per region other than ASEAN+3

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA*	2,803	1	77	2.75%
AMERICAS	20,416	938	3	0.01%
ASIA PACIFIC	106	7	1	0.94%
EUROPE	19,951	324	2	0.01%
MIDDLE EAST	240	14	-	0.00%
TOTAL	43,516	1,284	83	0.19%

Global update

• **Cuba**: After discovering the viral illness in a visitor who had just arrived from Italy this week, Cuba's Public Health ministry said late on Saturday that the country had officially confirmed its first case of monkeypox. Before becoming unwell, the Italian guy visited many locations in the western provinces of the Caribbean Island country while living in a rented property, the ministry said in a terse statement. He presented symptoms, including skin lesions, and sought medical assistance on August 18. He later experienced a cardiac arrest but was later revived, according to the statement. The patient's condition is still serious. [Full Article]

- **EU:** According to the European Medicines Agency (EMA), delivering lower doses of the monkeypox vaccination might help European nations stretch out their limited stocks.³ The agency's recommendation is in accordance with the so-called fractional dosage strategy, which is supported by American authorities and entails injecting a tiny amount of the vaccine in between layers of the skin to provide up to five discrete doses rather than a single dose (intradermal injection).³ The vaccine, also known as Jynneos, Imvanex, or Imvamune depending on where it was developed, was made to be administered through subcutaneous injection into a layer of fat just beneath the skin.³ For the duration of the present monkeypox outbreak and while supplies of the vaccine are still scarce, national authorities may choose to temporarily protect at-risk persons by administering the vaccine as an intradermal injection at a lower dose.³ [Full Article]
- Canada: Over 99% of reported cases are male, according to Tam, who also noted that there has been a "slowing trend in the growth of new cases reported in recent weeks.4" Canada has recorded 1,168 confirmed cases of monkeypox, including 30 hospitalizations, Tam added.4 The majority of verified cases with extra data reported intimate sexual intercourse with other guys, she continued.4 [Full Article]

Regional update

- Indonesia: An individual who had just returned from an unnamed nation with known incidences of the disease was found to have Indonesia's first case of monkeypox, a spokesman for the health ministry announced on August 20.2 The 27-year-old man tested positive late on Friday in Jakarta, according to Mohammad Syahril, who also revealed the news at a press conference.2 The Indonesian citizen, who is "doing well" and displaying just minor symptoms, is isolating themselves at home, according to Syahril, who omitted to mention the patient's origin.2 [Full Article]
- **Philippines:** The Philippines reported finding two additional cases of monkeypox on August 19, increasing the country's total number of confirmed cases to three. ¹¹ The two new cases, a 34-year-old and a 29-year-old, both had recent travel histories to a nation with proven monkeypox illnesses, according to the Department of Health. ¹¹ The 29-year-old is confined at a medical institution, while the 34-year-old is secluded at home. While 17 connections of the 29-year-old have so far been located and their information is being validated, authorities are currently tracking out the 34-year-contacts. ¹¹ old's Due to patient privacy concerns, DOH officer-in-charge Maria Rosario Vergeire stated that no more information on the two new monkeypox cases could be disclosed. ¹¹ [Full Article]
- **Singapore:** If a doctor deems a patient with monkeypox to be clinically stable and their domicile is judged adequate, they will be permitted to recuperate at home starting the next Monday (Aug. 22), according to the Ministry of Health (MOH) on Aug. 19. 12 According to the Home Recovery Programme, they will be allowed to recuperate at home. 12 Those who are determined to be at a higher risk of complications would still be handled in hospitals, the MOH added. 12 According to the Infectious Diseases Act, all confirmed cases of monkeypox must follow an isolation order and stay in isolation until their infectiousness has been determined medically. 12 At the conclusion of their isolation time, they will be brought to the National Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCID) for a release evaluation. 12 [Full Article]
- **Japan:** Nearly a month after the country's first instance of the viral illness was verified, there are no signs of monkeypox spreading in Japan, unlike with the coronavirus. ¹⁴ Four cases of monkeypox have been documented in Japan thus far. ¹⁴ On July 25, the health ministry reported the first case. ¹⁴ A man who had visited Europe and had contact with a person there with monkeypox was found to have the virus. The two other instances included individuals who contracted monkeypox outside of Japan and became aware of the virus after arriving in the nation. ¹⁴ For research objectives, the National Center for Global Health and Medicine's 50 medical staff members have received vaccinations from the health

ministry.¹⁴ The NCGM and three other institutions in the prefectures of Osaka, Aichi, and Okinawa are now able to employ monkeypox medications developed outside of Japan that have not yet received official approval in that country.¹⁴ [Full Article]

Vaccine update

• Taiwan: The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported on August 18 that Taiwan has signed a contract to get an unknown quantity of doses of the monkeypox vaccine, and that efforts are being made to have the vaccinations delivered by the end of this month. The third-generation smallpox vaccine, which the CDC has previously stated is clinically appropriate for use as a monkeypox vaccine, was the one that was purchased. When questioned about specifics of the purchase, CDC Deputy Director-General Chuang Jenhsiang would only indicate that the CDC was trying to get the vaccine doses delivered by the end of this month. He would not disclose how many doses there would be or how many shipments there would be. He vaccine doses will only be given to medical staff, lab workers, and persons who have recently been in close contact with monkeypox patients since the World Health Organization recommends against mass immunization against smallpox, a disease that has not been diagnosed in Taiwan since 1955, Chuang added. Full Article

References

- 1. Fuentes, M. (2022). Cuba confirms first monkeypox case in visitor from Italy. Reuters. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/cuba-confirms-first-monkeypox-case-visitor-italy-2022-08-21/.
- Sulaiman, S. (2022). Indonesia confirms first monkeypox case in citizen returning from abroad. Reuters. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/fda-asks-pfizer-test-second-paxlovid-course-patients-with-covid-rebound-2022-08-19.
- 3. Grover, N. (2022). EU backs changing monkeypox vaccine injection method to boost supply. Reuters. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/eu-backs-changing-monkeypox-vaccine-injection-method-boost-supply-2022-08-19/.
- 4. Ahmann, T., & Ayyub, R. (2022). Canada OKs Pfizer COVID booster for kids 5-11, sees monkeypox cases slow. Reuters. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/canada-oks-pfizer-biontech-covid.
- 5. Leo, L. (2022). FDA asks Pfizer to test second Paxlovid course in patients with COVID rebound. Reuters. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/fda-asks-pfizer-test-second-paxlovid-course-patients-with-covid-rebound-2022-08-19/.
- Kim, J., Choe, Y., Lee, H., Choi, E., Jang, E., Kim, R., & Park, Y. (2022). Long-term Effectiveness Associated With the BNT162b2 Vaccine Against SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Adolescents in South Korea. JAMA Network Open, 5(8), e2227205. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.27205.
- 7. Xie, J., Prats-Uribe, A., Feng, Q., Wang, Y., Gill, D., Paredes, R., & Prieto-Alhambra, D. (2022). Clinical and Genetic Risk Factors for Acute Incident Venous Thromboembolism in Ambulatory Patients With COVID-19. JAMA Internal Medicine. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2022.3858.
- 8. Kon, J. (2022). No COVID-19 patients in Category 5. Borneo Bulletin Online. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://borneobulletin.com.bn/no-covid-19-patients-in-category-5/.
- 9. Kunthear, M. (2022). Cambodian ministry calls on public to get booster shots. Asia News Network. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://asianews.network/cambodian-ministry-calls-on-public-to-get-booster-shots/.
- 10. Japan Considers Downgrading COVID-19 to Less Serious Category. nippon.com. (2022). Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.nippon.com/en/japan-data/h01407/.
- 11. Gregorio, X. (2022). *Philippines detects two more monkeypox cases*. PhilStar. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/08/19/2203748/philippines-detects-two-more-monkeypox-cases.
- 12. Monkeypox cases will be given isolation orders and can recover at home from Aug 22: MOH. Channel News Asia. (2022). Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/monkeypox-cases-home-recovery-clinically-stable-isolation-order-aug-22-moh-2889746.
- 13. Chen, C., Shen, P., Chang, M., & Sean, L. (2022). Taiwan signs deal to secure monkeypox vaccine doses. Focus Taiwan. Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://focustaiwan.tw/society/202208180014.

14. Japan seeing no sign of monkeypox spreading. The Japan Times. (2022). Retrieved 22 August 2022, from https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/08/22/national/monkeypox-no-spread/.



Report generated by

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC) in collaboration with Bluedot Inc.

Email: <u>support@biodiaspora.org</u> Facebook: <u>https://facebook.com/ASEANBiodiaspora</u>





