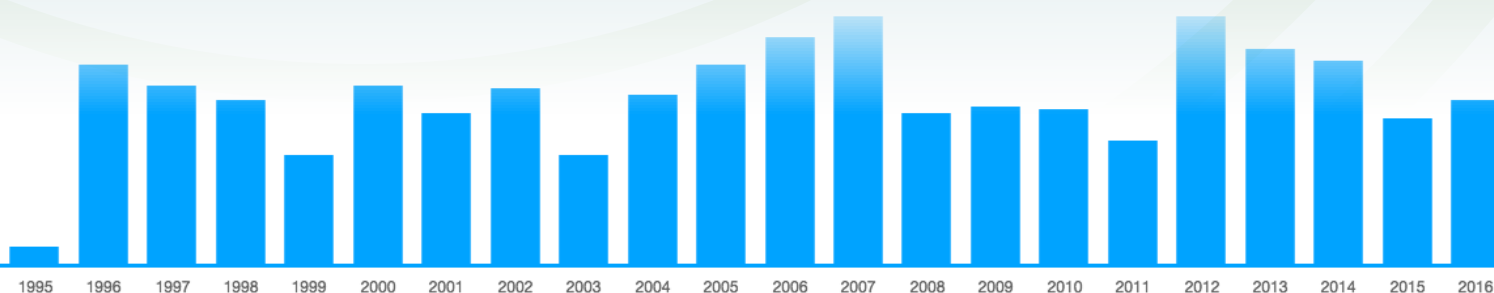# NIAM

NIAM (Novel Infectious Agent Monitor) is a tool for monitoring mentions of novel diseases in online news feeds. It indicates a disease's novelty by measuring the time since the prior mention, and by comparing the current frequency of mentions to historical averages.

The NIAM recent mention feed displays the diseases mentioned in recent ProMED posts alongside the time elapsed since the prior mention of the disease. Diseases with no prior mentions or no prior mentions within several years are likely to be involved in novel outbreaks.

Upsurges in the frequencies at which common diseases are mentioned are tracked through NIAM's trending infectious agent page. The trending agent page shows diseases sorted by trend strength along with visual indicators of their relative strength. Analysts can view trends over weekly, monthly, or yearly intervals. The interval sets the amount of time over which the post frequency is measured. Longer intervals show more robust trends, while shorter intervals are more sensitive to novel trends.

The application allows users to delve into historical data about how and when each disease was mentioned. Each disease has a corresponding detail page which shows a timeline graph that allows analysts to explore historical trends in how much the disease was mentioned. In addition, relevant snippets from the posts mentioning the disease from the selected time interval are shown below. Furthermore, the analyst can view descriptors frequently paired with the disease, like "antibiotic-resistant".

NIAM is automatically updated daily with new posts from all of the ProMED-mail feeds. Analysts may filter results to only show data from individual feeds.

1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

Posts mentioning meningitis

Recent Mentions	Frequent Descriptors

PRO/EDR> Meningitis - Solomon Islands: (ML) susp. bacterial, RFI   *2 days ago*

...n unconfirmed reports of an outbreak of **meningitis** in the Malaita Province of So...

...arned to look out for early symptoms of **meningitis** ; these include fever, vomitin...