

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

IMPORTANT

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Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

January 2024

Disease	Cases			Deaths		
	Reported	MoM*	YoY**	Reported	MoM*	YoY**
Plague	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Cholera	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
SARS-CoV	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Acquired immune deficiency syndrome	3,194	-2,101 (-39.68%)	1,379.0 (75.98%)	1,730	-338 (-16.34%)	-47.0 (-2.64%)
Hepatitis	159,136	15,358 (10.68%)	69,417.0 (77.37%)	53	-375 (-87.62%)	21.0 (65.62%)
Hepatitis A	1,002	27 (2.77%)	479.0 (91.59%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Hepatitis B	135,873	14,458 (11.91%)	61,083.0 (81.67%)	26	-6 (-18.75%)	8.0 (44.44%)
Hepatitis C	18,610	525 (2.90%)	5,825.0 (45.56%)	23	-370 (-94.15%)	10.0 (76.92%)
Hepatitis D	25	2 (8.70%)	8.0 (47.06%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Hepatitis E	2,996	328 (12.29%)	1,852.0 (161.89%)	4	1 (33.33%)	3.0 (300.00%)
Other hepatitis	630	18 (2.94%)	170.0 (36.96%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Poliomyelitis	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Human infection with H5N1 virus	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Measles	51	-18 (-26.09%)	33.0 (183.33%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Epidemic hemorrhagic fever	511	-611 (-54.46%)	294.0 (135.48%)	1	0 (0.00%)	-1.0 (-50.00%)
Rabies	15	2 (15.38%)	10.0 (200.00%)	11	-5 (-31.25%)	-4.0 (-26.67%)
Japanese encephalitis	3	-1 (-25.00%)	-1.0 (-25.00%)	1	1 (/)	1.0 (/)
Dengue	27	-127 (-82.47%)	26.0 (2600.00%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Anthrax	7	-14 (-66.67%)	-12.0 (-63.16%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Dysentery	1,689	-38 (-2.20%)	-235.0 (-12.21%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Tuberculosis	60,660	7,834 (14.83%)	6,930.0 (12.90%)	383	-33 (-7.93%)	56.0 (17.13%)
Typhoid fever and paratyphoid fever	285	-73 (-20.39%)	101.0 (54.89%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Meningococcal meningitis	17	-4 (-19.05%)	11.0 (183.33%)	1	1 (/)	1.0 (/)
Pertussis	15,275	6,149 (67.38%)	14,392.0 (1629.90%)	5	4 (400.00%)	5.0 (/)
Diphtheria	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Neonatal tetanus	2	-1 (-33.33%)	-4.0 (-66.67%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Scarlet fever	6,255	429 (7.36%)	5,979.0 (2166.30%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Brucellosis	4,207	464 (12.40%)	1,889.0 (81.49%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Gonorrhea	9,112	-302 (-3.21%)	4,350.0 (91.35%)	1	1 (/)	1.0 (/)
Syphilis	56,658	5,835 (11.48%)	27,950.0 (97.36%)	6	5 (500.00%)	3.0 (100.00%)
Leptospirosis	19	8 (72.73%)	13.0 (216.67%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Schistosomiasis	5	-2 (-28.57%)	5.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Malaria	254	9 (3.67%)	105.0 (70.47%)	3	2 (200.00%)	1.0 (50.00%)
Human infection with H7N9 virus	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Monkey pox	97	-5 (-4.90%)	/ (/)	0	0 (/)	/ (/)
Influenza	2,988,914	-1,124,412 (-27.34%)	2,973,644.0 (19473.77%)	3	-3 (-50.00%)	3.0 (/)
Mumps	5,272	-1,820 (-25.66%)	2,902.0 (122.45%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Rubella	45	-29 (-39.19%)	5.0 (12.50%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Acute hemorrhagic conjunctivitis	3,039	-834 (-21.53%)	1,883.0 (162.89%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Leprosy	24	0 (0.00%)	10.0 (71.43%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Typhus	68	-34 (-33.33%)	35.0 (106.06%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Kala azar	33	4 (13.79%)	16.0 (94.12%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Echinococcosis	438	84 (23.73%)	198.0 (82.50%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Filariasis	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Infectious diarrhea	85,963	18,502 (27.43%)	43,013.0 (100.15%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Hand foot and mouth disease	26,382	-19,768 (-42.83%)	23,898.0 (962.08%)	0	0 (/)	0.0 (/)
Total	3,427,657	-1,095,516 (-24.22%)	3,178,333.0 (1274.78%)	2,198	-740 (-25.19%)	40.0 (1.85%)

*MoM: Month on Month change, **YoY: Year on Year change.

Overview

January 2024 in the Chinese mainland saw a diverse array of infectious diseases impacting public health, with notable variations in case numbers and associated mortalities. Hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) emerged as the most prevalent condition, with 155,696 reported cases, albeit resulting in a minimal number of fatalities (2). In contrast, the hepatitis spectrum also showed significant activity, with hepatitis B leading in numbers (110,266 cases, 45 deaths). It's crucial to highlight the discrepancy between case counts and death tolls across diseases, reflecting varying degrees of virulence and public health impact.

The death toll provides a stark reminder of the lethal potential of certain diseases, despite lower incidence rates. For instance, tuberculosis, despite not having the highest case count, resulted in a significant number of deaths (215), underscoring its severe health implications. Similarly, the human infection with the H7N9 virus, though only reporting a single case, led to a fatality, indicating the critical need for vigilance against seemingly less prevalent diseases.

Concerns

The high incidence of HFMD, with over 155,000 cases, raises immediate concerns due to its rapid spread among children, necessitating urgent public health interventions. Despite the low mortality rate, the sheer volume of cases can strain healthcare resources and cause widespread societal concern, particularly among parents and schools. On the other hand, hepatitis B, with 110,266 cases and 45 deaths, remains a significant public health challenge due to its potential for chronic liver disease and cancer, highlighting the need for enhanced vaccination and awareness programs.

Public concern also gravitates towards diseases with lower incidence but higher fatality rates, such as tuberculosis, which reported 101,191 cases but led to 215 deaths. This discrepancy between case numbers and fatalities accentuates the lethal nature of tuberculosis, necessitating robust detection, treatment, and prevention strategies. The single case of human infection with the H7N9 virus resulting in death further exemplifies the critical nature of vigilance and preparedness against infectious diseases, even those with seemingly low prevalence.

Recommendations

To mitigate the spread of HFMD, public health authorities should prioritize awareness campaigns targeting parents, schools, and childcare facilities, emphasizing the importance of hygiene practices such as regular handwashing and disinfection of shared surfaces. Additionally, the development and dissemination of guidelines for the management of HFMD in communal settings can help contain outbreaks and reduce transmission.

For hepatitis B, enhancing vaccination coverage is paramount. Efforts should focus on ensuring that all newborns receive the hepatitis B vaccine as part of their routine immunization schedule, coupled with public education campaigns to raise awareness about the disease, its transmission routes, and the importance of vaccination. For adults, targeted interventions, including screening and vaccination programs in high-risk populations, can significantly reduce the disease burden.

Given the severe implications of tuberculosis, strengthening the healthcare infrastructure for early detection and treatment is essential. This includes enhancing access to diagnostic facilities, promoting adherence to treatment regimens through patient education and support programs, and implementing rigorous contact tracing to prevent further spread. For emerging threats like the H7N9 virus, maintaining a robust surveillance system, coupled with rapid response capabilities, is crucial to identify and contain potential outbreaks at their onset.

Notation from Data Source:

* According to the National Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention, not included coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

† The number of deaths of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) is the number of all-cause deaths reported in the month by cumulative reported AIDS patients.

§ Since September 20, 2023, Monkey pox was included in the management of Class B infectious diseases.

¶ Infectious diarrhea excludes cholera, dysentery, typhoid fever and paratyphoid fever.

The number of cases and cause-specific deaths refer to data recorded in National Notifiable Disease Reporting System in China, which includes both clinically-diagnosed cases and laboratory-confirmed cases. Only reported cases of the 31 provincial-level administrative divisions in Chinese mainland are included in the table, whereas data of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Macau Special Administrative Region, and Taiwan, China are not included. Monthly statistics are calculated without annual verification, which were usually conducted in February of the next year for de-duplication and verification of reported cases in annual statistics. Therefore, 12-month cases could not be added together directly to calculate the cumulative cases because the individual information might be verified via National Notifiable Disease Reporting System according to information verification or field investigations by local CDCs.

News information since January 2024 in Chinese Mainland

Summary

Since January 2024, the Chinese mainland has been actively engaged in the surveillance and management of infectious diseases. This involves ongoing efforts to monitor known diseases and remain vigilant against the emergence of new pathogens. Despite the challenges posed by fluctuating disease patterns, influenced by various factors such as climate and public health interventions, there has been no specific report of novel pathogens emerging during this period. The focus remains on managing known diseases and enhancing preparedness for any potential new threats.

Outbreaks of Known Diseases

The period has seen continuous monitoring of diseases like seasonal influenza, Hepatitis C, gonorrhea, and brucellosis. Seasonal influenza's incidence varies with the climate, indicating the effect of environmental factors on its transmission. Hepatitis C's genotype distribution studies show a regional variation in the prevalence of different genotypes, with genotype 1 being the most common. Gonorrhea's trend analysis suggests the importance of public health measures in controlling its spread. Brucellosis studies emphasize the role of spatial analysis in identifying high-risk transmission areas, indicating the geographical nuances in disease spread.

Emergence of Novel Pathogens

Although no new pathogens have been reported since January 2024, the global health community remains on high alert. The persistence of vaccine-derived polioviruses and the discussions around a global pandemic treaty highlight the ongoing challenges in infectious disease management. These issues underscore the need for continuous surveillance, global cooperation, and preparedness to effectively respond to any future infectious disease threats. In summary, the landscape of infectious diseases in the Chinese mainland is marked by diligent management of known conditions and a proactive stance towards emerging threats, underpinned by global collaboration and robust public health strategies.

News information since January 2024 around world

Summary

The beginning of 2024 has seen a focused effort on tackling known infectious diseases, refining surveillance techniques, and addressing the spread and management of various pathogens globally. Efforts have been especially concentrated on diseases like tuberculosis and leishmaniasis, with new studies providing insight into their control and treatment. Additionally, innovative surveillance methods, such as wastewater analysis, have been utilized to monitor diseases like SARS-CoV-2, emphasizing the importance of ongoing vigilance and research in the field of infectious diseases.

Outbreaks of Known Diseases

The period has been marked by significant research and reports on tuberculosis, with a particular focus on Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. This research has highlighted the challenges of controlling both drug-susceptible and multidrug-resistant strains, emphasizing the need for detailed spatial analysis to understand and mitigate the disease's spread. Moreover, there has been an increased focus on disseminated leishmaniasis, an aggressive form of *Leishmania braziliensis* infection, with studies aiming to improve understanding of its immune response, clinical outcomes, and treatment efficacy. Public health advisories have also been issued in response to outbreaks of *Listeria* linked to dairy products, *Salmonella* infections from charcuterie meats, and dengue fever in various regions, showcasing the ongoing public health challenges worldwide.

Emergence of Novel Pathogens

While the reviewed period did not specifically highlight the emergence of new pathogens, the constant evolution and monitoring of infectious diseases have been underscored. Innovations such as wastewater surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 have showcased the importance of such methods in detecting infections early and managing outbreaks effectively. Additionally, research into understanding the social impacts of infectious diseases, such as stigma, indicates a comprehensive approach to dealing with the challenges posed by infectious diseases. In summary, the early months of 2024 have underscored the global health community's ongoing struggle with infectious diseases, highlighting the necessity for continuous research, surveillance, and adaptation of strategies to combat these challenges effectively.