Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

Meningococcal meningitis

January 2024

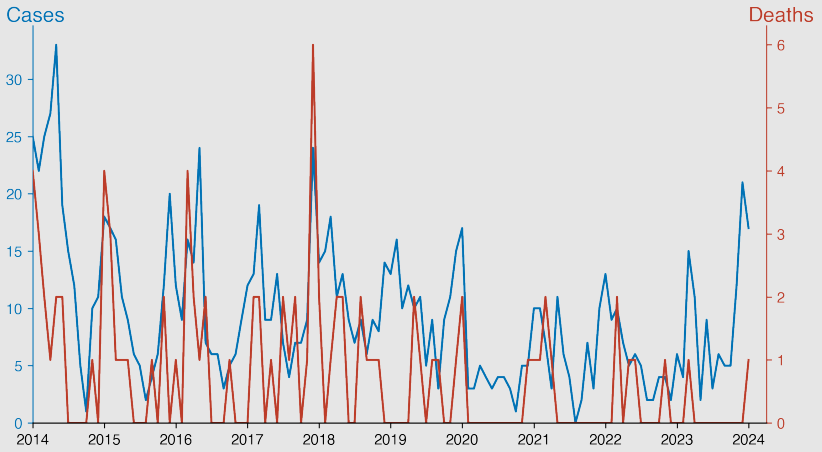
Introduction

Meningococcal meningitis is a serious bacterial infection that affects the membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord, known as the meninges. It is caused by the bacterium Neisseria meningitidis. This infection can lead to severe health complications, including brain damage, hearing loss, or learning disabilities, and can be fatal if not treated promptly. Meningococcal meningitis is highly contagious and spreads through respiratory and throat secretions. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent the disease, alongside early detection and antibiotic treatment for those infected.

Highlights

- Significant decline in Meningococcal meningitis cases and deaths in China, reflecting effective control and prevention.
- Peak of 33 cases in May 2014 dropped to 17 cases by January 2024, showing sustained disease management efforts.
- Maximum monthly deaths were 6 in December 2017, compared to just 1 death in January 2024, indicating better healthcare response.
- Seasonal case variations suggest the importance of targeted health interventions during colder months.

Temporal Trend



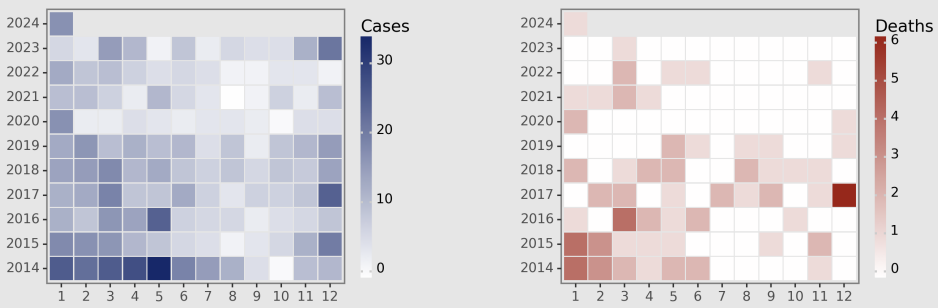
Cases Analysis

The data for Meningococcal meningitis in the Chinese mainland from January 2014 to January 2024 shows a fluctuating trend with a noticeable decrease in cases over the years. The initial years (2014-2016) observed higher case counts, peaking in May 2014 with 33 cases. A gradual decline is notable from 2017 onwards, with significantly lower case numbers in the most recent years, particularly from 2020 onwards, indicating possibly improved vaccination, awareness, and early treatment measures. The year 2023 exhibited a minor resurgence in December, suggesting potential seasonal or outbreak-related fluctuations.

Deaths Analysis

The number of deaths due to Meningococcal meningitis has also seen a notable decrease over the observed period. The highest mortality was recorded in December 2017, with six deaths. This decrease in fatalities, especially noticeable from 2020 onwards, with many months reporting zero deaths, can be attributed to improved medical treatments, rapid response to outbreaks, and possibly the impact of global health initiatives. The data reflects the success of ongoing public health interventions and vaccination campaigns in reducing both morbidity and mortality associated with Meningococcal meningitis.

Distribution



CNIDs

Free, Lightweight, Open-source, Smart Surveillance for Chinese Infectious Diseases

Version: 2024-03-04 (UTC+)

The text in report is generated automatically by generative AI.