Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

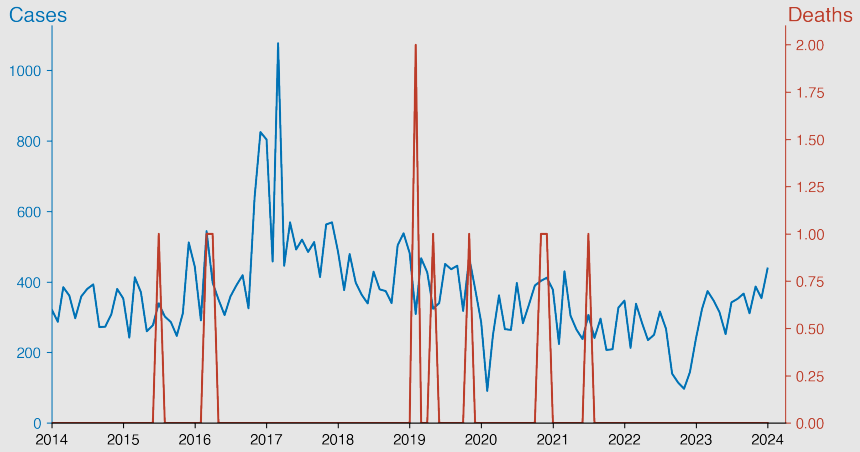
Echinococcosis

January 2024

Introduction

Echinococcosis, also known as hydatid disease, is a parasitic disease caused by tapeworms of the genus *Echinococcus*. Humans become infected through ingestion of parasite eggs in contaminated food, water, or soil, or through direct contact with animal hosts. The disease is characterized by the slow growth of cysts in the liver, lungs, and other organs, which can cause serious health problems or be fatal if not treated. It is most prevalent in regions where livestock is raised in close contact with dogs, the primary carriers. Diagnosis and treatment involve imaging techniques and, in many cases, surgery and antiparasitic medications.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- A notable increase in Echinococcosis cases from 2014 to a peak in 2017, followed by fluctuations with a significant decrease observed from 2022 onwards.
- Deaths are extremely rare, with a total of only 7 reported deaths over the entire period, indicating potentially effective treatment or management of cases.
- The sharp decrease in cases in 2020 could be related to global health measures affecting reporting and transmission dynamics. However, cases have begun to rise again by January 2024.
- The data suggests a need for continued surveillance, public health interventions, and research to understand the drivers of Echinococcosis transmission in the Chinese mainland.

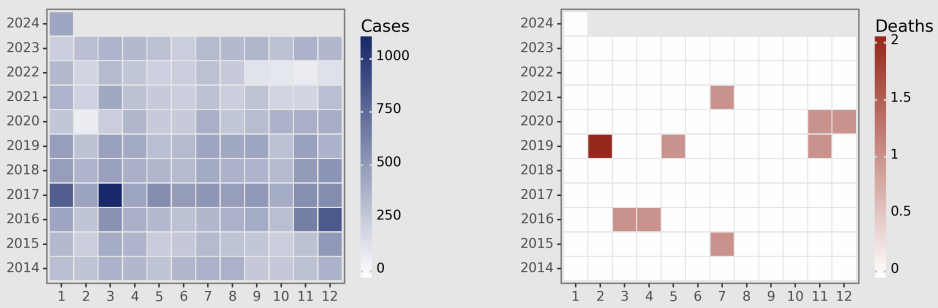
Cases Analysis

The data for Echinococcosis in Chinese mainland from 2014 to 2024 indicates a fluctuating trend in reported cases, with a notable increase in 2016, peaking at 825 cases in December. A significant decline is observed from 2022, suggesting improved control measures or reporting. The highest annual case number was recorded in 2017 with a peak at 1077 cases in March, indicating potential outbreaks or enhanced detection efforts during this period. Overall, the trend shows variable case numbers with periods of increase followed by declines, possibly reflecting the impact of control strategies and environmental or social factors influencing transmission.

Deaths Analysis

Death occurrences due to Echinococcosis were exceptionally rare throughout the observed period, with a total of 7 reported deaths despite the fluctuating case numbers. The first death was recorded in July 2015, indicating a period of case accumulation before resulting in fatalities. The distribution of deaths does not follow a clear pattern or correlation with the case peaks, highlighting the potential effectiveness of treatment or intervention strategies. However, the presence of deaths underscores the disease's potential severity and the importance of continued surveillance and healthcare access.

Distribution



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