

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

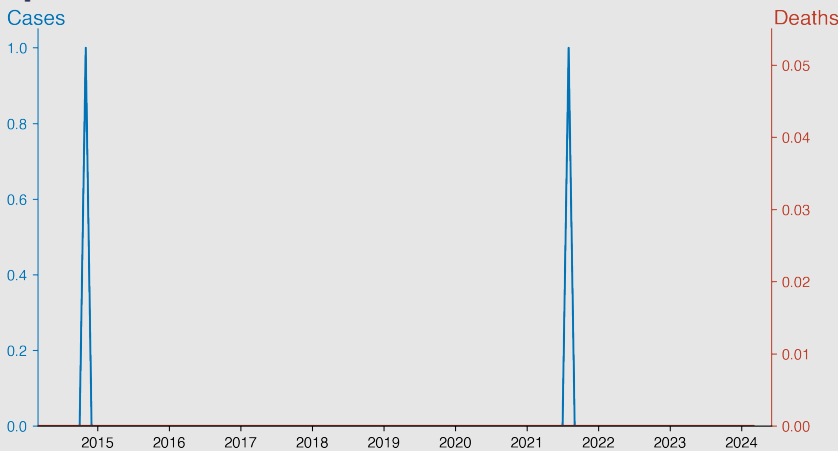
Filariasis

March 2024

Introduction

Filariasis is a parasitic disease caused by an infection with roundworms of the Filarioidea type. These are spread by blood-feeding insects such as black flies and mosquitoes. The two most prominent types of filariasis include lymphatic filariasis, resulting in elephantiasis, and onchocerciasis, or River Blindness. These worms occupy the lymphatic system and blood vessels, causing severe damage and disability. Worldwide, 120 million people are infected with filariasis, with approximately 1.1 billion at risk for infection, particularly in tropical and subtropical areas.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Filariasis cases in mainland China are extremely low, with only two reported cases in the past decade.
- The first case was reported in November 2014 and the second in August 2021, with no fatalities recorded in either instance.
- Zero cases of filariasis have been recorded from 2022 to present day (March 2024).
- Continuous surveillance has ensured prompt detection and prevention of any potential disease outbreaks, maintaining a virtually filariasis-free China.

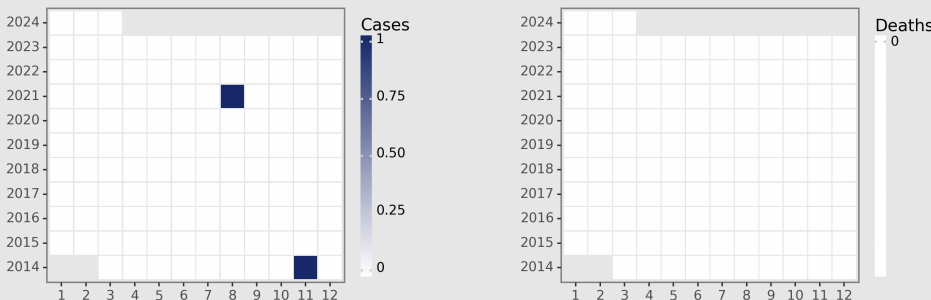
Cases Analysis

The data spanning a decade from 2014-2024 shows that the incidents of Filariasis in mainland China are sporadic, with just two isolated cases being recorded in November 2014 and August 2021. This denotes a highly successful containment of the disease given the severity of Filariasis and the dense population of the country. The ten-year spread between the recorded cases implies rareness in transmission, pointing towards an effective disease management and public health awareness strategy. The analysis didn't reveal any evident periodicity of cases, as there is no discernible pattern or trend.

Deaths Analysis

The death column in the data reports zero deaths from filariasis in Chinese mainland from March 2014 through March 2024. The negligible mortality rate complements low disease prevalence, indicating good healthcare access or a highly effective treatment protocol. This low death rate could also be the result of high diagnosis accuracy preventing disease progression, rapid response to infections, or overall strong health surveillance and management of filariasis. In summary, the data suggest that no fatalities were associated with filariasis within the span of 10 years in Chinese mainland which is a significant public health achievement.

Distribution



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