

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

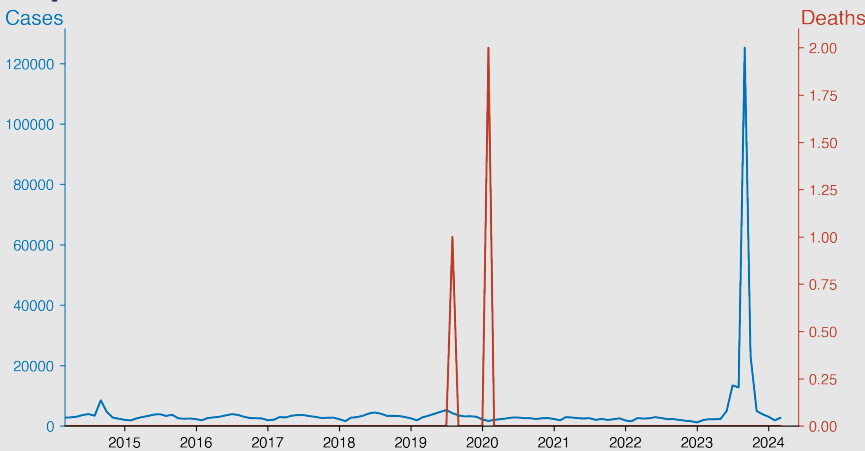
## Acute hemorrhagic conjunctivitis

March 2024

### Introduction

Acute Hemorrhagic Conjunctivitis (AHC) is a highly infectious, rapidly spreading viral eye disease. It's caused primarily by two viruses: enterovirus 70 and coxsackievirus A24. Symptoms include sudden onset of painful, swollen, red eyes, watery discharge, light sensitivity, and sometimes, systemic symptoms like fever and respiratory issues. Though it's usually self-limiting with recovery observed in 1-2 weeks, it can cause significant discomfort and temporary vision impairment, disrupting daily activities. AHC has led to widespread epidemics in various parts of the world.

### Temporal Trend



### Highlights

- There is a dramatic surge in Acute Hemorrhagic Conjunctivitis cases in 2023, particularly in September (125,264 cases). The cause warrants investigation.
- Despite rising cases, few deaths are tied to the disease, indicating a low mortality rate.
- The disease shows a seasonal peak in summer months, exaggerated in 2023.
- As of March 2024 (2676 cases), the situation seems to be reverting to pre-2023 levels. Ongoing surveillance is critical.

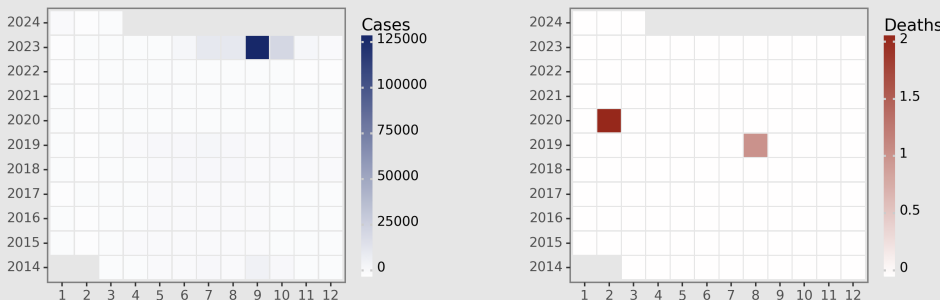
### Cases Analysis

The Acute Hemorrhagic Conjunctivitis (AHC) in Chinese mainland has exhibited cyclical patterns from 2014 to 2024, with the majority of cases consistently peaking during the summer and early fall. The high incidence typically starts around July and declines by late autumn. There was a remarkable surge in cases in September 2023 with over 125,000 reported, a figure substantially higher than any previous monthly numbers. This suggested an intense outbreak or possibly a mutation of the virus causing a more infectious strain during this period.

### Deaths Analysis

Analysis of mortality over the years showed a remarkably low fatality, thus indicating an almost benign course of the disease. Only three deaths have been recorded from 2014 to 2024. The first occurred in August 2019, the second and third in February 2020. Despite an arresting surge in cases in 2023, particularly in September, no coinciding rise in deaths was observed, further substantiating the low fatality nature of this disease. Although Acute hemorrhagic conjunctivitis is notably prevalent in China, it seems to cause minimal mortalities thus far.

### Distribution



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