

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

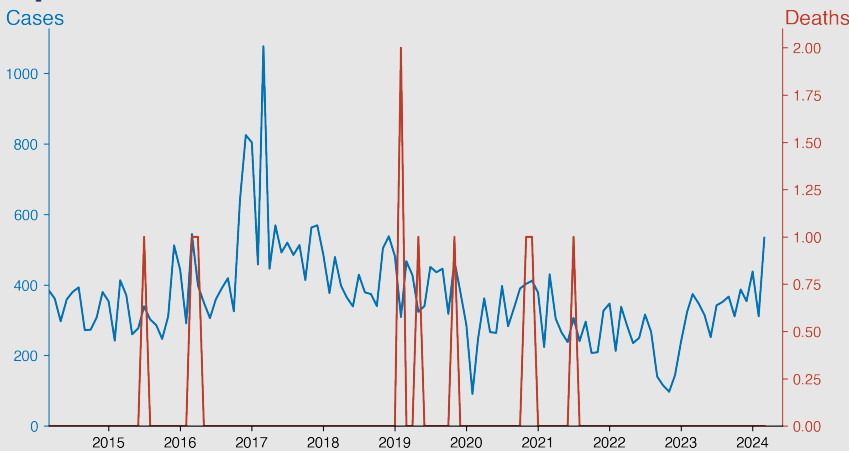
Echinococcosis

March 2024

Introduction

Echinococcosis, also known as hydatid disease, is a parasitic infection caused by the larval stages of the tiny tapeworm, *Echinococcus*. It is transmitted through accidental ingestion of parasite eggs excreted by infected carnivores, primarily dogs. Two main species infect humans, *Echinococcus granulosus* and *Echinococcus multilocularis*, causing cystic echinococcosis and alveolar echinococcosis respectively. The disease often results in slow-growing cysts in the liver, lungs, and other organs, leading to complications like liver failure and lung disease. Prognosis depends on the cysts' location, size, and whether they have spread.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Echinococcosis cases in mainland China displayed an overall upward trend from March 2014 to March 2017, with the monthly count of cases peaking at 1077 in March 2017.
- Post-2017, a general decrease in the case count can be observed, with intermittent resurgences, such as in December 2021 and January 2024.
- Recorded deaths are significantly fewer, with scattered occurrences throughout the years. The highest number of deaths in a single month was two in February 2019.
- By March 2024, the monthly case count has notably risen again to 534, but no deaths were reported in that month.

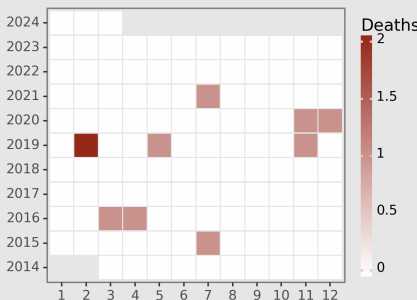
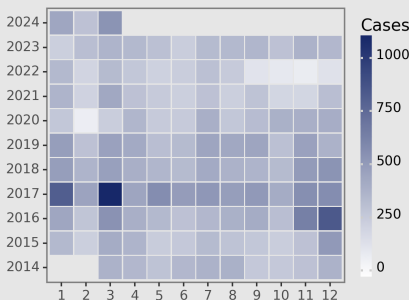
Cases Analysis

The cases of Echinococcosis reported in mainland China over the last decade have generally seen fluctuating trends with some identifiable periods of surge. This parasitic disease cases peaked in March 2017 with 1077 cases reported. The year 2017 marks the period of the highest reported cases on average throughout the year. However, since 2018 the cases have seen a general declining trend, experiencing particularly low reports under 150 in late 2022. Fluctuations month to month could relate to seasonal and environmental factors affecting disease transmission.

Deaths Analysis

Despite the fluctuating number of Echinococcosis cases, the mortality rate from 2014 to 2024 is relatively low within mainland China. Only eight deaths are reported in total, scattered sporadically over the 10 years. The first death was recorded in July 2015. The data shows no clear pattern or trend regarding deaths, suggesting that while infection rates may fluctuate, the actual fatality rate from Echinococcosis remains low. It infers a relatively high survival rate and effective management measures, which is a positive indicator for public health.

Distribution



CNIDs

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

Version: 2024-04-24 (UTC+)