

REPORT DISEASE AND HEALTH HAZARD NEWS OF INTEREST ALONG THE BORDER

August 11 - 17, 2022

WEEKLY EVENTS

- On August 12, 2022, the Laotian Times reported that the Cambodian Ministry of Public Health, following inspections of instant noodle brands from Vietnam, found that some products contained residues of ethylene oxide that exceeded the EU standards. Cambodian public health officials recalled the products and called for support agencies to ensure food hygiene and safety in compliance with international standards.
- On August 13, 2022, the Department of Employment announced that if the notified employee list of migrant workers from four nationalities (namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam) were not yet approved, the workers would still be able to continue to work as the responsible agency is currently in the middle of document validation that is expected to be approved by October 15.
- On August 15, 2022, the Department of Disease Control reported Thailand's 5th case of monkeypox. The case was a 25-year-old Thai woman who entered the country from the United Arab Emirates and was screened at the international disease control checkpoint in Suvarnabhumi Airport on August 14. She had high-risk sexual behavior while living outside of Thailand. Laboratory results confirmed the presence of monkeypox virus.

WARNING: THE RAINY SEASON AND DENGUE

The Department of Disease Control is warning people to watch out for dengue during the rainy season as stagnant water in puddles or containers becomes breeding grounds for the dengue vector, *Aedes* mosquitoes. The Department of Disease Control anticipates that this year will see widespread dengue fever cases based on epidemiological patterns, with adults as a potential high-risk group. According to the Department of Disease Control, from January 1 to August 10, 2022, there were 16,276 cases and 14 deaths from dengue. The age group with the highest number of deaths was the 35 years and older group, with more than 2.2 times the number of deaths than the previous year over the same time period.

The provinces with the most cases were Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Ubon Ratchathani, Tak and Srisaket, which are all border provinces. In Myanmar during the first half of the year, there were 7,835 cases and 31 deaths. In Lao PDR as of August 10, there were 8,354 cases and 16 deaths. Therefore, border provinces should remain vigilant and maintain effective and comprehensive dengue surveillance.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFICIALS

Officials should coordinate with local administrative organizations to manage waste disposal and eliminate mosquito breeding sites in the community. They should jointly survey homes to remove potential mosquito breeding sites to limit dengue. They should provide information on the cause of the disease, preliminary symptoms, self-care, prevention of mosquito bites, correct elimination of mosquito breeding grounds, and good ventilation in homes.

If people experience high fever, body aches, ocular pain, or if symptoms are compatible with dengue fever, they should see a doctor immediately. People should not buy painkillers or self-prescribe drugs, especially aspirin and ibuprofen (antipyretic drugs) because they can cause bleeding of internal organs, which is one of the causes of death of dengue hemorrhagic fever.

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INFORMATION COLLECTED AND ANALYZED BY

Multisectoral Capacity Development Program for Public Health Emergency Detection and Response in Border Areas

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Supported by the Thailand MOPH - US CDC Collaboration on Public Health

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