



Dengue incidence reaches an all-time high in Malaysia. Since January, around 80,000 cases of dengue fever and 113 deaths have been reported in [Malaysia](#), making it an all-time record for Dengue cases in the region. The figures are almost double that of last year's and are expected to reach 150,000 if substantial efforts are not taken to keep the disease under control. Other south-east Asian countries have also seen large Dengue outbreaks this year, including [Bangladesh](#) and the [Philippines](#).

First chlamydia vaccine enters human clinical trial. The first chlamydia vaccine is now closer to approval after positive results from a phase I clinical trial in humans. The vaccine candidate, CTH522 contains immunorepeats from sections of Chlamydia's MOMP membrane protein with either a liposomal or aluminium adjuvant, with both vaccine variants showing good safety profiles and immunogenicity. The next step will be to take the vaccine forward to Phase II & III clinical trials and find out if it is truly protective or not. [Read more.](#)

Arizona reports a 400% increase in West Nile Virus cases. Though Arizona has seen a relatively low incidence of West Nile Virus (WNV) this season, cases have spiked 400%, following a [wetter than usual](#) season that has allowed mosquitoes to thrive. Maricopa County has taken the brunt of the outbreak with 126 confirmed cases, compared with an average of 20 for this time of year. Health officials are improving vector surveillance and urging residents to protect themselves against mosquito bites in the area. [Read more.](#)

Lyme disease an escaped bioweapon? An old conspiracy theory that the Lyme disease bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi* is an escaped US military bioweapon resurfaced this year, with US Congress ordering the Pentagon to reveal whether it weaponised ticks with the bacteria. However, as the bacteria was found living in the wild decades before the purported research was taking place, among other inconsistencies, the order has raised some eyebrows from the scientific community. [Read more.](#)

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