Human infection with avian influenza A (H5N1)

From 7 February 2015 to 13 February 2015, no new cases of human infection with avian influenza A (H5N1) were reported in the Western Pacific Region. The last case in this region was reported on 28 January 2015 from China.

From 2003 to 13 February 2015, 233 cases have been reported from 4 countries in the Western Pacific Region (Table 1). Of these cases, 133 were fatal, resulting in a case fatality rate (CFR) of 57%. Among countries that have reported more than 10 cases, Cambodia has experienced the highest CFR of 66%, followed by China 62.5%, and Viet Nam 50%.

Table 1: Cumulative number laboratory-confirmed human cases (C) and deaths (D) of influenza A (H5N1) virus infection reported to WHO (January 2003 to 13 February 2015), Western Pacific Region.

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From 2003 to 23 January 2015, 718 cases have been reported from 16 countries in the world. Of these cases, 413 were fatal, resulting in a CFR of 58%.

For more information on confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A (H5N1) virus, reported to WHO visit:

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/Influenza_Summary_IRA_HA_interface_26January2015.pdf?ua=1

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/EN_GIP_20150106CumulativeNumberH5N1cases.pdf

Human infection with avian influenza A (H7N9) in China

On 4 February 2015, the National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) of China notified WHO of 83 additional laboratory-confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus. Onset dates ranged from 20 December 2014 to 27 January 2015. Below is a breakdown of the 83 cases included in this notification by epidemiological week of symptom onset:

- On 20 December 2014: 2 cases
- Week 52 (22 – 28 December 2014): 8 cases
- Week 1 (29 December 2014 – 4 January 2015): 16 cases
- Week 2 (5 - 11 January 2015): 21 cases
- Week 3 (12 – 18 January 2015): 20 cases
- Week 4 (19 – 25 January 2015): 13 cases
26 - 27 January 2015: 3 cases

Cases ranged in age from 1 to 88 years with a median age of 56 years. Of the 83 cases, there were 19 deaths reported, ranged in age from 7 to 78 years with a mean age of 50 years. 60 of these 83 cases were male. The majority (78 cases, 93%) reported exposure to live poultry or live poultry markets; the exposure history of 4 cases is unknown.

Three family clusters were reported, each comprised of 2 cases; all had exposure to live poultry or live poultry markets. Cases were reported from 8 provinces: Fujian (30), Guangdong (30), Jiangsu (7), Jiangxi (1), Shandong (1), Shanghai (2), Xinjiang (1), and Zhejiang (11).


To date, there has been no evidence of sustained human-to-human transmission of influenza A (H7N9). Affected provinces and municipalities continue to maintain surveillance and response activities.

WHO does not advise special screening at points of entry with regard to this event, nor does it recommend any travel restrictions be applied. WHO continues to work closely with national authorities and technical partners to gain a better understanding of this disease in humans and will continue to provide updated information as the situation evolves.

For more information on human infection with avian influenza A (H7N9) virus, visit:


**Human infection with avian influenza A (H5N6) in China**

On 9 February 2015, the National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) of China notified WHO of 1 laboratory-confirmed case of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N6) virus.

The patient, a 44-year-old male from Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, developed symptoms on 27 January. He was admitted to hospital on 3 February and died on 6 February. The patient had history of exposure to dead wild fowl. On 8 February, the specimen of the patient tested positive for avian influenza A(H5N6) by the China CDC.


**Animal infection with avian influenza A**

In past one week, animal infections with avian influenza viruses were reported in China, Republic of Korea, and Viet Nam.

**China**

**H5N6 HPAI outbreak in poultry**

On 6 February 2015, an outbreak of H5N6 HPAI in poultry was reported from China. The outbreak occurred in a poultry farm in Heshan District, Yiyang City, Hunan Province. Approximately 3,400 chickens showed clinical signs, of which 2,600 died.
Taiwan, China

H5, H5N2, and H5N3 HPAI outbreak in poultry
As of 11 February 2015, H5 infection was confirmed in a total of 792 places in 14 counties/cities, 3,281,880 birds have been culled. H5 virus was confirmed in a black-faced spoonbill found dead in Dingshan wetland in Chiku District, Tainan City on 25 January 2015 and a novel H5N2 was detected in 1 night heron found dead in Taitung County on 18 January. According to HA gene phylogenetic tree evolution analysis, the novel H5N2, H5N3 and H5N8 avian influenza virus strains are new introductions.

Republic of Korea

H5N8 infection in a dog
Korean QIA (Quarantine Division) detected H5N8 virus in a nasal swab sample collected from one of three dogs in a meat duck farm in Goseong City, Gyeongsangnam-do where H5N8 infection was confirmed by a pre-slaughter inspection on 23 January 2015. The dog samples were collected at the same time. None of the dogs showed any clinical signs. No virus or antibodies detected in other two dogs.

Detection of HPAI virus in wild bird faeces
On 06 February, HPAI was detected from wild bird faeces in Jungnangcheon riverside, Seoul City. The sampling was a part of the disease forecasting programme that collects 480,000 samples annually from farmed chickens and ducks, wild bird feces and carcasses. Thirty-seven (37) wild bird habitats have been monitored.

Viet Nam

H5N1 HPAI outbreak in poultry
H5N1 avian influenza outbreak was reported in one poultry farm in Khanh Hoi Hamlet 3, U Minh District, Ca Mau. A total of 260 birds died in a flock of 824 birds (675 chickens and 149 ducks).
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13 February 2015

For more information on animal infection with avian influenza viruses with potential public health impact, visit:


- OFFLU: http://www.offlu.net/


Latest information on human seasonal influenza

For the latest information on the seasonal influenza situation in the Western Pacific Region, visit:

http://www.wpro.who.int/emerging_diseases/Influenza/en/index.html

For latest information on the global seasonal influenza situation, visit:

- Epidemiology: http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance

- Virology: http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/updates/summaryreport