

Human infection with avian influenza A(H5) viruses

From 7 to 13 March 2015, **no new cases** of human infection with avian influenza A(H5) viruses were reported in the Western Pacific Region. The last case of avian influenza A(H5N1) virus in the region was reported on 28 January 2015 from China, and the last case of avian influenza A(H5N6) virus was reported on 9 February 2015 also from China.

Human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) virus

From 2003 to 6 March 2015, 233 cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) virus were reported from four countries within the Western Pacific Region (Table 1). Of these cases, 133 were fatal, resulting in a case fatality rate (CFR) of 57%.

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 March 2015), Western Pacific Region.

Country	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		Total	
	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D
Cambodia	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	8	8	3	3	26	14	9	4	0	0	56	37
China	1	1	0	0	8	5	13	8	5	3	4	4	7	4	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	0	1	0	47	30
Lao PDR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Viet Nam	3	3	29	20	61	19	0	0	8	5	6	5	5	5	7	2	0	0	4	2	2	1	2	2	0	0	127	64
Total	4	4	29	20	73	28	15	10	16	11	11	9	13	9	10	4	9	9	9	6	30	17	13	6	1	0	233	133

From 2003 to 3 March 2015, 784 cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) virus were reported from 16 countries worldwide. Of these cases, 429 were fatal, resulting in a case fatality rate of 55%.

Human infection with avian influenza A(H5N6) virus

From 2014 to 13 March 2015, three cases of influenza A(H5N6) were reported globally. All cases were from China.

Public health risk assessment for human infection with avian influenza A(H5) viruses

Whenever avian influenza viruses are circulating in poultry, sporadic infections and small clusters of human cases are possible in people who are exposed to infected poultry or contaminated environments. To date, human infections with avian influenza A(H5) viruses occur sporadically, with no sustained human-to-human transmission.

For more information on confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A (H5) virus reported to WHO, visit:

http://www.who.int/flu/human_animal_interface/en/

For more information on risk assessment on influenza at the Human-Animal interface, visit:

http://www.who.int/flu/human_animal_interface/HAI_Risk_Assessment/en/

Human infection with avian influenza A (H7N9) virus in China

On 9 March 2015, the National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) of China notified WHO of fifty-nine (59) additional laboratory-confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus, including seventeen (17) deaths. Onset dates ranged from 21 January to 25 February 2015.

Cases ranged in age from 1 to 82 years, with a mean age of 53 years. Of these 59 cases, 44 (75%) were male. The majority (83%, 49 cases) reported exposure to live poultry or live poultry markets; the exposure history of six cases are unknown or unavailable. Three family clusters were reported, each comprised of two cases; four of the six cases had exposure to live poultry or live poultry markets, one case had no exposure to poultry, and one case is still under investigation. Cases were reported from nine provinces: Anhui (4), Fujian (1), Guangdong (35), Guizhou (1), Hunan (2), Jiangsu (3), Jiangxi (1), Shanghai (1), and Zhejiang (11).

To date, a total of 631 laboratory-confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus have been reported to WHO: 611 cases by China National Health and Family Planning Commission, four cases by the Taipei Centers for Disease Control, 13 cases by the Centre for Health Protection, China, Hong Kong SAR, one case in a Chinese traveler reported from Malaysia, and two cases in returned travelers from China reported from Canada.

<http://www.who.int/csr/don/11-march-2015-avian-influenza-china/en/>

Public health risk assessment for avian influenza A(H7N9) viruses

Overall, the public health risk from avian influenza A(H7N9) viruses has not changed since the assessment published on 2 October 2014 by WHO. To date, there has been no evidence of sustained human-to-human transmission of avian influenza A (H7N9) virus.

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

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/influenza_h7n9/en/

For more information on risk assessment on avian influenza A(H7N9) virus, visit:

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/influenza_h7n9/Risk_Assessment/en/

Animal infection with avian influenza

From 7 to 13 March 2015 in the Western Pacific Region, animal infections with avian influenza viruses were reported in China.

H5N2 and H5N8 HPAI outbreaks in poultry, Taiwan, China

Five outbreaks of H5N2 and three outbreaks of H5N8 HPAI infections in poultry were confirmed.

http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=17322

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

- World Organization of Animal Health (OIE) web page:
<http://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/web-portal-on-avian-influenza/>
and <http://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/update-on-avian-influenza>
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) webpage: Avian Influenza:
<http://www.fao.org/avianflu/en/index.html>
- OFFLU:
<http://www.offlu.net/>
- EMPRES:
<http://www.fao.org/foodchain/empres-prevention-and-early-warning/en/>

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

Other updates

Influenza at the human-animal interface — Summary and assessment as of 3 March 2015

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/Influenza_Summary_IRA_HA_interface_3_March_2015.pdf?ua=1

WHO Risk Assessment of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus

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http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/influenza_h7n9/RiskAssessment_H7N9_23Feb2015.pdf?ua=1