

Human infection with avian influenza A(H5) viruses

From 21 to 27 March 2015, **two new cases** of human infection with an avian influenza A(H5N1) virus were reported by China. Both cases were male, are aged 34 years and 17 years and were from Yunnan provenience. The case aged 34 years was reported to have had exposure to live poultry, whilst exposure information for the 17 year old was not reported.

The last case of avian influenza A(H5N6) virus was reported on 9 February 2015 from China.

Human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) virus

From 2003 to 20 March 2015, 236 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, 134 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 20 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	2	1	2	2	2	0	4	1	51	31	
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	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	4	1	236	134

From 2003 to 20 March 2015, 787 cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) virus were reported from 16 countries worldwide. Of these cases, 430 were fatal, resulting in a case fatality rate of 55%.

Human infection with avian influenza A(H5N6) virus

Since 2014, there have been three cases of influenza A(H5N6) 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 have been exposed to infected poultry or contaminated environments. To date, human infections with avian influenza A(H5) viruses have occurred 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/influenza/human_animal_interface/en/

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

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

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

As of 9 March 2015, there have been 631 laboratory-confirmed cases of human infection with the avian influenza A(H7N9) virus 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

On 23 February 2015, WHO conducted a public health risk assessment for avian influenza A(H7N9). This assessment found the overall public health risk from avian influenza A(H7N9) viruses has not changed since the previous assessment, published on 2 October 2014. 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 21 to 27 March 2015 in the Western Pacific Region, animal infections with avian influenza viruses were reported in China.

H5N2 HPAI outbreaks in poultry, Taiwan, China

Two new outbreaks of H5N2 HPAI infections in poultry were reported in Taiwan.

http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=17403

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
23 February 2015 posted on WHO website*

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/influenza_h7n9/RiskAssessment_H7N9_23Feb20115.pdf?ua=1