



H5N1 Flu Virus- Pandemic Influenza Threat

Checkflu, December 12, 2005

URL: <http://www.pr9.net/health/environmental/3235december.html>

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Once occurred Avian Flu has got the propensity to integrate with other species and if that happens it's nearly impossible to stop this fatal virus. It will soon take each and every country in its clutches taking millions of life.

The WHO officials feel that the evolving bird flu virus (H5N1) has got the tendency to emerge as flu pandemic. H5N1 spreads massively in poultry and is showing evidence of spreading into other species as well.

Till date there has been 16 confirmed and three suspected cases of H5N1 virus, the first incident occurred in Hongkong on January 6, 1998. Don't make the mistake of treating H5N1 as an ordinary flu. You can't treat it with an ordinary flu shot because there isn't one. Not only that, H5N1 kills quickly, from 2 to 5 days. It has killed 54 humans in Asia as of May 23, 2005.

Why is the H5N1 virus considered to be so Dangerous? The H5N1 virus is worrisome for various reasons but the major ones are-

1. The bird flu can cross over to humans with deadly consequences. According to the W.H.O., out of 125 confirmed cases of H5N1 influenza in humans since December 2003, more than 50 percent (64 cases) died.
2. The H5N1 is a highly mutational virus, once occurred it can easily spread from species to species, increasing the chances of an influenza pandemic.
3. Third, birds that survive an initial attack can pass on the virus for upwards of 10 days even without visible symptoms. During this period, unsuspecting bird handlers, farmers, veterinarians, and the general public may become exposed to the H5N1 virus.

Though the human transmission of the H5N1 virus has been rare but it can evolve far beyond the species of bird's and pig's, the chances of infection are rare but during an outbreak of bird flu among poultry (domesticated chicken, ducks, turkeys), there is a possible risk to people who have contact with infected birds or surfaces that have been contaminated with excretions from infected birds.

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About Checkflu

Tamiflu (oseltamivir phosphate) is a neuraminidase inhibitor for the treatment and prevention of all common strains of influenza (types A and B). Discovered by Gilead and brought to market by F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Tamiflu is the first and only approved neuraminidase inhibitor available in convenient pill and liquid suspension form.

Shane Julian is an associated editor to the website www.checkflu.com, an Roche Tamiflu Online site, is committed to provide visitors with complete information on Roche Tamiflu, Treatment of Influenza, Tamiflu, Influenza, Avian Influenza, H5N1 Virus, Human Transmission, Bird Flu, Mutating Virus, Neuraminidase Inhibitors, Oseltamivir Phosphate, Treatment of Flu, Types of Influenza virus and other related topics. Your feedback & comments will be highly appreciated at shane.julian@gmail.com.

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