



Orange County Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 1719 W. 17th St. Santa Ana, CA 92706, (714) 834-8180

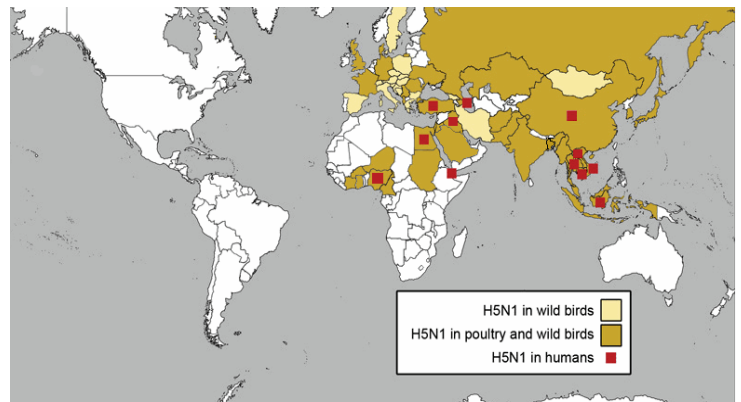
- Prevention and Control of Influenza: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2007**, is now available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/>. Highlights:
 - All children aged 6 months – 8 years should receive two (2) doses of influenza vaccine if they have not been vaccinated previously at any time with either live attenuated influenza vaccine or trivalent inactivated vaccine. See ACIP Recommendations for dosing and timing information.
 - All children aged 6 months – 8 years who received only one (1) dose of influenza vaccine in their 1st year of vaccination should receive two (2) doses the following year.
 - All persons, including school-aged children, who want to reduce the risk of becoming ill with influenza or of transmitting influenza to others should be vaccinated.
 - Immunization providers should offer influenza vaccine and schedule immunization clinics throughout the influenza season.
 - Health-care administrators should consider the level of vaccination coverage among health-care personnel (HCP) to be one measure of a patient safety quality program and implement policies to encourage HCP vaccination (e.g., signed declinations).
 - A/Solomon Islands/3/2006 (H1N1)-like, A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2)-like, and B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like will be the influenza vaccine strains for 2007-2008.
- Researchers discover resistance in influenza viruses to antiviral drugs**. Mutations were uncovered in avian influenza H5N1 strains that appear to reduce the susceptibility to oseltamivir (Tamiflu). Since these mutations were found in bird isolates, it is difficult to draw conclusions about human treatment, but other research suggests higher doses of oseltamivir may overcome the mutations if administered early enough. The WHO is currently revising treatment recommendations for dosing and timing of oseltamivir in H5N1 patients. Mutations were also found in a seasonal H1N1 flu strain which could reduce the effectiveness of zanamivir (Relenza) and the not-yet-released antiviral, peramivir. These mutations appear to be naturally occurring and not the result of inappropriate drug use. For more info, see www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun2207resist.html.
- Japanese pharmaceutical company to study adverse events reported after oseltamivir use**. The studies, which will be undertaken by Chugai Pharmaceutical which markets oseltamivir in Japan, were prompted by reports of teenage deaths and other adverse psychiatric and neurologic events following oseltamivir use. A FDA report in 2006 concluded that it was unclear if the adverse neuropsychiatric events were related to the use of oseltamivir only, influenza infection only, or both. www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun2007drugs.html.



Avian Influenza Update (as of June 29th)

- 317 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (7), China (25), Djibouti (1), Egypt (37), Indonesia (101), Iraq (3), Lao People's Democratic Republic (2), Nigeria (1), Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (95), and have resulted in 191 (60%) deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe. For an up-to-date list of H5N1-affected countries, please visit: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
- Please report immediately to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180 any patients with fever and respiratory symptoms with history of travel to H5N1-affected areas in the 10 days prior to symptom onset.

Nations with Confirmed H5N1 Avian Influenza Cases (as of June 2007)



Recommended Resources

OC: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>;
 CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/VRDL/html/FLU/Fluintro.htm>;
 CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>; HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>;
 General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Alina Burgi or Pamela Roa Hipp at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.