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**Although traditional influenza season is over in the U.S., consider influenza in returning travelers with fever and respiratory symptoms and report any suspect avian influenza to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.**

- **2008 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for the prevention and control of influenza** includes new and updated information for the 2008-09 influenza season:
  - new recommendation that all children aged 5-18 years, receive annual influenza vaccination;
  - recommendation that annual vaccination of all children aged 6 months through 4 years (59 months) continue to be a primary focus of vaccination efforts because these children are at higher risk for influenza complications compared with older children;
  - new recommendation that either trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine or live, attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) be used when vaccinating healthy persons aged 2-49 years (recommendation expanded for LAIV from 5-49 years);
  - recommendation that vaccines containing the 2008-09 trivalent vaccine virus strains A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like, A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like, and B/Florida/4/2006-like antigens be used;
  - new information on antiviral resistance among influenza viruses in the United States.



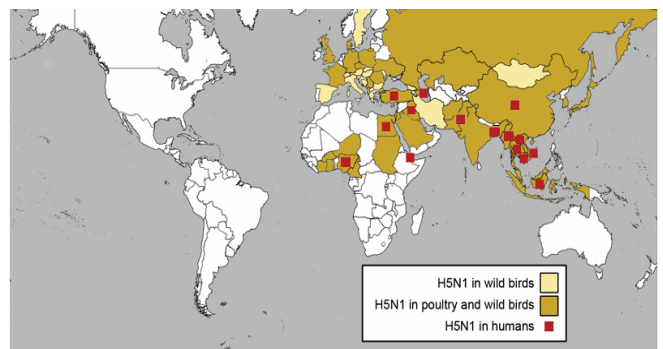
See CDC *MMWR* Jul 17, 2008;57:1-60 available at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr).

- **HHS releases *Guidance on Allocating and Targeting Pandemic Influenza Vaccine***. This guidance may be modified based on the characteristics of pandemic illness, risk groups for severe disease, and the status of vaccine technology, but the overall objectives will likely remain the same, to: 1) protect those who are essential to the pandemic response and provide care for persons who are ill; 2) protect those who maintain essential community services; 3) protect children; and 4) protect workers who are at greater risk of infection due to their job. Non-pharmaceutical public health measures, the use of antivirals, facemasks, and respirators in appropriate settings, and hand and respiratory hygiene will be important throughout the pandemic, and will be the mainstay of response early in the pandemic before vaccine is available. See [www.pandemicflu.gov/vaccine/allocationguidance.pdf](http://www.pandemicflu.gov/vaccine/allocationguidance.pdf).
- **Japanese study including 10,000 children/adolescents finds no neuropsychiatric events related to the use of the antiviral Tamiflu**. In 2007, Japan reported self-injury and delirium in young people who had taken oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and in March 2007, the Japanese government issued a warning against prescribing the drug for people between ages 10-19 years. Three rounds of review by the U.S. FDA found no evidence that oseltamivir contributed to neuropsychiatric events; however, the FDA, Roche, and Glaxo added warnings to the drug labels (oseltamivir and zanamivir) earlier this year. The new study findings will be presented to the Japanese government in the near future. For more information, see [www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jul1108tamiflu-br.html](http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jul1108tamiflu-br.html).
- **Two-state (Michigan and Nebraska) survey reveals fewer than half of nursing homes have pandemic plans**. See *JAMA* 2008;300(4):392-4 (subscription required) for original letter describing complete survey or see [www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jul2508nursing-jw.html](http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jul2508nursing-jw.html).

### Avian Influenza Update (as of Jun. 19<sup>th</sup>)

- No new cases have been reported by the WHO since June 19<sup>th</sup>. 385 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in 15 countries, resulting in 243 (63%) deaths. Infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.

### Nations with Confirmed H5N1 Avian Influenza Cases (as of July, 2008)



#### Recommended Resources

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

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