

## Fundamental Bird flu Facts

### General Facts

**Bird flu** is a viral disease of influenza type Caused from Avian Birds. Wild birds all over the world carry the viruses, but usually do not get sick from them. However, bird flu is extremely contagious among birds and can make some domesticated birds; including ducks, turkeys, and chickens, very sick and finally kill them. As far as the recent Research reveals, there are fifteen subtypes (Variant) of the **avian influenza virus** among them only H5N1 and H7 type are known to have lethal effect.

These virus belong to the Orthomyxoviridae Family and a –ve stranded, segmented RNA Virus .Wild avian birds often act as resistant carriers, spreading it to more susceptible domestic stocks. It can also be transmitted by prolong contact with Affected Bird, contaminated feed, water, equipment and clothing. The incubation period is 3 to 5 days. Symptoms in animals vary, but virulent strains can cause death within a few days

### Symptoms & Diagnosis

The General **bird flu symptoms** is similar to that of Normal human influenza Like (1) High fever (2) sore Throat (3) Cough (4) severe body & head ache (5 ) in very severe condition it is associated with pneumonia . In bird flu virulent genus of the virus affects the lungs in the human and caused death due to Breathlessness.

This virus Can be transmitted from Bird to human but **human to human transmission** is not known nor it is reported only Feared that If this Avian Influenza Virus gets any New subtype antigenic Variant, Coming in contact with the human influenza Virus then it Could be Lethal and Extremely spreadable through human to human contact and can cause a havoc Like the One Spanish flu which killed almost 20 million people in 1918.

### Prevention & Treatment

Avian influenza in humans can be detected reliably with standard influenza tests. Antiviral drugs are clinically effective in both preventing and treating the disease. Vaccines, however, take Long time to produce and must be prepared for each subtype.. Now-a – days the most effective drugs Used to treat the Virus is TAMI FLU, an effective anti avian influenza Drugs .

### History

Human deaths from avian influenza were unknown until 1997, when six people in Hong Kong died from the particularly virulent H5N1 strain. In January 2004, a major new **outbreak of H5N1 avian influenza** surfaced again in Vietnam and Thailand's poultry industry, and within weeks spread to ten countries and regions in Asia, including Indonesia, South Korea, Japan and China.

Intensive efforts were undertaken to slaughter chickens, ducks and geese (over 40 million chickens alone were slaughtered in high-infection areas), and the outbreak was contained by March, but the total human death toll in Vietnam and Thailand was 23 people while in china Figure is still not clear and unconfirmed report put the tally somewhere around 50 – 60 Deaths . Recently in Feb.- March 2006 , Outbreak of avian influenza was reported first time in India in Jalgaon & Akola provinces of Maharastra in Western part of India .Since then almost 1000,00 Chickens have Been Culled in this Two Districts alone .

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