

H5N1: Challenges for Preparedness (Update)

Emory University Resources:

- Region IV Concept of Operations (CONOPS) - Regional Partners and Contacts
 - <https://netec.org/about-netec/partners-regional-contacts/#regional-contacts>
- NETEC
 - <https://netec.org/>
- NETEC – National Special Pathogens System of Care (NSPS)
 - <https://netec.org/nsps/>

General External Resources:

Disclaimer - Our program provides additional resources that may be of use to our session attendees. This list is not inclusive, nor does our program endorse specific organizations.

- Healthmap.org (Location based alerts)
- Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), University of Minnesota (UNM)
- The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) - Global Center for Health Security: The Transmission
- Global Biodefense
- CDC – Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology
- Georgia Department of Public Health – Travel Clinical Assistant (TCA)
 - <https://dph.georgia.gov/TravelClinicalAssistant>
- ProMED – International Society for Infectious Diseases

Please continue to check your local and state public health websites for additional resources and guidance.

Session Resources:

- CDC - H5 Bird Flu: Current Situation
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/situation-summary/index.html>
- CDC – Interim Guidance for Employers to Reduce Exposure to Avian Influenza A Viruses for People Working with Animals
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/prevention/worker-protection-ppe.html>
- CDC - Interim Guidance on the Use of Antiviral Medications for Treatment of Human Infections with Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Human Disease
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/hcp/novel-av-treatment-guidance/index.html>
- USDA – H5N1 and Safety of U.S. Meat Supply
 - <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections/livestock/testing-and-science/meat-safety>
- OSHA – Avian Influenza

- <https://www.osha.gov/avian-flu>

Responses to Unanswered Questions:

1. Any guidance for PPE in the small animal veterinary setting, particularly for those who might be seeing cats with exposure or signs consistent with H5N1?
 - Veterinarians examining companion cats with respiratory or neurological complaints, particularly those cats who are outdoors or who are fed or consume raw meat, milk, or animal products, should wear PPE, and use good hand hygiene and cleaning practices.
 - Additionally, please review the below resources:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/74/wr/mm7405a2.htm>
 - <https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fbird-flu%2Fhcp%2Fanimals%2Findex.html&data=05%7C02%7Cjill.morgan%40emoryhealthcare.org%7C9b727fd8efc54d25125608dd5599a70c%7Ce004fb9cb0a4424fbc0322606d5df38%7C0%7C0%7C638760840596687799%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjA1MDAwMCIslIAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoITWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WgjZbmChVSgfVr9B6SUDEjFVFEXTCixn4KomLNzrehU%3D&reserved=0>
2. As a duck hunter are there any special precautions that I should take while hunting?
 - Please review the resource below.
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/fsc_hpai_hunters.pdf
3. How should we think about risk stratifications for patients - are there any indications of which populations are at risk?
 - Please review the resource below. "Levels of exposure" can be found near the middle of the webpage.
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/prevention/worker-protection-ppe.html>
4. It seems as though that the Travel Question should be very important to an ER because of other types of infectious diseases. What if they receive a patient with Ebola symptoms?
 - Symptom and travel screening are important foundations to the Identify-Isolate-Inform model. The symptoms for many of these pathogens of concern are so common (fever, headache, myalgia) that a travel/exposure history may be your only clue to early suspicion. With H5N1, the symptoms may be equally as common in our EDs (fever, cough, runny nose, conjunctivitis) making exposure history critical to identification.
5. Would you recommend against taking a toddler to a parade (in TN) in mid-March where she would be able to see and pet Highland Cows
 - There is likely no guarantee that these animals have been tested, but you could ask ahead of time. Any respiratory secretions – and cows can have a lot – would

be potential sources, so being outdoors is a help (dispersion and dilution), thorough and immediate hand hygiene (before the chance to self-inoculate), and avoiding udders, milk, and any splashes or sprays of “cow juices”!