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Avian Influenza A (H7N9) – Update on Human Infections / Novel Coronavirus Update

Additional human infections of avian influenza A (H7N9) have been reported in China. No sustained human-to-human transmission has been identified and no cases (in humans or birds) have been reported in the United States. For more information, see www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm (CDC) or www.who.int/csr/don/en/ (WHO).

- **Latest Update:** As of May 9, 2013, 131 cases human cases of novel influenza A (H7N9), including 32 deaths, have been confirmed from eastern China (see map on right), including one case reported from Taiwan who traveled to China during the exposure period. The first ever known human infections of H7N9 avian influenza were reported April 1, 2013. The virus has since been detected in poultry in the same areas where human cases have been reported and many of the human cases have had poultry contact. Investigations into the possible sources of infection and reservoirs of the virus are ongoing. Until the source of infection has been identified and controlled, additional cases are expected to occur.



- **Recommendations:**
 - WHO and CDC have not recommended any travel restrictions to affected areas. See <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/avian-flu-h7n9.htm> for recommended precautions.
 - **Suspect cases of H7N9 should be reported to Orange County Public Health immediately** at 714-834-8180. This includes persons who develop influenza-like illness (ILI)* within 10 days of: (1) recent travel to areas where H7N9 has been reported (see map above) OR (2) contact with confirmed human cases of influenza A (H7N9). **ILI is defined as fever (temperature of 100°F [37.8°C] or greater) and cough and/or sore throat.*
 - Refer to the 4/23/2013 Advisory for testing, treatment and infection control recommendations and for the latest Orange County updates at <http://ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/dcepi/epi/flu/h7n9>.
- **Chinese study finds very few mild H7N9 cases:** Testing of more than 20,000 persons with ILI in China during March and April revealed only six cases of H7N9 infection, suggesting that mild infection is uncommon. The study can be accessed at: http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/19/8/13-0662_article.htm.

Seasonal Influenza Update

- This is the last week of the official influenza season. We would like to thank our influenza surveillance partners for your participation this past season.
- **Year-round surveillance is important to detect respiratory outbreaks and novel viruses.**
 - Hospitals/laboratories please continue to submit positive influenza specimens.
 - ILI sentinel providers please continue to report weekly on ILI.



Novel Coronavirus (nCoV)

- For background information, evaluation and testing recommendations, see the 3/8/2013 Health Advisory posted on our w at <http://ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/dcepi/epi/disease/coronavirus>.
- As of May 12, 2013, nCoV has been reported in 34 persons in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, and France, with 18 deaths. The cases in the U.K. and France either traveled to the Arabian Peninsula or had contact with an individual with nCoV. Of concern is that many of the infections have been health-care associated. CDC recommends that suspect patients be managed utilizing the infection control guidance used for SARS (see www.cdc.gov/sars/infection).

If you have any comments about this flyer, contact Sandra Okubo, MPH or Michele Cheung, MD at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.