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AVIAN INFLUENZA:

How to Protect Yourself and Prevent Outbreaks When You Transport Birds



How does avian influenza spread?

Even though you cannot see it, the H5N1 virus (also known as avian influenza) can live in the feces (droppings), saliva, mucous, and blood of infected birds.

Anything that touches the infected poultry's droppings, saliva, mucous or blood can carry the virus. This could be shoes, clothing, cages, egg bins, knives, cutting boards, or other tools. Droppings and mucous can also stick to the feathers and feet of poultry—even if you cannot see it—and the virus can be spread that way, too.

Keep yourself safe.



Keep yourself safe. Avoid touching anything that has been in contact with blood, mucous and droppings from birds.

Keep clean!



- Wash your hands with soap and water before and after touching any birds. Any kind of soap will do (liquid, solid or powder).
- If you are in an area where there have been outbreaks of avian influenza, cover your hands with gloves when touching birds, and use a mask (or other cloth) to cover your mouth and nose.
- Wash the vehicle used to transport poultry or other birds after each time you transport. Use disinfectant if you have it. Make sure to wash the tires, and the area where the birds were kept (such as the cage or box).



Follow the law!

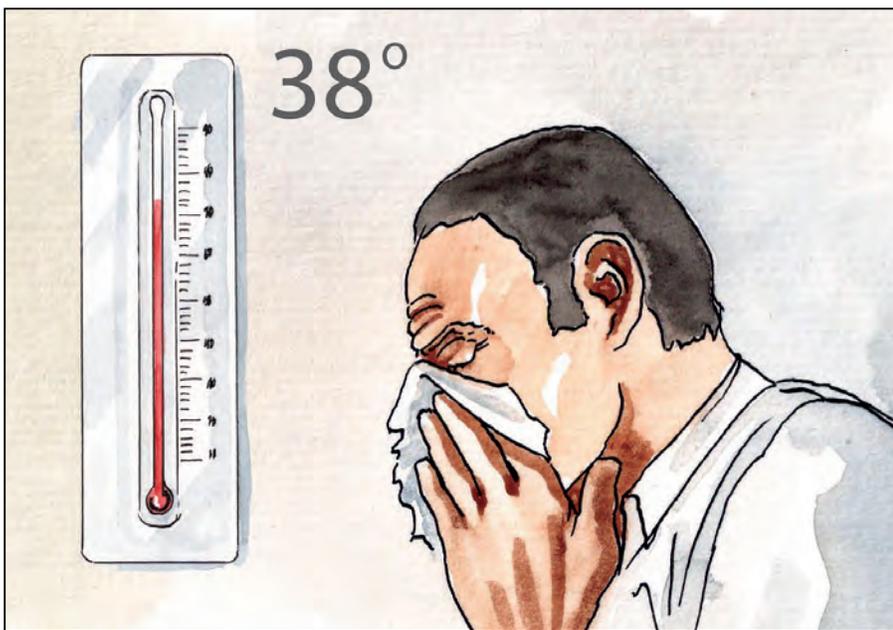


- Transport only legal, certified birds and poultry products. Do not transport birds or poultry products if you do not know where they came from.
- If required by law, transport certified poultry in vehicles approved by local animal health authorities.

Avoid transporting poultry from areas with outbreaks of avian influenza!

Monitor your health.

If you come in contact with sick or dead birds,
MONITOR YOUR HEALTH for at least **7 DAYS**.



Visit a doctor or the nearest health facility as soon as possible if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever over 38° C
- Sore throat or cough
- Trouble breathing

Tell them that you have been in contact with sick or dead birds.

What is avian influenza?

Even though you cannot see it, the H5N1 virus (also called avian influenza) is a virus that all birds can get—chickens, ducks, turkeys, quails, geese, and swans. Avian influenza can spread quickly and cause sudden death in large numbers of birds.

People can also become sick with the H5N1 virus. That is why it is important to safely slaughter and prepare poultry for eating.

For more information about avian influenza, go to www.avianflu.aed.org