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## World Health Organization (WHO) Pandemic Influenza Alert Phase

The current situation remains at phase 3: novel virus able to infect humans with no or very limited person-to-person transmission

- **Summary of laboratory-confirmed H5N1 cases:** WHO has published a summary of demographic and epidemiological information on 203 symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed H5N1 cases reported to WHO with onset date between December 2003 to 30 April 2006. See: *Weekly Epidemiological Record* at [http://www.who.int/entity/csr/disease/avian\\_influenza/guidelines/wer8126/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/entity/csr/disease/avian_influenza/guidelines/wer8126/en/index.html).
- **American College of Physicians Position Paper on the Health Care Response to Pandemic Influenza** is available in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. To view: <http://www.annals.org/cgi/content/full/0000605-200607180-00131v1>.
- **Second report on pandemic planning released by HHS:** see <http://pandemicflu.gov>.
- **The burden of influenza in young children is underrecognized.** Population-based surveillance of medical visits for an acute respiratory tract infection or fever in children under 5 years of age was conducted in three U.S counties. Surveillance specimens were taken from ~2800 children and tested for influenza by culture and PCR but these results were not available to the clinician. Of those children who had laboratory-confirmed influenza, a diagnosis of influenza was made by the treating physician in 17% in the outpatient setting and 28% in the inpatient setting. The average annual rate of hospitalization associated with influenza were 0.9 per 1,000 children; outpatient visits associated with influenza were 10-250 times as common as hospitalizations. For details, see *N Engl J Med* 2006;355:31-40 at <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/355/1/31> (subscription required).
- **Updated Q & A on Influenza Vaccine Supply and Prioritization for 2006-07 available:** See the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/vaxprioritygroups.htm>.



## Recommended Resources

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

## Avian Influenza Update

- As of July 4, 2006, 229 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (19), Djibouti (1), Egypt (14), Indonesia (52)\*, Iraq (2), Thailand (22), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 131 deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe.  
\*reported a new case since last update (June 30<sup>th</sup>)
- For an up-to-date list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
- Suspect avian influenza cases should be reported immediately to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

Nations with Confirmed Cases  
H5N1 Avian Influenza (July 7, 2006)

