

Reporting period: 6 to 12 December 2009 (Week 50)

Summary

1. The latest case of avian influenza H5N1 in humans occurred in **Vietnam** (confirmed by WHO on December 11).
2. In the past few years, about 100 cases of human AI infection were confirmed by the WHO annually, except 2008 where there were only 44 cases confirmed. This year (as of December 12), there have been 50 cases confirmed.
3. Cases occurred in the Western Pacific, South-East Asia and Eastern Mediterranean WHO regions. More cases were reported around January to March each year.

This week's update

(as of 12 Dec 2009)		Confirmed human cases (deaths)	Wild birds/ poultry reports
		Source: WHO	Source: OIE
This week	Hong Kong	0 (0)	0
	Outside HK	1 (1)	0
	Affected countries	Vietnam	-
	Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam: A man from Dien Bien Province was confirmed avian influenza H5N1 positive. He had close contact with sick/dead poultry and has passed away. (Dec 11, WHO) 	-
Cumulative since Nov. 2003	Hong Kong	0	2009: 16 dead birds confirmed H5N1 positive ⁰
	Outside HK	445 (263)	
	Affected countries	15 *	62 [#]
⁰ For further information, please visit the web site of AFCD : http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/quarantine/qua_vetlab/qua_vetlab_ndr/h5n1_health_advice.html			
* The 15 affected countries included Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, 17 provinces in China (<i>Anhui, Beijing, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Liaoning, Shandong, Shanghai, Shanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Zhejiang</i>), Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Laos, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam.			
[#] Details of the OIE reported cases in poultry/wild birds: http://www.oie.int/eng/info_ev/en_AI_factoids_2.htm			

Table 1.

WHO confirmed human cases of avian influenza A (H5N1) since 2003 by onset date of the cases (as of 12 Dec 2009)[§]

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Overall
Cases	4	46	98	115	88	44	50	445
Deaths	4	32	43	79	59	33	13	263
Case Fatality Rate (CFR)	100.0%	69.6%	43.9%	68.7%	67.0%	75%	26.0%	59.1%

§ Further breakdown by countries is available at the government website “Prevention of Avian Influenza” (<http://www.info.gov.hk/info/flu/eng/global.htm>)

Table 2.

Countries/areas affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza in the past 6 months
(as of 12 Dec 2009)

WHO Region	Date of last report by WHO / OIE	Countries	In the past 6 months, H5N1 has affected
Western Pacific	2009-12-11	Vietnam	Human, Poultry
	2009-06-04	China (Qinghai)	Poultry, Wild birds
	2009-08-10	Mongolia	Wild birds
South-East Asia	2009-07-14	Bangladesh	Poultry
	2009-01-22	Indonesia ^{&}	Poultry
Eastern Mediterranean	2009-11-27	Egypt ^{&}	Human
Europe	2009-11-05	Russia	Wild birds
	2009-10-13	Spain	Poultry
Africa	2009-10-16	Cote d'Ivoire	Wild birds
	2009-03-03	Nigeria ^{&}	Poultry
The Americas	--	--	--

[&] The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has reported that avian influenza H5N1 is endemic in poultry in these countries.

Table 3.

WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 since 2003 (as of 12 Dec 2009)

Country	Cumulative no. of cases (December 2003 to December 2009)	No. of recent cases (September to December 2009)
Azerbaijan	8	0
Bangladesh	1	0
Cambodia	8	0
China	38	0
Djibouti	1	0
Egypt	89	4
Indonesia	141	0
Iraq	3	0
Laos	2	0
Myanmar	1	0
Nigeria	1	0
Pakistan	3	0
Thailand	25	0
Turkey	12	0
Vietnam	112	1
Overall	445	5

Table 4.

Details of the recent WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 (Sep to Dec 09)

(as of 12 Dec 2009)

Date of report by WHO	Country	District	Province	Sex	Age	Outcome
11/12/09	Vietnam	Dien Bien Phu	Dien Bien	M	-	Fatal
27/11/09	Egypt	Minia	Minia	M	3	Alive
20/11/09	Egypt	Sedy Beshir	Alexandria	M	21	Alive
24/09/09	Egypt	Tahrer	Behira	F	1	Alive
24/09/09	Egypt	Alexandria	Alexandria	M	13	Alive

Avian Influenza Report is a weekly report produced by the Respiratory Disease Office of the Centre for Health Protection as part of the Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic in Hong Kong. This report aims to highlight important international developments on avian influenza preparedness and control and to monitor global avian influenza activity in humans and birds.

^o **Sources:** World Health Organization (WHO); World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)