

衛生署  
緊急應變及資訊處  
香港九龍亞皆老街  
147C 號 1 樓



EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND  
INFORMATION BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
1/F, 147C Argyle Street,  
Kowloon, Hong Kong.

本署編號 OUR REF.: P3-20-20/1 Pt.3  
來信編號 YOUR REF.:  
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3 December 2013

By Fax: 2893 1771

Consul-General of Turkey  
Room 301, 3 floor,  
Sino Plaza,  
255-257 Gloucester Road,  
Causeway Bay

Dear Consul,

**Raising the Response level to "Serious"**

This letter serves to inform you that the "Serious Response Level" under the Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic has been activated in view of the first human case of **avian influenza A (H7N9)** in Hong Kong.

The victim is a 36-year-old Indonesian domestic helper who has a history of traveling to Shenzhen, buying a chicken, slaughtering and eating the chicken. The case is now under treatment and close contacts of the patient are under medical surveillance.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSARG) has notified the Mainland authority and the World Health Organization according to established procedures. Meanwhile, Hong Kong will suspend the import of live chickens from the three registered chicken farms in Shenzhen.

Travelers, especially those returning from avian influenza A(H7N9)-affected areas, with fever or respiratory symptoms, are reminded to immediately wear facial masks, seek medical attention, and reveal their travel history to doctors. Health-care professionals are advised to pay special attention to patients who might have had contact with birds, poultry or their droppings in affected areas. Travelers are urged not to visit wet markets with live poultry in the affected areas and to avoid direct contact with poultry, birds and their droppings. If contact has been made, they should thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water.

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aspire to be an internationally renowned public health authority*

Members of the public are reminded to remain vigilant and take heed of the following preventive advice against avian influenza:

- \* Poultry and eggs should be thoroughly cooked before eating;
- \* Wash hands frequently with soap, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, handling food or eating; after going to the toilet or touching public installations or equipment such as escalator handrails, elevator control panels or door knobs; or when hands are dirtied by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing;
- \* Cover the nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing, and hold the spit with a tissue and put it into a covered dustbin;
- \* Avoid crowded places and contact with fever patients; and
- \* Wear a mask when respiratory symptoms develop or when taking care of fever patients.

For more information about the latest development, you are welcome to visit the webpage of the Centre for Health Protection under the Department of Health, as follows –

[www.chp.gov.hk/en/view\\_content/24244.html](http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/24244.html)

[www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/global\\_statistics\\_avian\\_influenza\\_e.pdf](http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/global_statistics_avian_influenza_e.pdf)

You are also welcome to contact Mr. Francis MAK, Superintendent of Police (ERIB) at [sp\\_erib@dh.gov.hk](mailto:sp_erib@dh.gov.hk) (email) or 2125 2879 (office) for latest update.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr. Heston KWONG)  
for Director of Health

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