



BIRD FLU



Bird Flu is primarily a disease of the birds/poultry, but if we do not take care it may affect human beings.

Do's and Don'ts for Community

DO's

- ◆ Keep children away, from the poultry. Secure these poultry in cages away from human dwellings.
 - ◆ If you come in contact with poultry, poultry products or their droppings, wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
 - ◆ report death among poultry to nearest health/ animal health facility.
 - ◆ Handle dead poultry using gloves/ polythene cover. Mouth and nostril should be covered with a band of cloth tied at the back of the head or with a three layered surgical mask. Dispose the dead birds in deep pits to be covered with earth and lime. Wash hands thoroughly after disposal of the carcasses of dead birds.
 - ◆ If any of the members of the family or person who had visited the family in recent past or a person in the neighbourhood falls sick with fever and cough, they need to inform the health worker visiting the house on daily basis or to the nearest health facility.
 - ◆ If a need arises to cook poultry bought from outside the affected area, the male or female member of the family engaged in defeathering and preparing the chicken would ensure that all waste are disposed off in pits covered with lime and hands are cleaned thoroughly with soap and water after handling the poultry/ poultry product. The chicken should be cooked well before consumption.
 - ◆ If there is a person with fever and cough in the family and under investigation for avian influenza then:
 - Minimize close contact with such person.
 - To the extend possible, use separate living, dining, bathing, laundry and toilet facilities for such cases under domiciliary care.
 - Wear masks if available or cover the nose and mouth with tissue paper or handkerchief while in close contact with infectious case (less than 3 meter) or while in a confined space.
 - Always wash hands after having contact with respiratory secretions, with detergent or soap..
 - Ask patient to use tissue paper/handkerchief to cover nose and mouth while coughing and sneezing.
 - Ask patient to throw the tissue paper etc. always in a bin closed with a lid after its use.
 - In the event of any case, quarantine of a case helps the health authority to investigate the case and prevent the spread of the disease.
- These guidelines are for contacts or patient, family members, visitors and members or community.

DON'Ts

- ◆ Do not allow children to play with poultry.
- ◆ Never ever cook and eat a sick poultry or one that was found dead in the backyard.
- ◆ Do not buy poultry or poultry products sold by vendors at throw away price.
- ◆ Do not handle poultry found sick or dead in the backyard without safety precautions.
- ◆ If there is a person under investigation/ suspect human case in the family, then:
 - ◆ Do not handle secretions or paper, clothes used by patients with respiratory illness.
 - ◆ Do not throw away the tissue paper/mask/handkerchief after use.
 - ◆ Ask people to avoid close contact with individual suffering from such disease.
 - ◆ Avoid visiting the affected area where cases of avian flu has been detected.