



Henry County Emergency Management Agency

107 S. 12th Street
New Castle, Indiana, 47362
765-521-0582 Office, 765-521-3657 FAX

Avian Influenza A (H5N1) **Infected at this time (01-24-06) - 148** **Died – 82**

A good source of information about the avian influenza A (H5N1) can be found at the “Centers for Disease Control” Website at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/>

Note: CDC is revising its interim guidance for infection control precautions for avian influenza. The revised recommendations will be posted on this website as soon as they are finalized.

Personal protection recommendations for Avian Influenza from the CDC website;

- Standard Precautions
 - Pay careful attention to hand hygiene before and after all patient contact or contact with items potentially contaminated with respiratory secretions.
- Contact Precautions
 - Use gloves and gown for all patient contact.
 - Use dedicated equipment such as stethoscopes, disposable blood pressure cuffs, disposable thermometers, etc.
- Eye protection (i.e., goggles or face shields)
 - Wear when within 3 feet of the patient.
- Airborne Precautions
 - Place the patient in an airborne isolation room (AIR). Such rooms should have monitored negative air pressure in relation to corridor, with 6 to 12 air changes per hour (ACH), and exhaust air directly outside or have recirculated air filtered by a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter. If an AIR is unavailable, contact the health-care facility engineer to assist or use portable HEPA filters (see [Environmental Infection Control Guidelines](#)) to augment the number of ACH.
 - Use a fit-tested respirator, at least as protective as a National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-approved N-95 filtering facepiece (i.e., disposable) respirator, when entering the room.

I have included a few thoughts/questions that I am working on at this time. If you would be interested in assisting in building a plan for Henry County please contact me so that we can meet. I need your help. The Henry County Emergency Management Agency cannot possibly build your plan along with everyone else’s.

As you look at this document try to answer each question honestly and then think about how you can better prepare yourself and your organization. Remember that it is believed that this could last as long as 24 months.

Equipment Gloves – a clean pair for each call
 N-95 Masks – at least one per call
 Gowns – Level B protection
 Dedicated stethoscopes
 Disposable blood pressure cuffs
 Disposable thermometers
 Eye protection (i.e., goggles or face shields) Wear when within 3 feet of the patient.

Are you prepared?

Director: Ron Huffman



Henry County Emergency Management Agency

107 S. 12th Street
New Castle, Indiana, 47362
765-521-0582 Office, 765-521-3657 FAX

Hand washing protocols and equipment
Surface cleaner – what, how often

Will first responders (i.e. fire, EMS, law) be allowed to wear their duty clothes home?
Where and how should they be washed, with what?

Fuel – What is your reserve capacity?

Service – Parts, repairs

Food How many weeks supply, as many as 5 have been recommended because of the possibility of supply lines being disrupted.

Water Personal, bottled water, purification devices
Community, how much chlorine does your community have as a back up?

Medicine Can you stock up?

Personnel If up to 1/3 of the population is expected to contract the avian influenza A (H5N1) viruse and you loose 1/3 of your workforce who will replace them.
Do you think that if a virus is circling the globe and killing millions that the rest of your personnel will show up for work.
Who will make the emergency calls?
Who will keep the power, water and sewer plants operating?

As the head of your agency it is YOUR responsibility to answer ALL of these questions!

Sick/Infected victims

How many can the hospital handle? If the hospital shuts its doors where are we going to set up additional medical facilities? How many?

How will they be supplied and with what?

Who will staff them?

Bodies

Where will we hold 1000+ deceased persons at a time?

Where will we bury thousands of the residence of Henry County?

How many cemeteries are their in the county and much room does each have?

What does it take to get approval to open a mass gravesite?

Where would be the best location?

What will happen when the mortuaries can't keep up with the demand?

What about religious burial services?

At what point do we declare a state of emergency, and what do we tell every one to do?

Are you prepared?

Director: Ron Huffman



Henry County Emergency Management Agency

107 S. 12th Street
New Castle, Indiana, 47362
765-521-0582 Office, 765-521-3657 FAX

Who should be concerned ----- everyone

As an individual or as a public service provider how many of the above questions can you say that you can accomplish.

Do you have a plan as to how you will respond to this type of emergency? As with any event, if this strain of influenza does not become a pandemic we'll at least be better prepared for future events.

The Henry County Health Department is currently working on our plan and will be refining it in the following months. They're working very hard to help protect our citizens and emergency responders. But, please understand that if this does evolve as some believe, there is no way that this, or any country can wave a magic wand and make it go away.

Knowledge is power, watch current events, learn what you can and prepare yourself and your family in accordance with approved federal, state and local guidance.

Ronald D. Huffman
Director
Henry County Emergency Management Agency/DHS

Are you prepared?

Director: Ron Huffman