



ASEAN BIODIASPORA VIRTUAL CENTER

DISEASE ALERT

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ASIAN NATIONS

February 26, 2025 | Issue No. 13

First alert: January 13, 2025

Second alert: January 26, 2025 | Avian Influenza A (H5N1) in Cambodia

Sub-Locations Affected

Preah Sdach District, Prey Veng Province

Event Description

On February 25, 2025, the Cambodian Ministry of Health confirmed the second human fatality of the year attributed to the H5N1 influenza virus in the southeastern province of Prey Veng.



Source: https://www.freepik.com/free-ai-image/chicken-farm-scene-with-poultry-people_187447747.htm#fromView=search&page=1&position=0&uuiid=b4991622-99d5-448d-86c7-0adc52b2596b

Epidemiological Information

- On 25 February 2025, as announced by the Ministry of Health, there has been a case of avian influenza in a 2-year-7-month-old boy, confirmed positive for the H5N1 avian influenza virus by the National Institute of Public Health. The patient resided in Tangok Village, Romchek Commune, Preah Sdach District, Prey Veng Province.
- Despite the care and rescue efforts of the medical team, the child died on February 25, 2025 due to delayed medical treatment, resulting in a severely critical condition, including fever, cough, shortness of breath and severe respiratory distress. No further information on the date of onset of symptoms.
- Investigation revealed that the patient's household reared chickens as a family business and that approximately 15 chickens had died and others were currently ill, and that the child slept and played under the house near the chicken coop.

- Previously, on January 10, 2025, the first human death of the year was attributed to the H5N1 influenza virus in the province of Kampong Cham, making the current case the second death this year, and 18th human H5N1 since early 2023, with half being fatal.

Response Measure

- The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the provincial agriculture department and local authorities, is investigating the avian influenza outbreak, tracing transmission sources, monitoring suspected cases and contacts, and distributing Tamiflu to close contacts.
- The Ministry of Health urged the citizens to remain vigilant as H5N1 avian influenza remains a public health threat. Those with fever, cough, runny nose, or breathing difficulties after poultry contact should seek immediate medical attention to prevent fatality. Citizens are advised to avoid gatherings or crowded places.
- The Ministry of Health will continue to provide updates regarding public health issues through the official social media channels of the Ministry of Health, as well as the official Facebook page of the Communicable Disease Control Department and the website (www.cdcmoh.gov.kh).

Sources:

1. Ministry of Health Cambodia. (February 25). *Press Release Regarding the Death from Avian Influenza in a 2-Year-7-Month-Old Child*. Retrieved February 26, 2025, from <https://web.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1055356913287738&set=pcb.1055356959954400>
2. Pnompenn Post. (2025, February 26). *Prey Veng bird flu death: two-year-old taken too soon*. Retrieved February 26, 2025, from <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/prey-veng-bird-flu-death-two-year-old-taken-too-soon>
3. The Star. (2025, February 26). *Toddler in Cambodia dies of H5N1 virus*. Retrieved February 26, 2025, from <https://www.thestar.com.my/aseanplus/aseanplus-news/2025/02/26/toddler-in-cambodia-dies-of-h5n1-virus>

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