



ASEAN BIODIASPORA VIRTUAL CENTER

DISEASE ALERT

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Third Alert

First alert: January 13, 2025 | **Human Avian Influenza A (H5N1)
in Cambodia**

Sub-Locations Affected

Chitr Borei district, Kratie province

Event Description

On March 22, 2025, the Cambodian Ministry of Health confirmed the country's third human infection of influenza A(H5N1) in 2025, in the eastern province of Kratie. The patient, a 3.5-year-old child, died on March 23, 2025, despite receiving treatment in a hospital.



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

Epidemiological Information

- On March 22, 2025, the Cambodian Ministry of Health announced that a case of human avian influenza A (H5N1) was confirmed in a 3.5-year-old child. The patient resided in Bos Leav commune, Chit Borei district, Kratie province. The boy was taken to hospital in critical condition with fever, cough and severe fatigue, including difficulty breathing.
- On March 23, 2025, the patient died despite receiving treatment in a hospital.
- An investigation revealed that the patient's family engaged in poultry farming and had approximately five deceased chickens, some of which exhibited signs of illness. The deceased chickens were utilized for meals.
- Previously, on January 10 (Chamkar Leu District, Kampong Cham Province) and February 25, 2025 (Preah Sdach District, Prey Veng Pro), two human deaths attributed to the H5N1 influenza virus were reported. The first death occurred in a 28-year-old male, and the second death occurred in a 2-year-old male child.

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 antiviral medicines 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.
- The Ministry of Health advises against touching or consuming sick or dead poultry. When handling poultry, wear gloves and masks, and rinse it in boiling water before plucking feathers.
- 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. BlueDot (Event Alert), issued on March 23, 2025.
2. Ministry of Health Cambodia. (2025, March 23). *Press Release Regarding the Death from Avian Influenza Regarding the Death from Avian Influenza in a 3-Year-6-Month-Old Child*. Retrieved March 24, 2025, from <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1075929664563796&set=pcb.1075929894563773>
3. Outbreak News Today. (2025, March 23). *Cambodia reports a H5N1 avian influenza case in Kratie province child*. Retrieved March 24, 2025, from <https://outbreaknewstoday.substack.com/p/cambodia-reports-a-h5n1-avian-influenza>
4. Outbreak News Today. (2025, February 23). *H5N1 avian influenza fatality in Cambodia*. Retrieved March 24, 2025, from https://outbreaknewstoday.substack.com/p/h5n1-avian-influenza-fatality-in?utm_source=publication-search

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