



ASEAN BIOLOGICAL THREATS SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

DISEASE ALERT



Korea Disease Control and
Prevention Agency



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September 29, 2026 | Issue No. 18

First alert : February 16, 2026

Sixth alert : September 29, 2026 | **Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in Cambodia**

Sub-Locations Affected

Oddar Meanchey Province (Trapeang Prasat District)

Event Description

On September 27, 2026, the National Institute of Public Health and Institut Pasteur du Cambodge confirmed a human case of avian influenza A(H5N1) in a 49-year-old man from Oddar Meanchey Province. The patient resides in Trapeang Prasat District, and had direct contact with sick and dead chickens while raising and caring for poultry on a farm. The Ministry of Health subsequently issued a statement noting that the patient is currently isolated in a hospital and receiving treatment and medical care from a medical team.

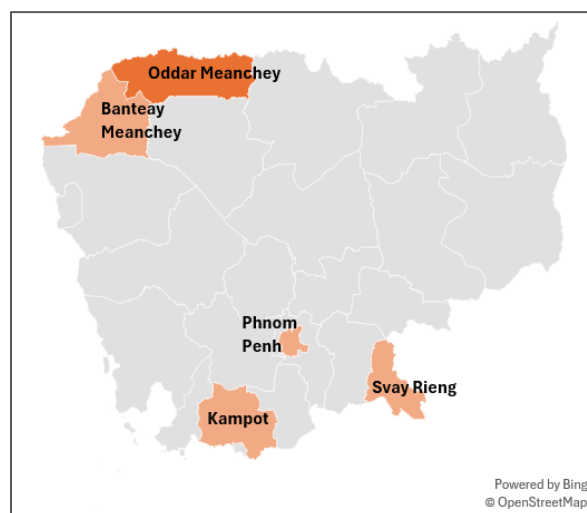


Figure 1. Cases Distribution of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in 2026 as of September 27

Epidemiological Information

- On September 28, 2026, the Ministry of Health of Cambodia announced a human case of avian influenza A(H5N1) in a 49-year-old man from Trapeang Prasat District, Oddar Meanchey Province, who was a poultry farmer and had direct contact with sick and dead chickens. The case was confirmed on September 27 by the National Institute of Public Health and Institut Pasteur du Cambodge. The patient has been isolated at the hospital and is receiving treatment and medical care from a team of doctors.
- Earlier on September 23, the National Animal Health and Production Research Institute had previously confirmed that the farm's poultry was infected with the H5N1 virus.

- An epidemiological investigation is ongoing to identify the source of transmission among animals and humans, identify suspected cases and exposed individuals, and prevent further transmission in the community. Tamiflu has been provided to close contacts, and health education activities are being conducted in the affected village.
- In 2025, Cambodia confirmed a total of 18 human infections and nine deaths, corresponding to a case fatality rate of 50%.
- **In 2026, six cases have been confirmed so far, with one death recorded** on April 22 (16.7% CFR).

Response Measures

- The Ministry of Health's emergency response teams at national and sub-national levels are working jointly with provincial agriculture departments and local authorities to investigate the outbreak in accordance with established technical protocols. Efforts are focused on identifying the source of transmission in both animals and humans, as well as tracing suspected cases and contacts to limit further community spread.
- Antiviral prophylaxis is administered to close contacts to reduce infection risk. In parallel, health education campaigns are being implemented in affected areas to strengthen community awareness and prevention.
- The Ministry of Health advises the public to remain vigilant and adhere to preventive measures against avian influenza A(H5N1). Individuals presenting with fever, cough, runny nose, or respiratory symptoms following exposure to sick or dead poultry within the previous 14 days are advised to avoid crowded settings and seek prompt medical attention to reduce the risk of severe outcomes.
- Regular updates are disseminated through the Department of Communicable Disease Control's official website and Facebook page.

Recommendations

- The World Health Organization advises both travelers and residents in countries experiencing avian influenza outbreaks to avoid exposure to poultry farms, live bird markets, slaughtering areas, and any surfaces potentially contaminated with poultry or animal feces. Individuals returning from affected areas who develop respiratory symptoms and suspect zoonotic influenza infection are encouraged to promptly report to local health authorities.

- The Ministry of Health of Cambodia underscored the following key preventive measures to reduce the risk of H5N1 infection:
 - a) Avoid contact with sick or dead poultry,
 - b) Use protective measures (gloves and a mask) when handling poultry for food,
 - c) Wash hands frequently, especially before handling food and after contact with poultry or potentially contaminated surfaces,
 - d) Ensure thorough cooking before consumption, and
 - e) Seek medical attention promptly.

Sources:

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