Avian Influenza, or "Bird Flu": What You Need to Know

By ACSH Staff — March 9, 2006

Since late 2003, birds in over a dozen nations in Asia and at least seven nations in Europe have been struck by H5N1 "avian influenza" or "bird flu." Since 2003, there have been 175 confirmed cases of H5N1 transmission from birds to humans in Cambodia, Indonesia, China, Thailand, Turkey, Iraq, and Vietnam. This paper explains how avian influenza is transmitted, whether your annual flu shot will protect you, and how antiviral drugs for bird flu work.

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