

Bird Flu – H5N1 Virus

Loss Control Bulletin

Avian influenza or bird flu refers to the disease caused by infection with avian (bird) influenza (flu) Type A viruses. These viruses naturally spread among wild aquatic birds worldwide and can infect domestic poultry and other bird and animal species. Bird flu viruses do not normally infect humans. However, sporadic human infections with bird flu viruses have occurred. Human infections have occurred in impoverished living conditions where people must share living space with their farm animals. People can also become infected with the H5N1 bird flu virus during various phases of handling infected poultry, such as raising, slaughtering, de-feathering, butchering, and cooking preparations.

The links below offer more information about bird flu.

World Health Organization www.who.int/en/

Center for Disease Control www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/idex.htm

The guidelines provided in this bulletin are only intended to provide an overview of some of the more important steps that can be taken by management to establish a safe workplace. The guidelines are not considered exhaustive of all measures and controls that can be implemented by management to address all potential loss or injury producing causes. Ultimately it is the responsibility of management to take the necessary steps to provide for employee and customer safety. It is not intended as an offer to write insurance for such conditions or exposures. The liability of Republic Indemnity Company of America and its affiliated insurers is limited to the terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies underwritten by any of them. © 2022 Republic Indemnity of America, 4500 Park Granada, Suite 300, Calabasas, CA 91302.