



USAID
Avian Influenza Program

Prevention and control of *human-to-human* transmission of avian influenza

Key message points for the general population, grouped by topic.

Note: Even though all the message points are important and helpful in preventing and controlling avian influenza, specific aspects of topics will be more important in different local contexts and there will be times when specific information is particularly important. Users should select the message points that are most appropriate for local conditions and outbreak phase (pre-outbreak, outbreak, and post-outbreak) and transform them into suitable messages, using local expressions and language. The chart provides guidance about the importance of different message points for the different phases. Ticks indicate message points that are extremely important during the different phases while bars indicate message points that are inappropriate for that phase.

Human-to-human transmission of avian influenza is extremely rare but it is possible

- A few instances of human-to-human transmission are suspected; all of them involved close contact with people who had avian influenza.
- If you are taking care of someone who has avian influenza or suspected avian influenza, get guidance from a health care provider about how best to protect yourself.

PRE	OUTBREAK	POST
✓	✓	
	✓	

Know what to do if you think you or someone else has avian influenza

- If you feel sick after contact with someone who has avian influenza, seek immediate treatment.
- If you suspect that someone has avian influenza, take them to a health care provider immediately.
- Until you bring the person to a health care provider, take specific protective actions: wash your hands frequently, wear a mask or cover your mouth and nose with a cloth, have the person who is ill wear a mask or cover their mouth and nose with a cloth (as long as it does not make it harder for them to breathe), and limit the number of people who come within a meter of the sick person to as few as possible.
 - Contact your [INSERT RELEVANT HEALTH ORGANIZATION] for additional guidance.

	PRE	OUTBREAK	POST
		✓	✓
	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	✓
		✓	

Practice good hygiene at home and in public

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water. If soap is unavailable, use ash.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- If possible, stay home from work, school and errands when you have any symptoms of respiratory illness, including a bad cold.

✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
	✓	