

First Human Death from H5N2 Avian Influenza Sparks Global Fears

God did not create humanity with a spirit of fear, yet with the first reported case of a victim infected with H5N2 avian influenza, many around the world are allowing fear and uncertainty into their thoughts and hearts.

While much of what is causing this rapid spread among birds, notably chickens, and other animals such as cows, here are five things we know about the growing spread of H5N1 and H5N2 avian influenza:

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- **First Human Death from H5N2:** A person in Mexico has died after contracting H5N2 while suffering from a pre-existing illness, marking the first confirmed human case of this bird flu strain. This individual had no known exposure to poultry or other animals.
- **Potential Human Transmission:** There are concerns about how the individual contracted H5N2 and whether they spread it to others before seeking medical attention. The possibility of human-to-human transmission could lead to widespread panic and a return to restrictive measures.
- **H5N1 Outbreak Concerns:** H5N1 bird flu is also causing alarm, with recent infections in dairy cows in the U.S. and three dairy workers testing positive. An outbreak among humans could be catastrophic.
- **Mice Infections with H5N1:** Eleven mice in New Mexico tested positive for H5N1, raising concerns due to the large mouse population and their proximity to human

living spaces. Mice can become infected by drinking raw milk from infected dairy cows.

- **Potential for Bird Flu Pandemic:** The bird flu has already killed hundreds of millions of birds globally and is now infecting other animals like dairy cows and domestic cats. Many scientists believe a human bird flu pandemic is only a matter of time.

There have been prophetic voices, such as Joseph Z, who have warned that an unknown disease, even acknowledge by the World Health Organization as “Disease X” could have a global impact on 2024 and 2025.

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Even as news and reports increase outbreak fears and the memory of COVID still fresh on everyone’s mind, we must remember that God is bigger than all of what ails the earth.

Remember the words of Jesus describing the days before His return: “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines, epidemics, and earthquakes in various places,” (Matt. 24:7)

These things must happen and Christians have a duty to be prepared for them, physically, mentally and spiritually so that no ground is yielded to the devil during those days.

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