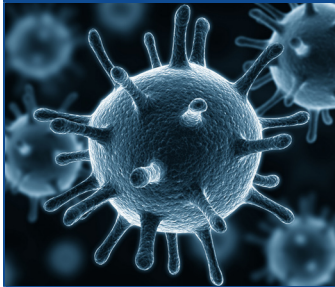


Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI): H5N1

Overview











H5N1 is one of several influenza viruses that causes a highly infectious respiratory disease in birds. Since 2022, there have been increasing reports of deadly outbreaks among land and sea mammals (wild and domestic).¹ This panzootic (“animal pandemic”) of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI) (H5N1) viruses in wild birds has resulted in outbreaks among commercial poultry, backyard bird flocks, and spread to infect wild and domestic mammals.² Sporadic H5N1 human infections have been reported in 23 countries since 1997 with a mortality rate of >50%, but only a small number of H5N1 cases have been reported in humans since 2022.² Most human infections with H5N1 virus have occurred after unprotected exposures to sick or dead infected animals.² There is no evidence of sustained human-to-human H5N1 transmission. Avian influenza A rarely infects people. Human H5N1 infections range from mild (e.g., upper respiratory symptoms) to severe illness (e.g., pneumonia, multi-organ failure) resulting in death.² Clinicians should consider the possibility of H5N1 infection in persons showing signs or symptoms of acute respiratory illness who have relevant exposure history.² As long as there is no sustained human-to-human transmission, the risk to the general public is low.

About the Pathogen & Infection Control Measures

Infectious Agent (Pathogen) ^{2,3}	Agent Type: Virus Taxonomy: ▶ Family: Orthomyxoviridae	▶ Genus: Influenza A ▶ Subtype: H5N1 Synonym(s): Avian Influenza, Bird Flu, HPAI Characteristics: Enveloped RNA virus
Infectious Characteristics Definitions: ▶ Incubation period—the time from exposure to infection with symptoms. ▶ Period of communicability—time when a pathogen can be transmitted from one person to another. ▶ Mortality rate—the number of deaths due to a disease divided by the total population.	Risk factors for severe infection: ⁴ Incubation period: ⁵ Period of communicability: Signs & symptoms: ² Duration of illness: ⁶ Severity of illness and Mortality Rate: ⁶	People who work with or have recreational exposure to affected animals 3–5 days but can be as long as 7–10 days N/A (no sustained human-to-human transmission to-date) ▶ Eye redness (conjunctivitis) ▶ Mild flu-like upper respiratory symptoms, including sore throat, cough, runny or stuffy nose, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing ▶ Pneumonia requiring hospitalization ▶ Fever or feeling feverish ▶ Muscle or body aches ▶ Headache ▶ Fatigue About 2 weeks The virus can cause mild to severe illness, including death. Mortality rate is ~50%
Reservoir —where a pathogen normally lives and grows (e.g., humans, water, etc.)	Wild birds and other affected animals	
Mode(s) of Transmission ² How the Infection Spreads	Air and Contact: When virus from infected animals gets in a person’s eyes, nose, or mouth or is inhaled	
Survival on Surfaces ⁷	The virus can survive for hours to days on surfaces in warm dry conditions, however under cold and wet conditions it can survive much longer (weeks to months)	
Immunization/Treatment ²	Vaccine and antiviral drugs currently in development	
Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) Measures	General Measures for All Spaces (commercial buildings, K–12 schools, healthcare): ² ▶ Get the flu vaccine each year. ▶ Perform frequent hand hygiene by using alcohol-based hand sanitizer or washing hands with soap and water. ▶ Avoid contact with sick or dead wild birds, poultry, and wild animals. ▶ Do not consume raw or undercooked poultry or poultry products, including raw eggs or raw/unpasteurized milk products. ▶ Persons who work with or have contact with poultry or potentially infected animals should wear appropriate PPE.	Healthcare-Specific Measures: ^{2,8} ▶ Isolation Precautions: Airborne and Contact Precautions in a single-patient airborne infection isolation (AII) room (negative pressure room) with door closed. Patients presumed to have the same infection can be cohorted. Only essential personnel should enter the room. ▶ PPE: Respirator (N95 or higher), eye protection (goggles or face shield), gown, gloves. ▶ Patient Transport: Limit to essential purposes; placement of a facemask on the patient. ▶ Linens: Handle per routine. ▶ Waste management: Follow local medical waste regulations per state or local authorities. H5N1 is not considered a category A infectious substance, except in cultures from the lab. ▶ Other: Use caution with aerosol-generating procedures (AGP)—limit to medically necessary situations.
Cleaning & Disinfection ²	Standard cleaning and disinfecting procedures are adequate as enveloped viruses are among the easiest pathogens to kill through disinfection. Use a disinfectant that has label directions for use against Avian Influenza A (H5N1). Healthcare personnel should not enter the room for cleaning until sufficient time has elapsed for enough air changes to remove potentially infectious particles.	

Clorox Product Recommendations

The following CloroxPro products have disinfecting claims against and can be used to effectively manage the Avian Influenza A (H5N1) virus on environmental surfaces and equipment.

Products for use against Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Virus	EPA Reg. No.	H5N1 Contact Time
<p>Clorox Healthcare Fuzion Cleaner Disinfectant</p> <p>Item No. 31478 32 fl. oz. Spray 9/case</p> 	67619-30	1 minute
<p>Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant Wipes</p> <p>Item No. 30824 6.75" x 9" 95 ct. Canister 6/case Item No. 30825 6.75" x 5.75" 155 ct. Canister 6/case Item No. 30826 12" x 11" 185 ct. Bucket 2/case Item No. 30827 12" x 11" 185 ct. Bucket Refill 2/case</p> 	67619-25	1 minute
<p>Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant Cleaner</p> <p>Item No. 30828 32 fl. oz. Spray 9/case Item No. 30829 128 fl. oz. Refill 4/case</p> 	67619-24	30 seconds
<p>Clorox Healthcare VersaSure Cleaner Disinfectant Wipes</p> <p>Item No. 31757 6.75" x 8" 85 ct. Canister 6/case Item No. 31758 6" x 5" 150 ct. Canister 6/case Item No. 31759 12" x 12" 110 ct. Bucket 2/case Item No. 31761 12" x 12" 110 ct. Bucket Refill 2/case</p> 	56392-7	30 seconds
<p>CloroxPro Clorox Disinfecting Wipes</p> <p>Item No. 15949 75 ct. Canister 6/case Fresh Scent Item No. 15948 75 ct. Canister 6/case Lemon Scent Item No. 31547 700 ct. Bucket 1/case Fresh Scent Item No. 31428 700 ct. Bucket Refill 2/case Fresh Scent</p> 	67619-31	15 seconds
<p>Clorox Commercial Solutions Clorox Disinfecting Spray</p> <p>Item No. 38504 19 fl. oz. Aerosol Spray 12/case</p> 	67619-21	30 seconds
<p>CloroxPro Clorox Disinfecting Bio Stain & Odor Remover</p> <p>Item No. 31903 32 fl. oz. Spray 9/case Item No. 31910 128 fl. oz. Refill 4/case</p> 	67619-33	30 seconds
<p>CloroxPro Formula 409 Cleaner Degreaser Disinfectant</p> <p>Item No. 35306 32 fl. oz. Spray 12/case Item No. 35300 128 fl. oz. Refill 4/case</p> 	67619-10	30 seconds

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