



Missouri Health Worker Exhibits Bird Flu Symptoms Following Exposure to Infected Patient

Description

Three individuals who had close contact with a hospitalized patient infected with avian influenza in Missouri have exhibited symptoms, according to authorities. A subsequent healthcare professional in Missouri who interacted with the infected patient displayed mild respiratory symptoms but was not tested for the virus, as confirmed by U.S. officials last week. The total number of individuals in contact with the hospitalized avian influenza patient in Missouri who subsequently showed symptoms has now reached three, all of whom have since recovered.

Among the two other cases with symptomatic individuals were a healthcare worker who tested negative for influenza and a household contact of the patient who displayed symptoms simultaneously with the hospitalized patient but was never subjected to testing. Unlike previous cases of avian influenza in the United States this year, the Missouri patient had no reported contact with infected animals, raising concerns that the virus currently circulating in dairy cattle may have undergone mutations facilitating easier transmission to humans.

During a briefing on September 12, CDC officials stated that the agency was unable to determine whether the Missouri case was connected to the strain of virus affecting U.S. dairy cattle. Missouri is spearheading the investigation of the state's avian flu cases with remote guidance from the CDC. State health authorities in Missouri have signaled the possibility of conducting blood tests to detect antibodies indicative of prior exposure to avian flu.

Epidemiologist Caitlin Rivers at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security emphasized the importance of the forthcoming blood test results, highlighting the need to ascertain whether there has been transmission of the H5 virus. Infectious disease expert Michael Osterholm from the University of Minnesota expressed that the symptoms could be attributed to various respiratory illnesses. The Missouri case, the 14th reported instance of avian flu in the U.S. this year, occurred in a patient with underlying health conditions who was hospitalized for assessment, including an influenza test as part of the diagnostic process.

This case, which is distinct from the previous 13 cases among farm laborers linked to outbreaks on poultry or dairy farms, underscores the ongoing challenges posed by avian flu outbreaks affecting over 200 dairy herds in 14 states since March, as per data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Influenza** /,ɪn.fluˈɛn.zə/ (noun): An infectious viral disease characterized by fever severe aching and respiratory symptoms.



2. **Transmission** /trænz'mɪʃ.ən/ (noun): The act or process of passing something from one person or place to another.
3. **Symptoms** /'sɪmptəmz/ (noun): Physical or mental features that indicate a condition or disease.
4. **Epidemiologist** /,ɛpɪ,dɪ:mi'blədʒɪst/ (noun): A scientist who studies the patterns causes and effects of health and disease conditions in defined populations.
5. **Antibodies** /'æntɪ,bɒdɪz/ (noun): Proteins produced by the immune system to neutralize or destroy toxins or disease-carrying organisms.
6. **Mutation** /mju:'teɪ.ʃən/ (noun): A change in the DNA sequence that can lead to new traits or characteristics.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. How many individuals who had close contact with the hospitalized avian influenza patient in Missouri showed symptoms?
Option: One
Option: Two
Option: Three
Option: Four
2. Who among the symptomatic individuals was not tested for the avian influenza virus?
Option: Hospitalized patient
Option: Healthcare worker
Option: Household contact
Option: Subsequent healthcare professional
3. What raised concerns about the virus circulating in dairy cattle?
Option: Contact with poultry
Option: Lack of testing
Option: No reported contact with infected animals
Option: Mutations in the virus
4. Who emphasized the importance of blood test results in the Missouri avian flu case?
Option: Michael Osterholm
Option: CDC officials
Option: Caitlin Rivers
Option: State health authorities



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5. How many reported instances of avian flu have occurred in the U.S. this year?
- Option: 10
 - Option: 12
 - Option: 14
 - Option: 16
6. What is the focus of the investigation in Missouri regarding the avian flu cases?
- Option: Transmission to humans
 - Option: Connection to dairy cattle strain
 - Option: Monitoring poultry farms
 - Option: Testing healthcare workers

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Three 2. Subsequent healthcare professional 3. No reported contact with infected animals
4. Caitlin Rivers 5. 14 6. Connection to dairy cattle strain

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the term for the inability to make a decision?
- Option: Perseverance
 - Option: Indecision
 - Option: Resolution
 - Option: Initiative
2. Who studies the patterns causes and effects of health and disease conditions in defined populations?
- Option: Physicist
 - Option: Epidemiologist
 - Option: Botanist
 - Option: Geneticist
3. What term refers to the ability to recover quickly from difficulties?
- Option: Perseverance
 - Option: Resilience
 - Option: Vulnerability
 - Option: Serenity



4. Which term describes the ability to successfully compete or contend with others?

- Option: Compassion
- Option: Collaboration
- Option: Competitiveness
- Option: Cooperation

5. What term means to give someone the authority or power to do something?

- Option: Depressing
- Option: Empowering
- Option: Undermining
- Option: Suppressing

6. Which disease is commonly referred to as the flu?

- Option: Measles
- Option: Influenza
- Option: Mumps
- Option: Tuberculosis

7. What term refers to the quality of being clever original and inventive?

- Option: Mediocrity
- Option: Ingenuity
- Option: Naivety
- Option: Rudeness

8. Which term means strict precise and exacting?

- Option: Flexible
- Option: Stringent
- Option: Lenient
- Option: Casual

9. What term refers to the effects results or outcomes of an action or decision?

- Option: Intentions
- Option: Consequences
- Option: Preparations
- Option: Hypotheses

10. What term means to make an action or process easier or more efficient?

- Option: Hinder
- Option: Inspire
- Option: Facilitate
- Option: Detain



Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The new product launch is _____ to boost sales significantly.
12. It is important to _____ energy and natural resources for future generations.
13. Access to clean water is essential for the _____ of life.
14. A genetic _____ can lead to changes in an organism's characteristics.
15. International _____ has been greatly impacted by digital technologies.
16. She spent years _____ her passion for painting before gaining recognition.
17. Employee _____ is a key concern for many organizations aiming to reduce turnover.
18. The company decided to cut unnecessary _____ to improve its financial health.
19. The new policy proposal outlines a comprehensive _____ for addressing environmental issues.
20. Persistent _____ among employees can lead to decreased morale and productivity.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. In-depth of the data revealed important trends that had previously been overlooked.
22. A spontaneous in the virus led to a more contagious strain.
23. The artist created a beautiful from pieces of colored glass.
24. The workers voted to become in order to collectively bargain for better wages.
25. The policy changes had far-reaching on the local community.
26. The legal established guidelines for future land use in the region.
27. Her to become a successful entrepreneur drove her to work tirelessly.



28. Feelings of can sometimes hinder personal growth and development.

29. The mentorship program aimed at young women to pursue leadership roles.

30. The discovery of a new mode of for the disease was a breakthrough in research.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Indecision 2. Epidemiologist 3. Resilience 4. Competitiveness 5. Empowering 6. Influenza 7. Ingenuity 8. Stringent 9. Consequences 10. Facilitate

Gap-Fill: 11. anticipated 12. conserve 13. sustenance 14. mutation 15. commerce 16. cultivating 17. retention 18. expenditures 19. framework 20. dissatisfaction

Matching sentence: 1. analysis 2. mutation 3. mosaic 4. unionized 5. implications 6. framework 7. ambition 8. inadequacy 9. empowering 10. transmission

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL6

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