



2013-04-01-017 Avian influenza, human (14): China (Shanghai, Anhui) H7N9, fatal

To: (06) Virology, general; (07) Zoonoses, general;

AVIAN INFLUENZA , HUMAN (14): CHINA (SHANGHAI, ANHUI) H7N9, FATAL
A ProMED-mail post

[1]

Date: Sun 31 Mar 2013

Source: Xinhua News Agency [edited]

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-03/31/c_132274381.htm

Three cases of human infection with H7N9

BEIJING: Avian influenza has been detected recently in [humans in] Shanghai and Anhui Province, and two of them have died, the other being in a critical condition, the National Health and Family Planning Commission said Sunday [31 Mar 2013].

The victims include an 87-year-old male in Shanghai who got sick on 19 Feb 2013 and died on 4 Mar 2013, a 27-year-old male in Shanghai who became ill on 27 Feb 2013 and died on 10 Mar 2013 and a 35-year-old female in Chuzhou City (Anhui province who became ill on 9 Mar 2013 and is now in a critical condition. They all showed initial symptoms of fever and coughs which developed into severe pneumonia and difficult breathing in later stages, according to the report.

On Saturday [30 Mar 2013], the three cases were confirmed to be human infections with H7N9 avian influenza by an expert team summoned by the health and family planning commission, based on clinical observation, laboratory tests and epidemiological surveys. On Friday [29 Mar 2013], the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Preservation[isolated] the H7N9 bird flu virus from [tissue] samples from these patients. So far, the commission said, it is unclear how the three became infected, and no mutual infections [contacts] were discovered among them.

Besides, no abnormalities were detected among 88 of their close contacts.

The subtype of H7N9 avian influenza virus virus has not been contracted [by] human beings [previously]. The virus shows no signs of being highly contagious among humans, according to the clinical observation on the cases' close contacts. However, as only three cases of human infection of H7N9 have been found, relatively little research has been done undertaken. The expert team is working to study the toxicity and human-infection capacity of the virus, according to the commission.

There are no vaccines against the H7N9 bird flu virus either at home or abroad.

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Communicated by:

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[2]

Date: Sun 31 Mar 2013

Source: USA Today, Associated Press report [edited]

<<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/03/31/bird-flu-deaths-china/2039551/>>

First two known-known deaths from H7N9 bird flu

BEIJING: Two Shanghai men have died from a little-known type of bird flu in the first known human deaths from the strain. Chinese



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authorities said Sunday [31 Mar 2013] that it wasn't clear how the men were infected, but that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission. A third person, a woman in the nearby province of Anhui, also contracted the H7N9 strain of bird flu and was in critical condition, China's National Health and Family Planning Commission said in a report on its website. There was no sign that any of the three had contracted the disease from each other, and no sign of infection in the 88 people who had closest contact with them, the medical agency said. H7N9 bird flu is considered a low pathogenic strain that cannot easily be contracted by humans. The overwhelming majority of human deaths from avian influenza have been caused by the H5N1 strain.

One of the two men from Shanghai, who was 87, became ill on 19 Feb 2013 and died on 27 Feb 2013. The other man, 27 years old, became ill on 27 Feb 2013 and died on 4 mar 2013, the agency said. The 35-year-old woman in the Anhui city became ill on 9 Mar 2013 and is being treated. The Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention conducted tests and confirmed on Saturday that all three cases were H7N9 [infections], the health agency said, adding that the World Health Organization had been notified of the findings.

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Communicated by:
ProMED-mail rapporteur Kunihiko Iizuka

[3]
Date: Sun 31 Mar 2013
Source: CNTV
<<http://news.cntv.cn/2013/03/31/ARTI1364704102994131.shtml>>, In Chinese:
machine translation via: <
<http://www.flutrackers.com/forum/showthread.php?p=489776#post489776>>
[edited]

Three confirmed cases in China of human infection with H7N9 avian influenza

"The National Health and Family Planning Commission, Bulletin, March 31, Shanghai and Anhui Province, reports three cases of human infection with the H7N9 avian influenza.

An 87 years old male, with 19 Feb 2013 onset died 4 Mar 2013. A 27 years old male with 27 Feb 2013 onset died on 10 mar 2013. A 35 year old female patient resident in Chuzhou City, Anhui Province, hospitalised on 9 Feb 2013 is currently in critical condition

All three cases exhibited clinical symptoms of respiratory tract infection such as fever, cough, and then developed severe pneumonia and breathing difficulties. On the afternoon of Fri 29 Mar 2013, the Chinese Center for Disease Control [confirmed] H7N9 avian influenza virus had been isolated from specimens obtained from the three cases.

On 30 mar 2013 National Health and Family Planning Organization experts, on the basis of the clinical manifestations, laboratory testing and epidemiological findings, confirmed a diagnosis of human infection of H7N9 avian influenza in all three cases. Currently, there



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is *no epidemiological association between the three cases.* After receiving the report, the National Health and Family Planning Commission immediately dispatched a group of experts provide local guidance and assistance in carrying out clinical treatment and epidemic emergency response work; studying and implementing various epidemic measures and to organize experts to carry out a risk assessment, analyzing the epidemic situation.

At present, Shanghai and Anhui, Jiangsu provincial health departments in accordance with our commission requirements, are continue to implement clinical treatment, close contact tracing, medical observation, epidemic monitoring and emergency response measures. Up to now, 88 close contacts of the three cases were normal.

According to experts, influenza is an acute respiratory infection caused by influenza virus. Influenza virus can be divided into A, B and C. These influenza types can be subdivided into 135 HxNx subtypes. The H7N9 subtype of avian influenza virus is one of them, previously only found between in poultry with no exceptional characteristics. According to the Chinese CDC report there have been no exceptional outbreaks nationwide. Experts believe that the H7N9 virus is not easily transmissible to humans. Experts suggest that in the event of fever, cough and other symptoms of acute respiratory infections, especially high fever, breathing difficulties, you should seek immediate medical attention. Maintaining washing of their hands, covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing and other personal hygiene habits, can effectively prevent the transmission of influenza and other respiratory diseases.

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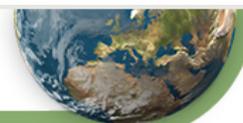
[Two of the first three known human case of the relatively rare avian H7N9 serotype avian influenza A virus have died. The condition of the third patient has not been disclosed. The three cases are unrelated, of different ages, and not known to have any predisposing medical conditions. The two fatal cases were resident in Shanghai and the surviving case is resident in Chuzhou City, Anhui Province. None of the immediate contacts of these patients have contracted the infection. The extent of the three victims contact with diseased or normal poultry is not revealed, nor any contact with wild birds.

While these facts do not indicate any imminent threat of a human epidemic, the situation is novel and alarming, particularly as the human population has not been exposed to influenza viruses of H7 or N9 antigenicity in the past, and can be assumed to have no innate immunity. Further information is awaited.

A map of China showing the locations of Shanghai and Anhui province can be accessed at:
<<http://www.sacu.org/provmap.html>>. - Mod.CP]

[see also:

Avian influenza, human (13): (Egypt) 20130326.1604763
Avian influenza, human (12): Cambodia: (KM) fatal 20130227.1562508
Avian influenza, human (11): China (GU) fatalities, RFI
20130223.1556833



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Avian influenza, human (10): Cambodia 20130221.1553693
Avian influenza, human (09): Cambodia, Egypt, China, WHO
20130219.1549714
Avian influenza, human (08): Cambodia (KC) susp. 20130218.1548448
Avian influenza, human (07): China (GZ) fatal outcome
20130214.1542947
Avian influenza, human (06): Cambodia (KT) 20130213.1541230
Avian influenza, human (05): China (GZ) 20130211.1538795
Avian influenza, human (04): Cambodia, 6th case, fatal
20130208.1535664
Avian influenza, human (03): Cambodia, WHO update 20130202.1526316
Avian influenza, human (02): Cambodia, children, fatal, MOH/WHO
20130129.1519720
Avian influenza, human (01): Cambodia, fatalities 20130125.1514597]
