

DRILL ONLY – “MOCK AVIAN FLU”



Avian Influenza is a real but rare form of viral infection. Avian Flu is only transmitted from sick poultry to humans. At the time of the Yolo County June 2004 Drill, only a few cases of the more severe form of Avian Flu (H5N1), had ever been reported in the world.

The World Health Organization is concerned that if this type of Avian Flu changes into a form that can be passed person-to-person, it may cause a very severe form of influenza that can spread rapidly. To find out more, go to www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/index.htm

FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE YOLO COUNTY JUNE 2004 DRILL, WE CREATED A “MOCK” AVIAN FLU STRAIN AND “MOCK” AVIAN FLU VACCINE. THERE WAS NO AVIAN FLU OUTBREAK IN CALIFORNIA!

This fact sheet was created just for the YOLO COUNTY DRILL!

MOCK Avian Influenza/Vaccine Fact Sheet

What is MOCK Avian Influenza?

MOCK Avian Influenza is a respiratory illness caused by the Influenza A virus. This MOCK virus has the ability to infect humans. MOCK Avian Influenza infection outbreaks have been reported in Asia, Europe and recently, in California.

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What are the symptoms of MOCK Avian Influenza?

MOCK Avian influenza begins with a fever greater than >100.4 F (>38.0 C). Other symptoms may include cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, eye infections and diarrhea. Some people also experience respiratory symptoms of wheezing, rapid breathing, and a productive cough. After 5-7 days, some MOCK Avian Influenza patients may develop severe respiratory distress due to viral pneumonia.

How is MOCK Avian Influenza spread?

MOCK Avian Influenza is usually spread from bird-to-human. However, the recent outbreak in “Chickenville”, California is a form of the MOCK virus that spreads through close person-to-person contact. MOCK Avian Influenza is spread by close contact with someone who is ill; by sharing or touching objects that were used by the ill person; or having direct contact with infectious body fluids, such as nose or mouth secretions. This can happen when someone who is sick with MOCK Avian Influenza coughs or sneezes.

If I were exposed to MOCK Avian Influenza, how long would it take for me to become sick?

The symptoms of fever and cough begin 2-4 days after someone has been in close contact with someone who is ill.

Who is at risk for MOCK Avian Influenza?

Most documented cases of Avian Flu occur in people who work directly with poultry which are infected with MOCK Avian Flu virus. The “Chickenville” outbreak is unique in that people became exposed through person-to-person contact with someone ill with MOCK Avian Flu.

Is there a test for MOCK Avian Influenza?

Viral culture and isolation have been used to detect Influenza A (H5N1) in lung tissue and throat swabs.

What medical treatment is recommended for patients with MOCK Avian Influenza?

Patients with MOCK Avian Influenza are recommended to receive the same care and treatment that would be used for patients with serious community-acquired atypical pneumonia. Currently, there are no specific medications for the treatment of MOCK Avian Influenza.

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What medical treatment is recommended for patients who may have been exposed to MOCK Avian Influenza?

Individuals who may have been exposed to the MOCK Avian Influenza virus should receive the “MOCK” investigational Avian Influenza vaccine. During an outbreak, MOCK avian influenza vaccine protects people with possible exposure to the virus. The vaccine can prevent MOCK avian influenza or make it less severe.

What is the MOCK Avian flu vaccine?

The MOCK avian influenza vaccine is an investigational, live-attenuated vaccine. This is an experimental MOCK vaccine. Unlike the inactivated, egg-based vaccine currently in use, there is no long documented history of use, effectiveness or adverse reactions of the MOCK vaccine in the population.

Talk with a doctor before getting the MOCK avian flu shot. Discuss with your doctor if you: 1) have ever had a serious allergic reaction to eggs, 2) have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS), 3) are pregnant or breastfeeding, 4) are in an immunocompromised state, such as having HIV/AIDS, lupus, cancer or being treated for cancer, or are a transplant recipient, or 5) are currently ill with a fever above 100 degrees or have had a recent onset of flu-like symptoms.

What are the risks from the MOCK Avian flu vaccine?

Soreness, redness or swelling at the injection site, fever, and aches are mild problems associated with the MOCK vaccine. If the above problems do occur, they usually begin soon after the vaccine is given and may last 1-2 days.

Serious problems from the MOCK avian influenza shot are very rare. More severe problems may include seizures, tiredness, or a life-threatening allergic reaction. If you do experience a severe reaction to the MOCK avian vaccine, call your doctor or visit the nearest hospital.

How can I learn more?

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist. They can show you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.

- Contact Yolo County Health Department at **530-666-8645**.
- Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/index.htm or call 1-800-232-2522 (Spanish 1-800-232-0233)
- Visit the California Department of Health Services Website at www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/disb/avianflu.htm

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