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PORT HEALTH OFFICE,
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14 August 2007

Update on Avian Influenza

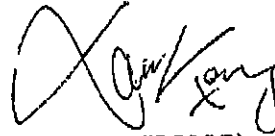
The Indonesian Health Ministry on 13 August confirmed the death of a 29-year-old woman in Bali as a result of Avian Influenza. The victim came from Tukad Aya Hamlet, Negara sub district, Jembrana District of Bali Province. She had onset of illness on 3 August and passed away on 12 August. Chickens raised by the woman and her neighbour had died suddenly before and were confirmed H5N1 positive. The woman's five-year-old daughter had played with chicken and died on 3 August from pneumonia. Another 2-year-old girl who is the neighbour of the 29-year-old woman is being treated as a bird flu suspect. The girl had onset of illness on 10 August.

To minimise the risk of contracting the disease, tour groups in Avian Influenza affected areas should avoid visiting .. poultry market or places that live birds are concentrated. Travellers should take the following precautions:

- Avoid touching birds or poultry and their droppings;
- If travellers have contacted birds or poultry, they should wash hands thoroughly with liquid soap and water immediately;
- Poultry and eggs should be thoroughly cooked before eating;
- Building up body resistance. Have a balanced diet, get regular exercise and adequate rest, reduce stress and do not smoke;
- If having a fever or feeling unwell after returning to Hong Kong, travellers should consult a doctor promptly and tell the doctor the recent travel history.

Please pass the above information to travel agencies and advise the travellers going to Indonesia especially Bali to take these precautions. They may also visit our Travel Health Service Website: www.travelhealth.gov.hk or the website of the Centre for Health Protection www.chp.gov.hk for more information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Henry Kong', written in a cursive style.

(Dr. Henry KONG)

Chief Port Health Officer
Department of Health