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21 February 2008

**A confirmed human case of H5N1 Avian Influenza in Guangxi (廣西)**

The Department of Health is informed by Mainland's Ministry of Health today of a confirmed human case of H5N1 Avian Influenza in Nanning, Guangxi Province. The patient was a 41-year-old man who developed symptoms on 12 February 2008 and died 8 days later. He had history of contact of sick and dead chicken before symptom onset.

To minimize the risk of contracting the disease, tour groups to Avian Influenza affected areas should avoid visiting poultry markets or places where live birds are concentrated. Travellers should take the following precautions:

- ◇ Avoid contacting patient with fever or respiratory symptoms;
- ◇ 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; and
- ◇ 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 travellers to take the above-mentioned precautions. For more information, they may also visit our Travel Health Service Website at [www.travelhealth.gov.hk](http://www.travelhealth.gov.hk) or the website of the Centre for Health Protection at [www.chp.gov.hk](http://www.chp.gov.hk).

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Henry KONG)