






Stanislaus County Health Services Agency  
Public Health Services

November 16, 2005

## **CME on AVIAN INFLUENZA**

This fax is being sent to you via the Health Emergency Alert Response Database (HEARD) communication system. As a Public Health partner, from time to time you will receive:

-  Critical public health information
-  Emergency alerts
-  Information on conferences, seminars, and educational opportunities

Please feel free to post or share this information with your clientele.

You should receive a total of **3** pages with this transmission.

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Dear Colleague:

You are well aware of the mounting concerns regarding avian influenza. At the present time it is our assessment that it is a relatively low risk for humans because there is minimal evidence for person-to-person spread. However, it **warrants our preparedness** because of the potential that the virus could mutate, resulting in rapid spread among humans.

### **Surveillance**

**A travel history is vital for febrile patients (>100.4 F)**, especially those who have returned from Southeast Asia or China within the prior ten days. Please report any suspected infections to our **CD Hotline at 558-5678** (664-6032 after hours and on weekends).

NOTE: We have already met with the hospital infection control professionals, and recommended surveillance of ICU patients with atypical pneumonia or ARDS, and recent foreign travel.

### **Prophylaxis**

Respiratory etiquette and meticulous hand hygiene will provide the most benefit to our community. Alcohol-based hand cleansers are especially effective! A poster is attached for your facility. We do NOT recommend personal stockpiling of oseltamavir (Tamiflu). Such prescribing has already resulted in a shortage, and its effectiveness has not been proven on a community basis. Further, inappropriate use may result in the development of resistant strains.

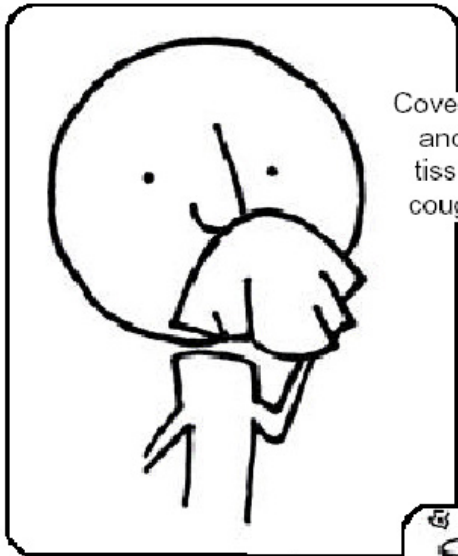
### **Professional Education**

- **Tuesday, November 22, 2005** at 12:30 p.m., **Emanuel Medical Center**. "Avian Influenza: Past, Present, and Future". Presenters are Carol Cardona, DVM, Ph.D., UC Davis, and John Walker MD, county Public Health Officer. (This program will be repeated on Wednesday, January 11 at 7:30 am at Doctors Medical Center.)
- **Tuesday, November 29, 2005**, at 12:00 p.m., **Health Services Agency**, 830 Scenic Drive (former hospital building), Martin Conference Room. Re-play of the CDC Satellite broadcast on "Pandemic Influenza: California Update 2005". CEUs will be available for nursing personnel. Participants may bring a brownbag lunch.

Stop the spread of germs that make you and others sick!

# Cover your Cough

## Cubra SU Tos



Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.



Put your used tissue in the waste basket.

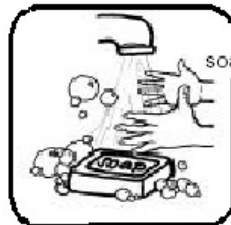


You may be asked to put on a surgical mask to protect others.

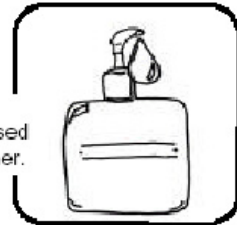
## Lavese SUS Manos

# Clean your Hands

after coughing or sneezing.



Wash with soap and water or clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner.



Stanislaus County Health Services Agency  
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