

## Public Health Alert

*Regional Public Health*  
Better Health For The Greater Wellington Region



Date: 12 April 2013

To: GPs, Practice Nurses at Primary Care Centres, After-hours Centres, the Emergency Department and Hospital Staff in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions

From: Dr Annette Nesdale, Medical Officer of Health

### H7N9 influenza in China

We would like to advise you of the current situation of the H7N9 influenza in China.

- **No cases have been reported from outside China**
- As at 11 April 38 cases of avian influenza A (H7N9) have been laboratory confirmed in China, including 10 deaths, 19 severe cases and 9 mild cases.
- All the cases have been reported from central eastern China in the four adjacent provinces of: Shanghai, Anhui, Jiangsu and Zhejiang. The cases are unrelated, and some appear to have had contact with birds, or animal wet markets.
- There is currently **no evidence** of human to human transmission
- Preliminary testing of A(H7N9) suggests that it is susceptible to the neuraminidase inhibitors (oseltamivir and zanamivir).
- WHO do not recommend any travel or trade restrictions and does not advise any special screening at airports at this time.
- Advice to New Zealanders who are travelling to China is available on the NZ Government's Safe Travel Website [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz)

Further information is available at

- WHO updates and FAQs on human infection with influenza A(H7N9) virus in China are available at <http://www.who.int/csr/don/en/index.html>.
- Australian Department of Health and Ageing [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cda-surveil-avianflu-china.htm](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cda-surveil-avianflu-china.htm)
- CDC (United States Centres for Disease Control) [www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm)

The information contained in this facsimile message is legally privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this message is prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately. Thank you.

He ture no nga korero katoa kei roto o tenei karere, no reira, kia tupato. Mehemea kaore matau kaua e mau. Me whakamohiotia atu ki to Tari, me te mea nana i tono mai. E Tika Hoki.

---

**Regional Public Health, Hutt Office, Community Health Building, Hutt Hospital,  
Private Bag 31907, LOWER HUTT, NEW ZEALAND  
TELEPHONE: (04) 570 9002 FAX: (04) 570 9211**